

Arts Integration Checklist
Grades 3-8

Some educators confuse any effort to include art in their classroom with true arts *integration*. While all types of arts-based instruction are encouraged, it is helpful for educators to know when they are engaged in arts integration. To achieve this awareness, this Arts Integration Checklist was created. Checking “yes” to the items in the checklist provides further evidence that the unit is integrated.

Art Form	
Are the students constructing and demonstrating their understandings through one or more of the arts?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the artworks original, reflecting the unique perspective of the students? (as opposed to looking mostly the same, copying or parroting?)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creative Process	
Are the students creatively solving a challenging problem for themselves as opposed to completing a set of teacher created steps?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the students using the “design process”? In particular, are they revising their artworks after a reflective evaluation of a prototype or initial iteration?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connects	
Does the lesson connect one or more grade level subject content standard(s) to the art form(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the connection natural and mutually reinforcing? (as opposed to being unrelated)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approach to Teaching	
Are students involved in a process of meaning and knowledge construction for themselves as opposed to memorizing and reciting knowledge provided by the teacher?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is work done collaboratively?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evolving Objectives	
Have you listed & informed students of both the art and core content standards of this project?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have the objectives evolved since the last time the students engaged with this subject matter? (earlier in the year or in a previous grade, for example)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understanding	
Do students reflect on their understanding either verbally or in writing?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do students evaluate their accomplishment and receive feedback from the teacher and others?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total score (scores of 8 or more are often examples of strong arts integration units)	