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# Art Lab For Kids: 52 Creative Adventures In Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Paper, And Mixed Media-For Budding Artists Of All Ages (Lab Series)





## Synopsis

"Susan Schwake's Art Lab for Kids is a well-thought-out guide, making it easy to introduce art into children's lives. Simple, clear explanations of technique, combined with inspiration from established artists, will enable children to feel successful and encouraged to explore art as a form of expression." - Rebecca Emberley, best-selling children's book author and illustrator "Art Lab for Kids will make a valuable contribution to the literature of children's creative art experiences for teachers and others who believe in the value of art in the education of all children. The activities are adaptable to learners of all levels and are highly creative and challenging while balancing the artistic process with the potential for a meaningful product. This book will be an important addition to our program in art teacher education." - Bill Haust, Chairman, Department of Art Education, Plymouth State University "Art Lab for Kids encourages all ages to be fearless in seeking and nurturing their creativity. With lessons, inspiration, and advice, Susan Schwake gives you the tools to find and explore your artistic side." - Kathreen Ricketson, found and editor of <http://www.whipup.net> and <http://www.action-pack.com> A refreshing source of ideas for creating fine art with children, Art Lab for Kids encourages the artist's own voice, marks, and style. This fun and creative book features 52 fine art projects set into weekly lessons, beginning with drawing, moving through painting and printmaking, and then building to paper collage and mixed media. Each lesson features and relates to the work and style of a contemporary artist. Lisa Congdon, Megan Bogonovich, and Amy Rice are just a few of the artists included. The labs can be used as singular projects or to build up to a year of hands-on fine art experiences. The lessons in this book are open-ended to be explored over and over "with different results each time! Colorful photos illustrate how different people using the same lesson will yield different results, exemplifying the way the lesson brings out each artist's personal style. Art Lab for Kids is the perfect book for creative families, friends, and community groups and works as lesson plans for both experienced and new art teachers. Children of all ages and experience levels can be guided by adults and will enjoy these engaging exercises.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"Written by a couple who run a successful combination art gallery and art school for children, this book presents the authors' most popular art projects for youngsters, covering an ambitious range of materials and techniques. This guide offers a greater-than-average number of open-ended and inventive projects that can be taught to younger children and teens alike. Each project is paired with an example of a work by a modern master or living artist. Many photographs illustrate techniques and show children deeply engaged in creativity. VERDICT: Recommended particularly for teachers and parents." - Library Journal

"I love Susan's Art Lab series and reference them in the Art Studio often. They're easy to follow, full of images, and directed at open-ended exploration - exactly the kind of reference I need for my own busy home." - Meghan Burch, Art Studio Educator, The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA

Susan Schwake is an artist, art educator, author, and curator. Her passion for teaching art for more than 20 years has found her working in many diverse settings, as well as her own art school, which operates in conjunction with their gallery and design firm in New Hampshire, called artstream. Susan exhibits her own artwork in galleries in the United States and Europe. To date, she has curated over 100 compelling contemporary exhibitions in her own gallery with hundreds of national and international artists' work. Susan has worked with many corporations installing original artwork from the gallery's stable of artists. In keeping with her passion for art and teaching, Susan has offered, and continues to offer, workshops and programs to parents, teachers at universities, art studios, community organization, public and private schools, and most recently online with e-courses in teacher training, painting, printmaking and mixed media. Rainer Schwake is a versatile and talented media designer holding a masters degree in graphic design. His photography has been used in hundreds of business- and arts-related design works for print and

websites. He is co-owner of artstream studios ([www.artstreamstudios.com](http://www.artstreamstudios.com)) and lives with his wife, Susan, in Rochester, NH.

We love this book. It is perfect for homeschool art for any age. We used it for middle school and I could see it easily being used in high school as well. The projects cover drawing, painting, paper, print making and mixed media. We've used charcoal, oil and soft pastels, markers, acrylics, watercolors made screen prints and gelatin prints just to name a few. I highly recommend this book.

Great book for anyone looking for an introduction to different types of art media. I bought it for my 10 year old daughter, she uses the techniques and tips she learned from it.

Gift for a neice for Christmas - great projects for her and her dad to do together! She loves it!!

Great book, terrific ideas, well laid out and simple to understand and follow. I forsee hours of artistic creations!

I bought this book over a month ago and my guys love it, especially my 8 year old. He was so excited to get it and look through it, that he placed little tab markers on all the projects he wanted to try first. He's been busy making art. We've done 2-3 project per week so far. He gives this book 2 thumbs up, but I love it because it got him so interested and excited about making art. The book has simple, yet wonderful ideas in an easy to follow format, perfect for kiddos of any age. Each project has great visual and written instructions. We are very much looking forward to Susan's next books.

If you are a librarian or an educator or a after school caretaker, this book is a must-have. So many great ideas. I love all of the author's books!

Lots of really cute ideas in this book, and the pictures are really nice.

I got three of the books in the series and they are all very good. The layout is engaging, the projects are inspiring but very doable for all ages. The supply lists are included at the beginning of each project and she gives lots of advice and tips to make the project really interesting for children and adults.

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