

POP Art History

Week 1 Lesson 1

Parents please read information to your child and discuss the art reflection questions below. Older children can read it to you.

Started: Mid 1950's Ended: Late 1970's

Pop Art

Do you like looking at bold images of everyday items painted in bright colors? This type of art is called pop art and it began in the 1950s. **Pop art** is a style of art is based on simple, bold images of everyday items, such as soup cans, painted in bright colors. Pop artists created pictures of consumer product labels and packaging, photos of celebrities, comic strips, and animals. Notice how they use bold and bright colors.



History of Pop Art

After World War II ended, people were making and spending more money than ever had before. Mass-produced items became more abundant, and the television replaced the radio as the most popular form of media. These events directly influenced the beginning of the pop art movement that began in the 1950s in Great Britain and the United States. Artists aiming for a different approach to painting and other forms of art were inspired by celebrities, movie stars, and store-bought products.

The term 'pop art' originated with Lawrence Alloway, a British museum supervisor. He used the term to describe the new form of 'popular' art that had a modern feel and the phrase stuck. The popularity of pop art spread throughout Great Britain and the United States during the 1960s. Many famous artists who participated in this artistic movement became household names.

- Popular art or pop art is a movement that is started in the 1950s and 1960s which started in America and Europe.
- This movement was basically a reaction against the traditional art ways. The inclusion of bright colors like red, yellow and blue is an example.
- The subject matter was of everyday objects for the creation of art pieces. (Brand labels, food, animals, comics and celebrities to name a few.)
- Andy Warhol is considered to be the most famous pop artist. The work of Andy Warhol consists of the prints that are created by using similar images from everyday life such as banknotes or soup tins. He used screen printing as a way to mass produce an image many times over.
- The next well-known artist of pop art is Roy Lichtenstein. The unique feature of his paintings is that they look like a comic strip.

More about Artist Roy Lichtenstein

(October 27, 1923 – September 29, 1997) was an American artist. He is famous for his work in the "pop art" style around the late 1950s to early 1960s. He was friends with artist Andy Warhol.

He was born and grew up in New York City. After serving in the United States Army during World War II, he finished his education at Ohio State University and began teaching in colleges.

Lichtenstein was interested in popular culture, including comic books and advertising. He liked to make his art colorful and with bright lines.

Roy Lichtenstein's artwork

#1



#2



#3



#4



Art Reflection: I can discuss what I see and how the artwork makes me feel.

Please discuss and answer the following questions with your parents about 2 pieces of Roy Lichtenstein's artwork.

*You do not need to turn anything in for this assignment, just have a good discussion with a parent about these art pictures.

I choose # _____ and # _____ to discuss.

- 1) Please describe the art piece. Describe the colors, lines and subject matter.
- 2) Discuss what you like about the art piece. Discuss what you don't like about the art piece.
- 3) Why do you think the artist decided to create this art?
- 4) What is strange about this art?
- 5) If you could change this artwork, how would you change it? Why?
- 6) If this painting had sound effects, what would they sound like?
- 7) How do you think this artwork was made? What type of art medium was used?
- 8) What do you think this artist is trying to say in this artwork? What is the meaning or message?
- 9) What emotions do you feel when looking at this? (How does it make you feel?)
- 10) How do you think the artist was feeling when he created this artwork?