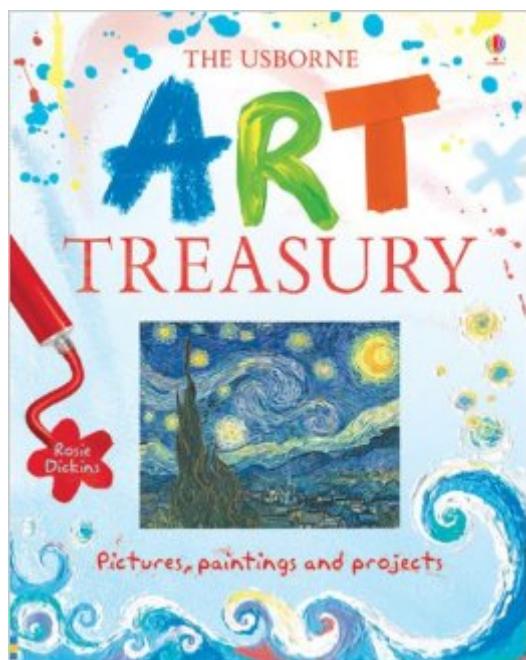


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# The Usborne Art Treasury



## **Synopsis**

Each project in this colorful, attractive compendium of art projects begins with a particular work of art, from paintings by artists such as Degas, Klee, and O'Keeffe to a Calder mobile, a print by Hokusai, and a bark painting by Australian Aboriginal artist Johnny Bulunbulun. Following a double-page spread carrying a picture of the art as well as information about the work and its creator, the next spread shows readers how to create a piece of art inspired by an idea or technique in that section. Throughout the book, the excellent presentation of the projects makes them seem not only possible to complete but also worth doing. Illustrated step-by-step, the instructions are clearly written and practical, while not too narrowly focused on achieving a specific result in terms of design. This fine book will encourage art-minded children to try new ideas and new media while looking to the past for inspiration. Ages 9 years and up.

## **Book Information**

Series: Art Treasury

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.8 x 10.8 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #340,655 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #77 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > Sculpture #107 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > History #430 in Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies

Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

This book is wonderful! I am planning to use it as an art/art history curriculum for my kindergarten-age daughter in the fall, and I can hardly wait to get started! The book includes art by 22 artists from better-known van Gogh, Degas, and Picasso to lesser-known 20th-century artists and unknown African mask makers and Iranian tile artists. One work of art by each artist is

showcased along with brief, interesting history about the piece and the artist. On the next page spread, there is detailed instructions for creating art using similar techniques to those of the artist. There is a fairly wide scope of projects--acrylics, pastels, water color techniques along with more projects like mask making, sculpture, mobile making, block painting and others. The book is colorful and beautifully illustrated. While I like all of the Usborne art books, this one stands out particularly because the pieces become inspiration for the child's creativity. The necessary supplies for the projects are very simple. I consider myself to have a fairly limited craft closet, but I have every item called for in the book. I think its content is a little advanced for kindergarten, but I plan to keep it "low pressure and experimental." I think this book would be a great resource up through elementary school.

Really beautiful sample of paintings, prints, sculptures, etc... Although my child is too young to read, we selected a few pieces of art she was interested in, and I read it to her. If your young child watches 'Little Einstein', this book is great because some of the art pieces showcased in the cartoon are in this book. And, the book has extra tidbits about the piece and the artist, which gives the art an extra dimension and something for my child to think about when she sees the works of art in Little Einstein. The projects suggested or inspired by each art work are also really neat. You could make it work for any age since there is a different project for each art piece. My only minor gripe is that some of the paintings are folded in the binding since the book is not an extra large size. This takes a bit away from the 'wow' factor of the pieces.

I ordered this book because others had rated it so highly and am so glad I did. There are nice brief bios of each artist or art style. A nice illustration of the featured work and best of all fabulous step by step instructions for how to make a beautiful project with kids of any age.

Rosie Dickins (with the help of Dr. Erika Langmuir) has brought a wonderful learning concept to help children grasp the 'reality' of art. For youngsters art can be a difficult concept to understand. Oh sure there are pretty pictures and statues, but so what. Right? So why was a particular work of art done? What did it feel like to create that artwork? Here the child is 1st introduced to an artist (22 in all). From child easy Calder, O'Keeffe, Klee, Kandinsky to heavyweights like Whistler, van Gogh, Turner, Pollock (a deliberate mess?). Your child learns a little about the artist, their time, and what their type of expression was about. Then you do an art project inspired by that artist using various media = giftwrap, felt pens, paint, foil, forks & straws etc. Example: you read about a famous water lily

painting built up out of layers of paint (guess who). Then you make your own lily picture using layers of colored tissue paper. Our child's version turned out pretty good. Made her proud and she can recognize a Monet a mile away. If only math was this fun!

What a cool art book!! I bought this for y 2 and 5 year old boys, and the age does say 9 and up, so obviously, they aren't going to make it exactly as shown. We have done 1 project so far (the Starry Night one), and I read about Van Gogh to them from the book. FYI--I was surprised it mentions him going to an asylum and killing himself, so I skipped a bit of that, as my little ones don't need to know about that yet. But I guess for 9 and up, they would get that more. But I love how it takes a well known (and some lesser known) piece of art, talks about it, takes the key components and puts them into terms a child can replicate. You get the essence of something without having to have the experience or skill level. I only wish I had more time with my kindergartener to do more of these (school takes up so much time.)! If you are a home schooler, or art teacher, I think there are some great ideas in here.

I was given this book as a graduation gift from my mentor. After paging through the book I was inspired for many art history based projects! There are over 20 lessons on full colored, bright pages. Each lesson has a famous artist example and a wonderful lesson based on that artwork. There is an entire page, with the image, that talks about the artist and a few tid bits on their lives. [a perfect amount for elementary level students' attention spans!] In addition to the image and artist info is a step by step instruction to the lesson with pictures! Wonderful. I recently completed a Georgia O'Keeffe lesson [cutting flowers] with my third grade and they loved it! I am looking forward to some of the other lessons, like McNeill Whistlers Falling Rocket. [the students make a city scene with fireworks exploding in the sky!] I highly recommend this book as a wonderful supplement to the elementary art classroom.

We used this book for our homeschool co-op and it was fantastic. Kids of any age can use this book and produce something they will be happy with. Loved that it had so many media's.....that allowed kids to see what their strengths were and then find more things to build on it. It also let all of the kids experience something new that they could take home and practice/refine if they wanted. Would highly recommend to anyone.

This book is a great resource for teaching art. It provides a step by step guide on reproducing works

from famous artist like Picasso and Van Gogh. It really helped walk me through a junior high elective class.

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