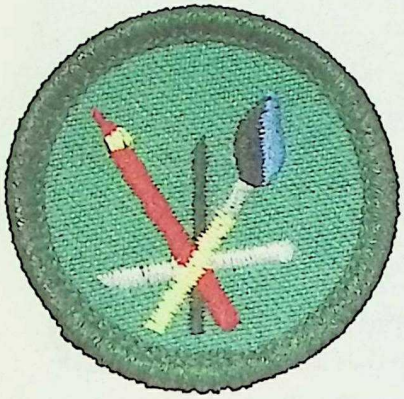
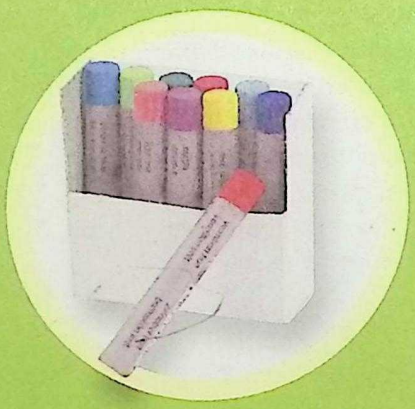
Drawing and Painting

Capture your creativity using paint, a pencil, a pen, or a mouse.





Pastels



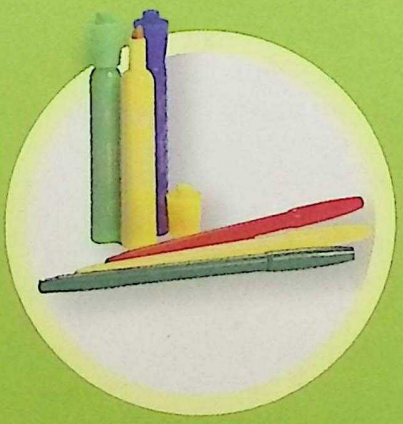
Paints



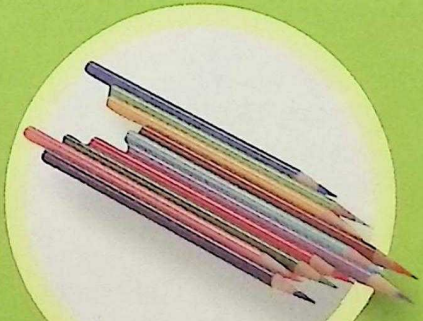
Chalk



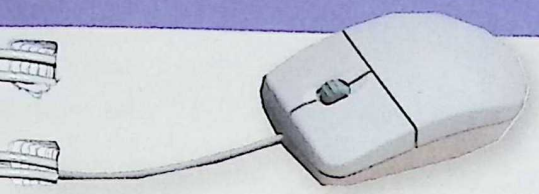
Crayons



Felt-tip Markers/ Ink Pens



Colored Pencils



1. Media Savvy

Explore different types of media: paints, crayons, pastels, chalk, felt-tip markers, ink pens, colored pencils, charcoal, or computer programs for drawing and painting. Choose three types of media and make three different pictures of the same thing using a different medium each time. How does the use of different media change the picture?

2. Primary—Secondary

Learn the primary and secondary colors. Practice mixing primary and secondary colors to make new colors. Make a picture that uses the colors you have created.

3. No Brushes

Experiment with two different painting techniques. You can try: finger painting, where you use your fingers instead of brushes; sponge painting, where you use sponges or pieces of sponge instead of brushes; string painting, where you dip string in paint and make a design on your paper with the wet string; or spatter painting, where you put a toothbrush in paint and knock it against a small screen or hard edge to "spatter" the paint on paper.

4. What's Your Line?

Make two pictures that show different uses of line. Experiment with pencils, felt-tip markers, crayons, or pieces of chalk to get different kinds of lines: thick, thin, straight, curved, broken, vertical, horizontal, and diagonal. Color in between the lines if you choose.

5. In Shape

Use shapes to make a picture. Look at an object or scene and try to find the basic shapes: triangle, circle, square, rectangle, etc. What shapes would you use to make a human being? What shapes would you use to make a flower?

6. Shades of Color

Create two pictures showing many shades of the same color. What do darker shades do? What do lighter shades do? How can you use color to make something appear closer or farther away in your picture?



7. It's How You Look at It

Find out about perspective. Look at something far away. Measure it with your fingers or a ruler. How big is it? What happens if you move closer to the object? How can you show this on paper? Draw or paint a picture in which you use perspective.

8. On the Wall

Murals are pictures painted on walls. Murals usually tell a story in a series of scenes and may be painted by groups of artists. Decide with your group what the design of your mural will be. Sketch it out on a piece of graph paper. You can make a mural using a long roll of white paper or butcher paper. First, cover the floor with newspapers. Then, stretch your paper on top of them. Next, block out parts of the mural on the rolled out paper using your sketch as a guide. Each painter may be responsible for her own section or painters can work together on each part before starting on the next.

9. On Your Own

Create an art gallery or art show where you can display your work and those of others.

10. Women Who Paint

Read an article, watch a TV show or video, or look online and find out about a woman artist. How did she get involved in the arts? How has she achieved success?