

Permanent Collection Thematic Tours

Target Missouri grade level expectations at the Kemper Art Museum

The Kemper Art Museum offers inquiry-based tours exploring a variety of topics. Possible target Missouri grade level expectations (GLEs) for the Visual Arts (VA) are indicated for each.

All tours also satisfy Communication Arts (CA) GLEs for Listening and Speaking (1.A–B, 2A) and Information Literacy (2.A). Many reading skills can also be applied, such as reinforcing concepts like simile, metaphor, personification, and point of view. Guides frequently introduce vocabulary and encourage students to use it in their responses. Most tours can also be tailored to social studies topics by focusing the discussion on the historical and cultural context of each work.

Art Basics | grades K–2

An introduction to art elements, including color, shape, line, texture, and space.

VA: II.1.A–B, D–E; II.2.D; III.1.A; III.2.A; IV.1.A; V.1.B

Faces and Places | grades 2–8

A closer look at portraits and landscapes. Students see and describe how artists represent people and places both past and present.

VA: III.1.A; III.2.A; IV.2.A; V.1.B

Narratives in Art | grades 4–12

A discussion of how artists tell stories with images. Students practice putting their interpretations into words through group discussion and descriptive creative writing.

VA: III.1.A; III.2.A; IV.2.A; V.1.B | **CA:** Writing 1.A, 2.A–D, 3.A

Materials, Media, and Methods | grades 4–12

An exploration of the relationship between an artist's subject matter and materials. Students learn about a variety of artistic materials and methods both traditional and unusual.

VA: II.1.A–B, D–G; II.2.C; II.2.E; III.2.A; V.1.B

Looking at Architecture and Space | grades 6–12

Students explore the relationship between the structure and purpose of buildings through a discussion-based tour of the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum building, built in 2006 by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Fumihiko Maki.

*Applicable GLEs will depend on the reading level of the students and the goals of the teacher.

STE(A)M | all grade levels

An exploration of the ways science, technology, engineering, and math are related to art. Students learn both art and STEM concepts through an arts-integrated approach.

VA: II.2.A; III.2.A; IV.2.A | **Science & Mathematics:** applicable GLEs depend on the level of the students