

VISUAL ARTS CLASSROOM SAFTY
A Checklist for Teachers, School Administrators, and Inspectors

ODH recommendations concerning Visual Arts rooms a safe and healthy learning environment for students and their teachers. This list highlights some of the most important recommendations for the convenience of teachers and inspectors.

- ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS should have only Art & Creative Materials Institute, Inc. (ACMI) approved arts materials so that children are not exposed to any toxic substance.
- DOORS to the Visual Arts classroom should be locked when the classroom is not occupied.
- FOOD AND DRINKS should not be allowed in the Visual Arts classroom to prevent the accidental ingestion of harmful contaminants.
- Use of AEROSOL SPRAYS in the Visual Arts classroom should be under WORKING LOCAL EXHAUST SYSTEMS and with staff supervision.
- Kilns for ceramic, enameling, jewelry, etc. should have WORKING LOCAL EXHAUST SYSTEMS and be used with staff supervision.
- All STORAGE CONTAINERS containing anything of a chemical nature, including adhesives, paints, solvents, etc. in the Visual Arts classroom should be clearly LABELED.
- All materials of a chemical nature should have SAFETY DATA SHEETS (SDS) readily accessible in the Visual Arts classroom.
- An INVENTORY LIST of ALL materials of a chemical nature should be present and immediately accessible to staff. The INVENTORY LIST should contain 1) product name, 2) quantity, and 3) date received. A separate log should be kept for disposed items.
- STORAGE ROOMS AND CABINETS for materials of a chemical nature should be locked when not in use and assessable to students only when there is staff supervision.
- Materials of a chemical nature should be stored according to CHEMICALLY COMPATIBLE FAMILIES on STURDY SHELVING.
- There should be no use or storage of dry or POWERED PIGMENTS OR CLAYS.
- There should be no use or storage of HIGHLY TOXIC PIGMENTS OR PAINTS.
- There should be no use or storage of MATERIALS CONTAINING HEAVY METALS.
- There should be no use of HIGHLY TOXIC SOLVENTS.
- FIRST AID and CHEMICAL SPILL KITS should be appropriately supplied and immediately accessible to staff.

REMEMBER, MANY ART SUPPLIES ARE CHEMICALS.