

BEST PRACTICES IN ARTS

A Presentation by Annie Riga

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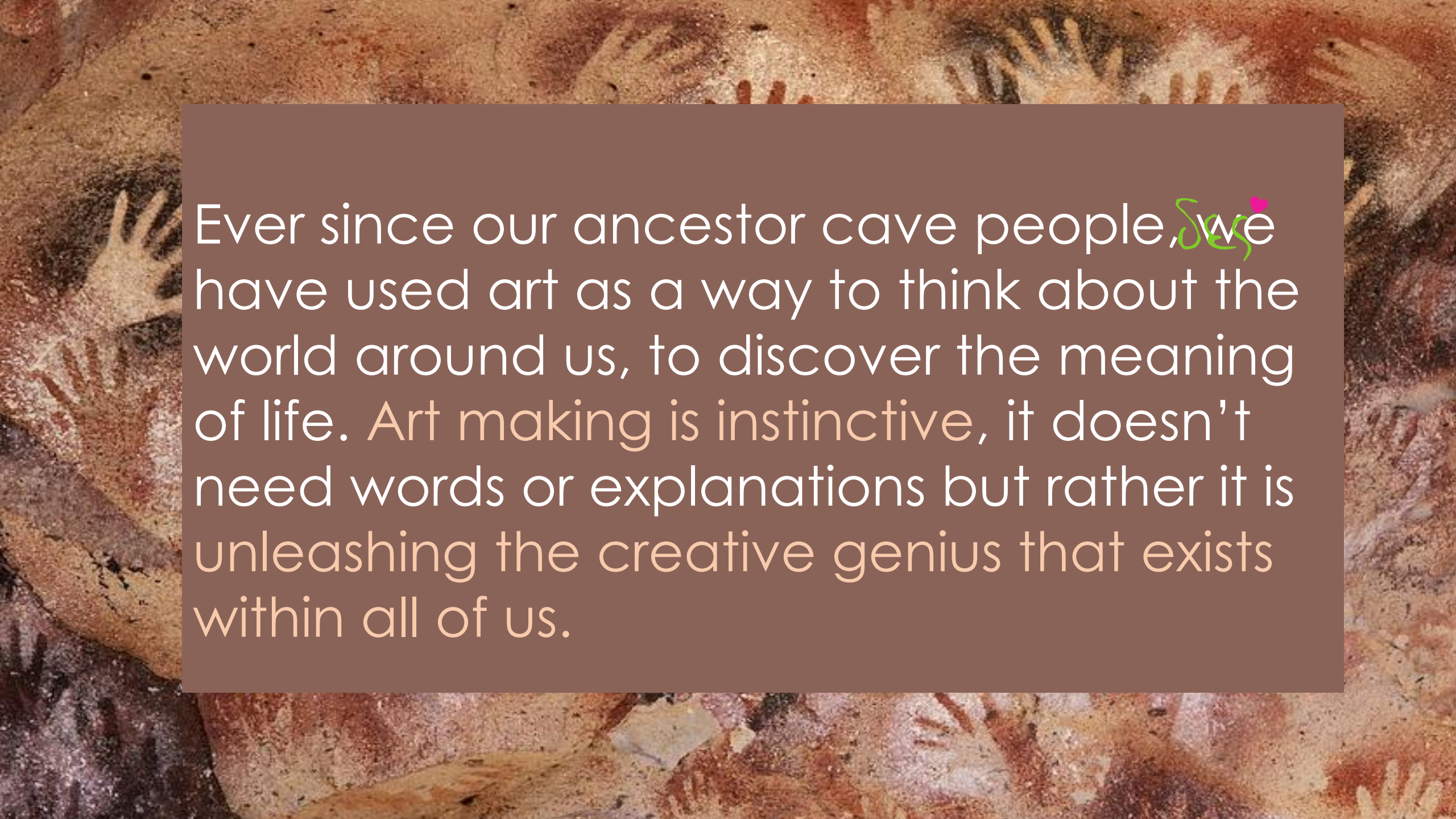
Creativity can be understood as having the power to express yourself in your own way.

Children are naturally creative. They see the world through fresh, new eyes and then use what they see in original ways.

One of the most rewarding aspects of working with children is the chance to watch them create.



Every child is born with creative potential, but this potential may be dimmed down if care is not taken to nurture and stimulate creativity.

The background of the image is a close-up photograph of ancient cave walls. The walls are covered in numerous handprints, some in reddish-brown ochre and others in black. The handprints vary in size and orientation, some appearing as simple prints and others as more complex, possibly stenciled or painted designs. The texture of the rock is visible, with some areas appearing smoother and others more rugged. The lighting is warm, highlighting the natural colors of the rock and the pigments used for the handprints.

