

FIRST YEAR

ART TEACHER'S GUIDE

Welcome to the messy, chaotic, and totally wonderful world of art education!

We are so glad you decided to become an art teacher. It takes a special person to empower students to think creatively, cultivate an appreciation for art, and make inspiring artwork.

In this guide, you will find the support you need with tons of free lessons and resources for art teachers by art teachers. Lesson planning, relationships with students, art supplies, professional boundaries, art shows, and more can be overwhelming! We hope you take a few moments to breathe, browse through these pages, and pick and choose what tips and downloads you need to help you navigate your first year in the art room.



Do you know a first-year or new art teacher? Do you know a veteran teacher who has switched content areas or grade levels? Share this guide (and more!) with an art teacher friend by sending them this link or by sharing on social media with #firstyearartteacher.



Are you following us on social media? We have a piece of free professional development for you every single school day. Follow and subscribe on all of our platforms so you don't miss out!



Do you love what you see and want to be a part of it? We have opportunities for enthusiastic new teachers like you!

AOEU Magazine & Media Free Resources



Magazine

WHAT IS IT?

Contains thousands of research-based articles packed with helpful tips and engaging ideas written by practicing art educators.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

Click [here](#) to read it.

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Read our articles and share with an art teacher friend! [Apply to be a writer.](#)



Podcast—Art Ed Radio

WHAT IS IT?

Features real conversations around essential, current art education topics with a range of experts.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

Subscribe on any podcast platform or visit [here](#).

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Listen, share, rate, and review our episodes!



YouTube

WHAT IS IT?

Shares vlog-like quick tips, tricks, and hacks to address common questions from practicing art educators.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

Subscribe to [The Art of Education University](#).

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Watch, comment, and like our videos and shorts. [Apply to be a video content creator.](#)



Instagram—Make Art With Me

WHAT IS IT?

Connects with the art teacher community and shares the latest happenings at AOEU with weekly live chats where teachers can make art and recharge.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

Follow [The Art of Education](#).

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Like and share our posts, reels, Lives, and stories. Join the conversation with a comment!



Facebook

WHAT IS IT?

Connects with the art teacher community and shares the latest happenings at AOEU.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

Like [The Art of Education University](#).

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Like and share our posts and stories. Join the conversation with a comment!



TikTok

WHAT IS IT?

Connects with the art teacher community and shares quick tips, tricks, and hacks from practicing art educators.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

Follow [The Art of Ed](#).

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Like and share our TikToks. Join the conversation with a comment!



Weekly Newsletter

WHAT IS IT?

Highlights articles, tips, advice, and editorials for art teachers based on current topics.

WHERE DO I ACCESS IT?

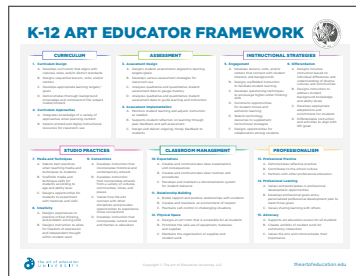
Sign up [here](#).

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Share with an art teacher friend!

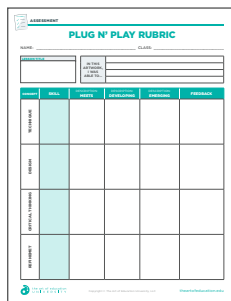
Our Top 3 Free Downloads to Get You Started

While we have a lot in store for you in this guide, we want to start with these three top-notch downloads.



K-12 ART EDUCATOR FRAMEWORK

This detailed framework includes six domains, 15 sub-domains, 50 competencies, and it covers every topic imaginable to an art teacher. It is a handy chart to have nearby when planning your scope and sequence, curriculum, and lessons!



PLUG N' PLAY RUBRIC

Rubric writing can be draining! It can take a lot of mental energy and time. Streamline the process with this customizable summative rubric that can be used for any art project. Your students will appreciate the consistency, and you will appreciate the time savings!



10 IDEAS TO STAY HAPPY & HEALTHY DURING YOUR FIRST YEAR

As you get started, it can be easy to forget the basics and get swamped in all your daily responsibilities. Keep this list of friendly reminders on your desk so that you don't forget how to take care of yourself this year!



