

Unit Plan Template Year 8 Unit 3

Name of unit: Still Life: Observing and Expressing Everyday Objects	
Expected Outcomes - Learners will develop accurate observational drawing skills. - Learners will apply techniques in pencil shading, coloured crayon, watercolour, and acrylic. - Learners will explore texture, tone, and form in still life compositions. - Learners will plan and create a final piece combining preferred media and techniques. - Learners will reflect on their technical progress and creative choices.	
Developmental Focus Opportunities • - Observation: Enhancing attention to detail through close study of objects. - Technical skill development: Mastering shading, layering, and painting techniques. - Creative decision-making: Choosing media and composition styles. - Self-management: Planning and executing a multi-step artwork. - Reflection: Evaluating progress and artistic choices.	
Key Learning Points	Powerful Knowledge
• - Still life is a traditional genre that focuses on everyday objects. - Observational drawing requires attention to proportion, shape, and detail. - Different media can be used to express texture, tone, and atmosphere. - Composition and layout affect the impact of a still life artwork.	• - Understanding how artists use still life to explore form, light, and symbolism. - Applying techniques in pencil, crayon, watercolour, and acrylic to express artistic intent. - Planning and refining a composition that reflects personal style and technical skill.
Subject-Specific Vocabulary	Reading Opportunities
• Still Life - Observation - Composition - Tone - Texture - Form - Proportion - Contrast - Layering - Media	- Articles on the history and significance of still life in art. - Artist profiles (e.g., Paul Cézanne, Giorgio Morandi, Janet Fish). - Excerpts from art technique books on drawing and painting. - Visual analysis texts on famous still life artworks.
Possible Misconceptions	Cross-Curricular Links

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- Still life is easy or unimportant in art.
- All still life must be realistic.
- Only traditional objects (fruit, vases) can be used.
- Media cannot be mixed in one artwork.

- Science: Observing natural objects (e.g., shells, plants) and discussing structure.
- English: Descriptive writing based on still life scenes.
- Maths: Exploring proportion and symmetry in composition.
- DT: Understanding materials and their properties.
- ICT: Digital still life creation or editing.