ARTIST TRADING CARDS

Artist trading cards are mini pieces of artwork that are small enough to fit in your pocket. It’s fun to make them with friends so that you can trade with each other and start your own collections of artwork. You can also give your cards as gifts or keep them for yourself.

Materials: pencil, paper (preferably card stock), ruler, scissors

Optional materials: colored paper, glue stick, paints, markers, crayons, aluminum foil, or any of your favorite materials!

Using the card stock, measure and cut your artist trading cards. These cards are 2 1/2” x 3 1/2”. Make at least four so that you will have a small collection to trade.

Design your cards! Fill them with as much art as you want.
When you’re finished designing your cards, make sure to put your artist signature on each of them. It’s fun to hide your signature so that others have to look very closely to find it.

**TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED**

If you’re not sure where to start, think about things you love. What’s your favorite animal? Vacation? Food? You may also want to explore the three traditional styles of visual art: landscapes, portraits, and still lifes. See below for more help!

This is a portrait, which is an image of a person. This is also a collage, which uses pieces of paper and glue. If you make a collage remember to draw the shapes you need before you cut it out.

This is a still life. A still life is a picture of objects or things that don’t move. For this picture, I used markers and a pen.

For this card I thought about the elements of art: colors, lines, and shapes. I made patterns with markers using these forms, filling up my card with my design!

This is a landscape that was made with watercolors. When you make a landscape it’s important to think about what is closest to you (foreground), what is furthest away (background), and what’s in the middle (middleground).