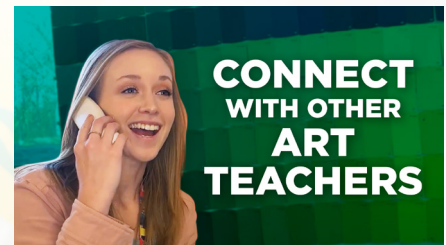
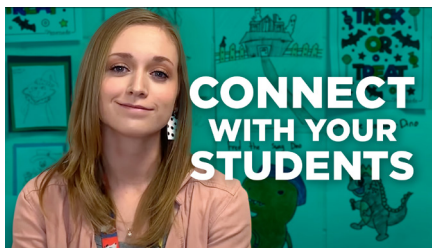
Download All Resources

Watch These 7 Videos From a First-Year Art Teacher for an Inside Scoop

Find the support you need in this [seven-episode YouTube mini-series](#) coming to you from the perspective of a first-year art teacher. Being a first-year art teacher is tough, but this year provides a whole host of additional challenges. Virtual student teaching, stepping into a physical classroom for the first time, distancing regulations and policies due to the pandemic, and more have left many new art teachers feeling isolated and alone. Join Brittney Witt from The Art of Education University for practical tips to help you navigate your first year in the art room!



View the
YouTube Series

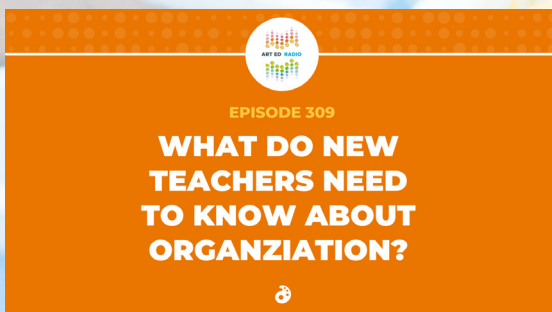
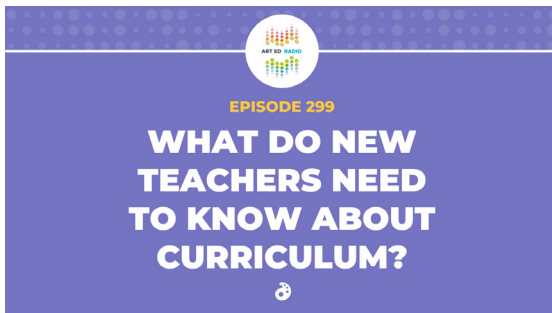


Hear the Essentials You Need to Know as a First-Year Art Teacher

Gain even more support in these special episodes, designed for new art teachers. Veteran art teachers, Tim Bogatz and Janet Taylor, share valuable insight and helpful tips. They cover topics including curriculum, classroom management, professionalism, and more.



Listen to the
Podcast Episodes



Don't Miss These 20 Resources for the First-Year Art Teacher

From quick reads to listens, we have great resources packed with practical tips, tricks, and advice. We curated a list of our top twenty articles and podcasts to give you a strong foundation as you forge ahead in your first year!

15 Things Nobody Tells You About Becoming an Art Teacher

artofed.info/15Things

20 Tips For Your 1st (or 10th!) School Year

artofed.info/20Tips

6 Pieces of Advice NOT to Follow Your First Year Teaching

artofed.info/6Pieces

8 Tips for New Teachers This Year

artofed.info/8Tips

5 Things to Do During Your First Month in a New Teaching Position

artofed.info/FirstMonth

How to Pare Your Lesson Plans Down to the Essentials

artofed.info/PareDown

Take On Writing Student Learning Objectives With These Three Easy Methods

artofed.info/SLO

4 Lessons Learned as a First-Year Art Teacher During a Pandemic

artofed.info/4Lessons

10 Things I Wish I Had Known My First Year (Ep. 028)

artofed.info/WishIKnew

Adventures of a First Year Teacher (Ep. 029)

artofed.info/Adventures

Exploring the National Standards: CREATE (Ep. 206)

artofed.info/CREATE

Exploring the National Standards: RESPOND (Ep. 207)

artofed.info/Respond

Exploring the National Standards: CONNECT (Ep. 208)

artofed.info/Connect

Exploring the National Standards: PRESENT (Ep. 209)

artofed.info/Present

How to Say No to All of Those Stupid Requests (Ep. 026)

artofed.info/SayNo

Continuing to Stay Creative (Ep. 253)

artofed.info/StayCreative

Do Art Teachers Have to Be Artists (Ep. 017)

artofed.info/TeacherArtists

When You Aren't Comfortable With Content (Ep. 108)

artofed.info/Comfortable

Calming the Classroom Chaos (Ep. 207)

artofed.info/Chaos

Creating a Welcoming Environment (Ep. 250)

artofed.info/Welcoming

Having a Hard Day? Check Out These 8 Resources to Lift Your Spirits!

