

Vocabulary for Visual Arts 11

acrylic	paint where the colour is held together with a liquid plastic
analogous colours	groups of colours that are next to each other on the colour wheel
baren	a padded rubbing tool to help transfer ink from a printing plate to paper
block printing	a technique for making prints in which a block is carved into before being inked up like a stamp
brayer	a tool with a rubber roller used for rolling out printing ink
ceramic	a material that starts soft like clay, but then becomes very hard after it is cooked to a very high temperature
chisel	a tool used for carving
colour composition	the arrangement of colours in an artwork
colour scheme	the balanced choice of colours in an artwork
colour wheel	a circle of coloured sections that shows the relationships between colours
complementary colours	colours that are opposites on the colour wheel
composition	the arrangement of things in an artwork
cool colours	colours that are calm and soothing, such as blues and greens, and that make things seem further away
creativity	ideas that are useful, unique, and insightful
cross-hatching	drawing using close parallel lines that cross each other at an angle
cyan	a greenish-blue colour that is one of the colour primaries
dry brush painting	creating scratchy brushstrokes using a brush that is mostly dry
dull colours	colours that are greyish, and not very vivid
earthenware	a kind of clay that is fired to a lower temperature and that needs to be glazed before becoming watertight
glazing	for clay: brushing on a paint-like layer to a pot that will later become a layer of glass; for painting: using very thin transparent layers of paint to change the colour
gouge (chisel)	a carving tool that is curved like a smile
hatching	drawing using close parallel lines
idea development	a process that is used to create useful, insightful, and unique ideas
inking plate	a flat surface used to roll out a consistent layer of printing ink
intense colours	colours that are strong and very vivid
layering	adding several small amounts of pencil or paint on top of each other
magenta	a reddish purple (hot pink) that is one of the colour primaries

monochrome	a colour scheme that only uses light and dark versions of a single colour or grey
negative space	the shape of the space between the things you would normally look at (the positive space)
non-central composition	an arrangement where the most important thing is NOT in the middle
palette	a painting tool that is used to mix colours together
palette knife	a painting tool used to mix paint together on a palette
pointillism	drawing or painting with small dots or dashes
positive space	the contour of the things you would normally look at
primary colour	a colour that cannot be mixed using other colours, for example: cyan, yellow, and magenta
print block	a flat piece of material that is carved into like a stamp
rectangular colour scheme	a balanced colour scheme that looks like a rectangle on the colour wheel
reference photos	photographs you look at carefully so you can make a better artwork
registration	a process of aligning something so it is in the perfect place
secondary colour	a colour that is created by mixing two primary colours, for example: red, green, and blue
split complementary colour scheme	a colour scheme using one base colour, and two colours on either side of the complementary
square colour scheme	a colour scheme in which colours are balanced around the colour wheel in the shape of a square
stippling	drawing using small dots
synesthesia	the experience of when one of your senses or feelings is triggered by another
terracotta	an unglazed reddish-brown earthenware clay
texture	drawing that looks the same as what it feels like
thumbnail drawings	small drawings that are used to develop the composition of an artwork
triangle colour scheme	a colour scheme in which colours are balanced around the colour wheel in the shape of a triangle
v-groove chisel	a chisel that is good for detail and makes a cut shaped like a V
warm colours	colours that are suggestive of heat or passion and seem closer. such as yellows, oranges, and reds
wet-on-dry painting	the normal way of painting by adding wet paint on top of a dry painting
wet-on-wet painting	adding a different colour of wet paint to a painting that is already wet