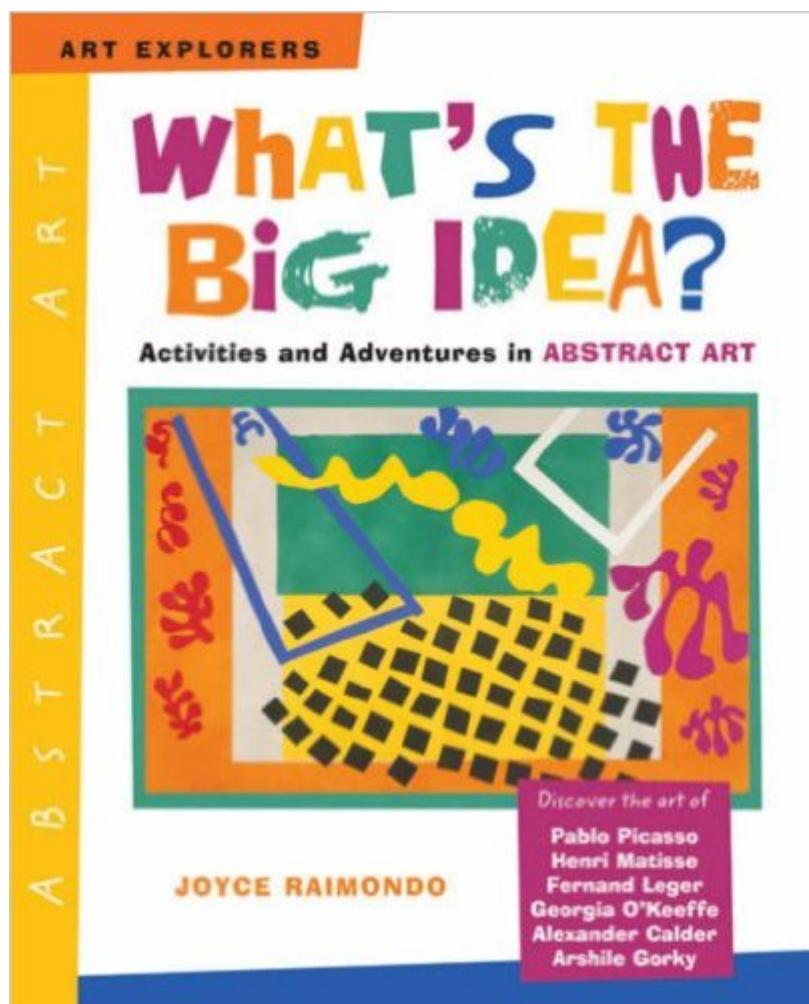


The book was found

# What's The Big Idea?: Activities And Adventures In Abstract Art (Art Explorers)



## Synopsis

Big ideas in abstract artâ "for little people! The Art Explorers series offers a new approach to art, encouraging kids to interpret what they see in famous artworks, then try the techniques themselves. Whatâ ™s the Big Idea?: Activities and Adventures in Abstract Art, the fifth book in the series, draws children into the intriguing, involving world of abstract art by highlighting the work of six famous artists. From Red Canna by Georgia Oâ ™Keeffe to Weeping Woman by Pablo Picasso, from La Ville by Fernand LÃ©ger to a plate from Jazz by Henri Matisse, from Myxomatose by Alexander Calder to Water of the Flowery Mill by Arshile Gorky, each artist is represented by a famous artwork, paired with questions to get kids thinking about what they see. Easy-to-follow activities provide hands-on experience with the artist's techniques, subject, and media, each illustrated with examples by real kids. Packed with great art and great activities, Whatâ ™s the Big Idea? lets kids understand artâ "and become artists themselves. Praise for Art Explorersâ œHighly useful and entertaining.â •â "School Library Journalâ œOffers creative ideas for children.â •â "Publishers Weeklyâ œA breath of fresh air.â •â "Library Media Connectionâ œWell done.â •â "Kirkus Reviewsâ œA terrific resource.â •â "Big Apple Parentâ ¢ Interactive introduction to six famous artists: Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Fernand LÃ©ger, Georgia Oâ ™Keeffe, Alexander Calder, and Arshile Gorkyâ ¢ Hands-on approach to understanding great artâ ¢ School budget cuts? Parents and teachers need Art Explorersâ "ideal for homeschoolers, too!

## Book Information

Series: Art Explorers

Hardcover: 48 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ ¤ See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #405,623 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #100 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > Sculpture #121 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > History #5536 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

## Customer Reviews

From a mixed-up green face to a mobile that changes, abstract art is explored for kids using a little under fifty pages of full color art blended with questions and ideas for children ages 5-12. From easy art projects supporting art examples to color pictures of works by famous artists, **WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? ACTIVITIES AND ADVENTURES IN ABSTRACT ART** is a winning art survey.

What's the Big Idea? Follows in the style of Joyce Raimondo's other books in this series. I teach art education on a college level and use her books as a way to help my students understand that when you are creating art with children it is not just the activity or experience of making art that is fundamental. It is the balance that comes from discussions of looking at art that provides open ended thinking and questioning that prepares students to be creative. It is a process that encourages risk taking and validates expression in art.

The book is great fun. Every book in this series are absolute winners. If you are looking for something to try as a parent or teacher, with kids, this is a good book for you. You don't have to know anything about art to create awesome stuff. Simple directions, simple materials, and each project comes with a quick bit of background (kid-friendly, ie, short AND interesting) to lead you on your way. Helps kids understand why artists did things the way they did and open ended enough to make everyone feel successful.

This book targets the older elementary school children and focuses only on abstract art. To be even more specific, the author discusses the styles of six artists and talks about how we can create our projects inspired by the masters. Joyce starts with Picasso's cubism, talks about the elements of his art and provides suggestions to make 'faces with feelings'. She then wraps up Picasso session with photographs of child-made collages/models/sculptures made with a wide variety of material from paper and glue to lego blocks to strips of coiled paper arranged in a careful order. The other artists discussed are Matisse, Leger, O'Keeffe, Calder and Gorky. The book's motto is "art as a springboard for expression" and manages to successfully accomplish it.

Great book that takes big art ideas and breaks them down so they are easily understood

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