

Tips for using Art Babble in the classroom

Art Babble is a great resource for classrooms at any grade level. See below for a few tips on adding digital media to your classroom using Art Babble content. Also, be sure to explore our thematic sets of videos located in this section. Each set includes a collection of videos linked by a theme, teaching ideas, and connected standards. Have an idea for a thematic set? We'd love to hear it—email your idea to educators@artbabble.com

- Planning to visit a museum? Before or after your museum visit, watch Art Babble videos to prepare for the trip or as a post visit activity to extend the experiences on the trip.
- Looking for a place for students to do research about art? Assign students a research project using the content on Art Babble. The end project could be a set of student-created podcasts that could be presented to parents and school administrators as evidence of learning.
- Looking for a new way to hook students at the beginning of a lesson? Use an Art Babble video as your anticipatory set, or hook, to kick off a lesson. For example, a lesson connecting the arts with reading comprehension strategies such as *inferring* might begin by watching [The Shipwreck](#), which offers many opportunities to make inferences using visual cues.
- Want to add digital media to lessons you have already developed in the past? Add a video from Art Babble to a thematic unit in your curriculum. For example, if you have a unit on book-arts, you could do a “book binding” search on Art Babble and find an animation illustrating how medieval books were constructed.
- Seeking more games for your classroom? Set up a set of questions or make a scavenger hunt to guide small groups of students on an exploration into a video that you have selected. For example, students could watch [The Snowy Day and the Art of Ezra Jack Keats](#) to hunt for the inspiration for Peter, the main character in the book *The Snow Day* by Ezra Jack Keats.
- Have a student who has missed a day of class? Catch up students who were absent during a class day or missed the field trip with videos from Art Babble.
- Looking for a fresh take on vocabulary building? Build vocabulary based on new or unfamiliar words used in the videos. In addition to learning art-specific terms, look for terms that connect to other subject areas such as science, math, or language. For example, the term *prism* is important in math (to define a specific type of solid figure) and in the arts (to explore the separation of white light into a spectrum using *glass* prisms). By explaining these cross-curricular connections, students can better make meaning of new terms.
- Need ideas for helping students learn geography? Create a class or school-wide project that explores geography using Art Babble videos. For example, select one video per week in which

the artist or art work addresses a particular region, country or continent in the world. Create a play, art work or other project related to the content students have explored. Share final projects at a school assembly or family program so the whole school can benefit from the lessons.

- Need a new idea for your dramatic play area? For young children, select the *For Kids* tab located under “MORE” on the webpage and find a video you like (for example, “[Soap Bubbles](#)”). Then set up a movie area in the room with a computer and seats, use play money, tickets, and prompt children to pretend that they are going to watch an art movie.
- Want to encourage the next generation of educators to use digital media? For higher education classrooms, ask pre-service teachers or museum education majors to curate their own thematic set of videos using Art Babble (see our thematic sets as a reference).