Being an art teacher can be challenging. But being a new art teacher? Totally overwhelming! If you are having a hard day and are feeling discouraged, grab a few minutes and sit down. Take a deep breath and check out these resources that will lift your spirits and remind you that you are right where you belong.

The Unexpected “Perks” of Being an Art Teacher

artofed.info/Perks

What Kind of Art Teacher Are You? Redefining Your Art Teacher Identity

artofed.info/Identity

How to Battle Art Teacher Comparison

artofed.info/Comparison

9 Annoying Things People Say When They Find Out You’re an Art Teacher

artofed.info/Annoying

The Not-So- Perfect Truths of Being an Art Teacher

artofed.info/Truths

10 Strange, Amazing Skills You Will Develop as an Art Teacher

artofed.info/skills

8 Things That Amazing Art Teachers Do (Ep. 031)

artofed.info/AmazingArt

6 Reasons Why Being an Art Teacher Post- Pandemic Is Still the Best Job Ever

artofed.info/BestJob



Hello, Student Teachers!

Are you a student teacher? Kudos to you for getting ready to join the field of art education—the most fun and rewarding job ever! To make your transition into the workforce and classroom as smooth as possible, we collected a list of resources just for you!

How to Understand Your Teaching License

artofed.info/License

The Art Teacher's Ultimate Guide to Getting Hired

artofed.info/Hired

What Do Student Teachers Really Need?

artofed.info/StudentTeachers

5 Things Cooperating Teachers (and Student Teachers) Need to Know (Ep. 089)

artofed.info/Cooperating

Getting Hired as an Art Educator (Ep. 226)

artofed.info/GettingHired

Student Teaching During a Pandemic

artofed.info/Pandemic

Hello, Elementary Art Teachers!

Welcome to elementary art—where you have the most students, the most fun, and a celebrity status to boot! Students get so excited for art, but things can quickly get out of hand when you have thirty six-year-olds whose hands are covered in clay. As you discover what works best for you and your students, we hope you try out some of our carefully selected tips and downloads.

Art Show Easel Lesson Plan

artofed.info/ArtShowEasel

10 Things You Need to Know Your First Year Teaching Elementary Art

artofed.info/FirstYear

20 Reasons Teaching Elementary Art Is the Absolute BEST!

artofed.info/Best

Creating an Elementary Curriculum That Works for You (Ep. 049)

artofed.info/Curriculum

Teaching Art on a Cart in 2021: Part 1 (Ep. 187)

artofed.info/ArtCart

Teaching Art on a Cart in 2021: Part 2 (Ep. 188)

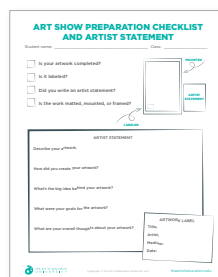
artofed.info/ArtCart2

Tips and Tricks for Teaching on a Cart (Ep. 227)

artofed.info/ArtCart3

Art Show Preparation Checklist

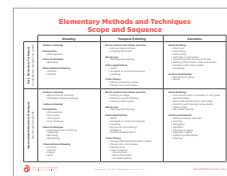
artofed.info/ArtShow



The form is titled "ART SHOW PREPARATION CHECKLIST AND ARTIST STATEMENT". It includes a checklist with items like "Is your artwork completed?", "Is it labeled?", "Did you write an artist statement?", and "Is the work washed, insured, or framed?". Below the checklist is a section for the "ARTIST STATEMENT" with prompts for the student's name, grade, and a description of their artwork. There is also a section for "ARTIST LABEL" with fields for name, grade, and date.

Elementary Scope and Sequence

artofed.info/ScopeSequence



The chart is titled "Elementary Methods and Techniques Scope and Sequence". It is a grid with "GRADE" (1-5) on the vertical axis and "METHOD/TECHNIQUE" (Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking, etc.) on the horizontal axis. Each cell in the grid contains a list of specific skills or techniques to be taught in that grade and category.

Hello, Middle School Art Teachers!

