

Nature Journaling Class Syllabus



Meet Mrs. Stewart

I've always loved creating from the time I was your age! I like to draw paint, craft, and write poetry. I have 4 children of my own, and one of our favorite things to do is create art together. I also love being active. I am on a volleyball team and I love playing tennis when I can. We jump on the trampoline, swim, or go on hikes and bike rides as a family. We love Greenwood and I'm excited to be your art teacher! Here are some answers to questions you might have.

What will we be doing in Nature Journaling class?

- Keep a journal of artistic discoveries made both inside and outside the classroom.
- Apply and expand on your knowledge of the Principles and Elements of Design in your work.
- Increasing our awareness of the natural world through art and mindfulness.
- Occasionally go on fieldwork and learn from experts or guest artists for study, discovery, and journaling.
- Explore art with a focus on the Core Standards.
- Integrate Art Projects by studying and linking your classroom Expeditions and other core subjects through art discovery to deepen your knowledge.

What are your expectations of me as a student?

Art Room Norm:

- **Respectful**
 - Respond appropriate
 - Keep supplies neat and tidy
 - Treat others with kindness
- **Responsible**
 - Follow directions the first time
 - Show that I am ready to learn ... PLANT
- **Engaged**
 - Participate with a GROWTH MINDSET
- **Safe**
 - Use supplies correctly
 - Keep my body to myself
 - Use walking feet

I expect you to participate with a "Growth Mindset". That means, you will help contribute to a positive art environment that is a safe space for creativity. If behavior is inappropriate, I will work through these consequences as needed:

Art Room Consequences:

1. Expectations Taught
2. Proximity, Whole Group Correction
3. Private Individual Correction - Warning
4. Change Seats or Clean-Up Time After Class
5. Inform Teacher and Parents with Phone Call or Email Home

How will I be graded?

I will be using the program "JumpRope" to record grades and notify parents. Your art assignments will be graded on the 1 to 4 scale below and recorded regularly in Compass. This is to document evidence of the learning process.

1 = Beginning

2 = Developing

3 = Proficient

4 = Exemplary

Grading in art class will be mainly participation based. From time to time, I hear students say "But, I'm not good at art," and while it may be true that you struggle to create realistic looking art, I believe there is an artist in all of us. You just may not have discovered your style or favorite medium yet. It will happen, and I hope to help you in your exploration. I strongly encourage you to bravely participate, and your grade will reflect your effort.

Will I have HOMEWORK in art?

Most of the work we do will be done in class; however, from time to time, work might go home for catch-up or expand or practice something. That said, I hope you will keep creating at home or on trips and I encourage you to show me what you make!

What supplies do I need for this class?

I am providing a high quality sketchbook and water brush pen for the students to use with watercolor pencils. I would be very grateful for a \$5-10 donation and any ultra fine tip sharpies.

How will my parents know what I'm doing in class?

I hope you will talk to your families about the projects we are working on! I will also send an email home each week, updating your family on what we did in art that week. I may include pictures and detail about the project. They will also receive regular grade notifications.

Will we be doing Fieldwork in Nature Journaling?

YES! We will be exploring and making discoveries, so please make sure your parents are aware and that they might be willing to help transport students from time to time. I will make sure you get all the information. It will be a fun and exciting part of this class!

What do I do with my finished work?

You will be submitting assignments regularly, and we will also be adding digital scans to our online digital portfolio. The actual physical copy of your Nature Journal will be yours to keep and share at the end of our class.

I am so excited to share my knowledge and passion for art and nature with you. I hope that through this class, you develop an appreciation of nature, art, and mindfulness and they way they can work well together. Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

Mrs. StewART ;)

lstewart@greenwoodcharter.org

My Parents and I have read the Visual Arts Class Syllabus and understand what is expected.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____