

## WHAT IS MY GRADE 3 STUDENT LEARNING IN MODULE 4?

Wit & Wisdom® is our English curriculum. It builds knowledge of key topics in history, science, and literature through the study of excellent texts. By reading and responding to stories and nonfiction texts, we will build knowledge of the following topics:

Module 1: *The Sea*

Module 2: *Outer Space*

Module 3: *A New Home*

### Module 4: *Artists Make Art*

In Module 4, students will explore the creative impulse as they read biographies of artists in the fields of dance, literature, the visual arts, and music. In addition to reading about the artists, students encounter the work of each of these artists. We will ask: What is an artist?

## OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS

### Picture Book (Literacy)

- *Emma's Rug*, Allen Say

### Picture Books (Informational)

- *Alvin Ailey*, Andrea Davis Pinkney
- *A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams*, Jen Bryant
- *Action Jackson*, Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan
- *When Marian Sang*, Pam Muñoz Ryan

## OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE ARTICLES

- "Working as a Team on Children's Books," Roberta Hershenson
- "Brian Pinkney," National Center for Children's Literature
- "A Signature Work," Muse Magazine

## OUR CLASS WILL READ THIS POEM

- "Willow Poem," William Carlos Williams

## OUR CLASS WILL READ THIS INTERVIEW

- "Andrea Davis Pinkney Interview Transcript," Scholastic Students

**OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THESE PAINTINGS**

- *I Saw the Figure 5 in Gold*, Charles Demuth
- *My Egypt*, Charles Demuth
- *Number 1, 1950 (Lavender Mist)*, Jackson Pollock
- *Number 11, 1952 (Blue Poles)*, Jackson Pollock
- *Mural*, Jackson Pollock

**OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THIS PHOTOGRAPH**

- “Marian Anderson singing in front of Lincoln Memorial”

**OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THESE VIDEOS**

- “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child, Marian Anderson”
- “Excerpt from 1988 interview with Alvin Ailey”
- “Revelations at 50, Alvin Ailey”
- “Christine Dixon discussing Blue Poles”
- “Jackson Pollock, Hans Namuth”
- “Newsreel footage of Marian Anderson’s first Lincoln Memorial”
- “Excerpts of *Revelations*, Alvin Ailey”

**OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS**

- What inspires artists?
- How do artists make art?
- What are some character traits that are useful to artists?
- Why is art important?

**QUESTIONS TO ASK AT HOME**

As you read with your Grade 3 student, ask:

- How does this text build your knowledge of artists and art?

**BOOKS TO READ AT HOME**

- *Stone Giant: Michelangelo’s David and How He Came to Be*, Jane Sutcliffe
- *Who Was Leonardo da Vinci?*, Roberta Edwards
- *The Music in George’s Head: George Gershwin Creates Rhapsody in Blue*, Suzanne Slade
- *Who Was Pablo Picasso?*, True Kelley
- *Sandy’s Circus: A Story about Alexander Calder*, Tanya Lee Stone

- *Jackson Pollock*, Mike Venezia
- *Michelangelo*, Diane Stanley
- *Georges Seurat*, Mike Venezia
- *Some Writer! The Story of E. B. White*, Melissa Sweet
- *Vincent Van Gogh: Portrait of an Artist*, Jan Greenberg
- *Leonardo: Beautiful Dreamer*, Robert Byrd
- *The Dreamer*, Pam Muñoz Ryan
- *Building on Nature: The Life of Antoni Gaudi*, Rachel Rodriguez
- *The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art*, Barb Rosenstock
- *An Eye for Color: The Story of Josef Albers*, Natasha Wing
- *José! Born to Dance*, Susanna Reich
- *The Fantastic Jungles of Henri Rousseau*, Michelle Markel
- *Electric Ben: The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin*, Robert Byrd
- *The Garden of Monsieur Monet*, Giancarlo Ascari
- *Edgar Degas: Paintings that Dance*, Kristin N. Cole and Maryann Cocca-Leffler
- *The Artist and His Models: The Art of Rembrandt*, Hanuel Ddang
- *Mr. Matisse and His Cutouts*, Annemarie van Haeringen
- *Lives of the Artists: Masterpieces, Messes (and What the Neighbors Thought)*, Kathleen Krull
- *The World Is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid*, Jeanette Winter
- *Seen from a Distance: The Art of Monet*, Seon-hye Jang
- *Ballet for Martha: Making Appalachian Spring*, Jan Greenberg
- *Pippo the Fool*, Tracey E. Fern
- *Mario's Angels: A Story about the Artist Giotto*, Mary Arrigan
- *Firebird*, Misty Copeland
- *Ellington Was Not a Street*, Ntozake Shange

### IDEAS FOR TALKING ABOUT ARTISTS AND ART

Find opportunities to explore art in your area. Consider the following:

- Visiting a local art museum or exhibit
- Attending a musical concert
- Attending a dance performance
- Attending a poetry reading or other literary event

Deepen your student's experiences with art by engaging in art activities together. Consider the following:

- Working together to create an art project, discussing how you are using the materials for specific purposes
- Singing together, noticing harmonies, melodies, and rhythm
- Reading favorite poems aloud at home
- Dancing together, noticing how you are using your body to express emotions or ideas