Middle schoolers are a blend of elementary-level enthusiasm with hormones and growing pains. And you have accepted the challenge of teaching these pre-adolescents art. As you develop bonds with your students and determine what would work best for them, we hope these resources and downloads will save you time and energy.

10 Things You Need to Know Your First Year Teaching Middle School Art
artofed.info/Cooperating

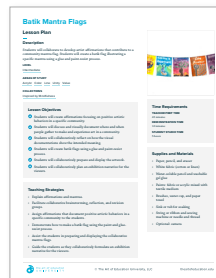
How to Write an Exhibition Label

artofed.info/ExhibitionLabel



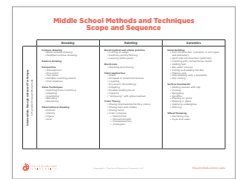
Batik Mantra Flags Lesson Plans

artofed.info/BATIK



Middle School Scope and Sequence

artofed.info/31qOU7W



Hello, Secondary Art Teachers!

Many assume that teaching high school art is synonymous with having students who love art and are technically proficient. While this is sometimes true, you probably also get whole classes of students who are required to be there, whether they want to be there or not. What is deeply rewarding about teenage students is the deep connections you can form with them through artmaking. Let's dive into some advice and downloads to equip you when working with older artists.

Creating a Secondary Curriculum That Works for You (Ep. 050)

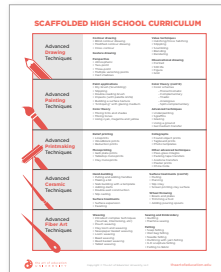
artofed.info/SecondaryCurriculum

13 Things You Need to Know Your First Year of Teaching High School Art

artofed.info/HighSchool

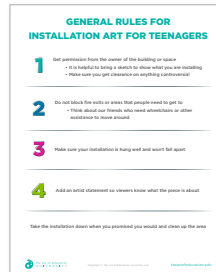
Advanced Scaffolded Curriculum

artofed.info/HSCurriculum



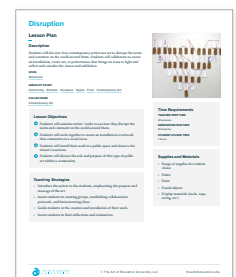
General Rules for Installation Art for Teenagers

artofed.info/InstallationArt



Disruption Lesson Plan

artofed.info/Disruption



Do You Want More? We Have Additional Resources to Further Your Learning!

We hope you found this guide helpful. If you are looking for more resources specific to you—a first-year teacher—look no further! We would love to continue providing you with relevant content and professional development as you gain experience in the art room.



NOW Conference

Global online conference for art teachers.

Being a new art teacher can be lonely, especially if you are the only one in your school! Join us at our next **NOW Conference** to network with other teachers in the field and be inspired by the newest trends in art education.



PRO Learning

If the PD in your district or school isn't leaving you motivated and full of ideas, check out PRO Learning. Each Pack includes short, on-demand videos and downloads based on a particular topic or medium. Topics include Surviving Your First Year, Getting Started Teaching Art on a Cart, Getting Hired as an Art Educator, and more. Plus, they are all designed specifically for K-12 art teachers and facilitated by fellow art educators!

Get a glimpse into what PRO Learning offers with the complimentary downloads in this guide and our collection of [preview videos](#).



Learn how to get PRO for your district or school by filling out this quick contact form.



Graduate Courses

Art teachers have a thirst for learning. We have over 20 virtual courses that range from studio to teaching philosophy. We also have virtual master's degree programs that will grow you into an even more amazing art teacher!



Course: Managing the Art Room

[artofed.info/
ManagingTheArtRoom](http://artofed.info/ManagingTheArtRoom)

Course: Designing Your Art Curriculum

[artofed.info/
DesigningYourArtCurriculum](http://artofed.info/DesigningYourArtCurriculum)

Master's Degree

artofed.info/MastersDegree



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We know finances can be tight for new teachers. There are ways you can advocate for your program and your professional development without dipping into your personal pocket. Check out these articles to find out more.



How to Get FLEX Curriculum in Your District

artofed.info/GetFLEX

What Real Support Looks Like and Why You Need It

artofed.info/RealSupport

How to Ask Your Administrator to Pay for PRO Learning

artofed.info/PayForPRO

Why Professional Development Really Matters

artofed.info/PDMatters



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