Ever since our ancestor cave people, ^{we} ~~we~~ have used art as a way to think about the world around us, to discover the meaning of life. Art making is instinctive, it doesn't need words or explanations but rather it is unleashing the creative genius that exists within all of us.

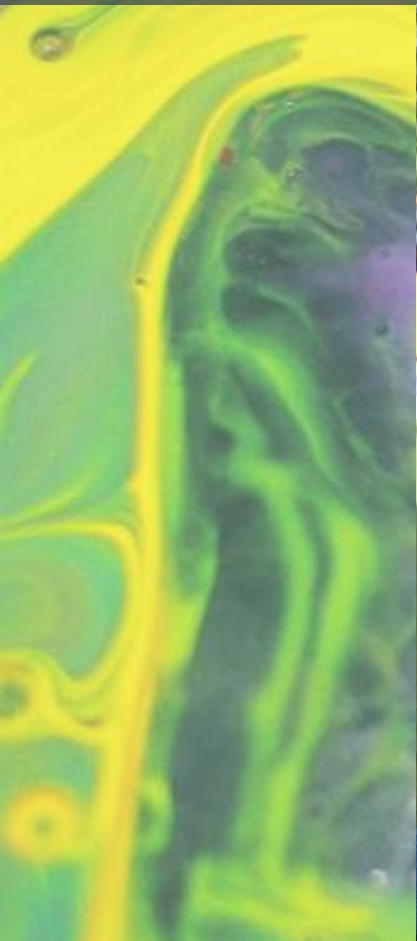




Good art is something 'universal' that can reach everyone **no matter their language, nationality or social status.**



Our goal here at **Des** is to promote the concept that the **arts are an essential part of life**, integral in the development of the whole person, and a vital component for the advancement of civilization.



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- Our art lessons provide the opportunities for pupils to express their ideas through a different range of materials, processes and techniques. Some of these processes are drawing and painting from imagination and observation, printing, ceramics, construction, fabric and fiber, photography and animation.

- In addition to our weekly art class, we also run extra artist workshops to expand our children's knowledge on different materials and techniques. Through such experimentation children learn about different creative possibilities and they become more open and comfortable to trying new artistic practices



@DesKindergarten 2018

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Batik!



POTTERY



Year 3



Year 1

Vitraux



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Herbs and spices..



Animation

- the teacher's artistic skills and enthusiasm is a very important part in a successful art class. We have to be **active participants** that not only teach art, but also **learn with the children**. this kind of **engagement** helps to push the student's artwork to the next level.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anEt6YZQXg>

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International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme

- Students are given an art project that they have to follow for a period of about six weeks.
- Unlike other school subjects where there is a right or wrong answer, in art class children are able to **follow a central idea but simultaneously keep their own creative freedom.**
- This means working within boundaries but also learning to push these boundaries by being creative!

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- Working on their own or collaborating with others children, they explore their own experiences and memories and **understand what makes each and one of us unique.**



- Because of **this innate, meditative quality of art**, students might be able to **discover ideas** that would not be found in other subjects.

SES

Year 1
WHO AM I?



In the beginning of the semester our first graders explored their own identity through the art project 'Who Am I?'

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Year 1
WHO AM I?

Year 5: “How to be explorers of the world”



- On the topic of ‘Exploration’, our 5th graders collected objects and made observational studies in nature and then created their own explorer’s book!

- Art lessons help us understand our present cultural environment through the exploration of culture. We get to understand the changes of humanity through the passage of time and also learn to relate to past generations. Through art we understand **how things came to be.**
- For this reason children are also encouraged to experience the work of artists and to appreciate the visual world through looking and responding to art, both within the classroom and by visiting galleries and exhibitions.

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Nursery Art inspired from a post modernist exploration!
Discovering artists like Pollock, Kandisky and many more!

- The first Unit for our third graders this semester was learning about our origins, in particular about Ancient Greece. In our art lesson, it was an opportunity to learn about black and red style pottery, discover geometric motifs as well as begin to draw from observation.
- Children were invited to apply the knowledge they gathered about Ancient Greece and explore it in their unique way. This is another video that shows a little bit of their wonderful work!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrsHBgtBbsU>

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Year 3 African Masks and Picasso



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- Through art, children are given the opportunities to investigate themes and issues that are meaningful to them.
- The visual arts help them to develop personal values and gain self-esteem by creating images and forms in relation to themselves and their environment.
- Looking and responding to art may lead to an enlightened sense of environmental awareness as children develop their aesthetic perceptions.

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In our world people define 'progression' as the development of technology and economy, thus most schools prioritize subjects such as Math, Science and Language. But in reality, for the real progression of humanity we need to educate students to be creative, innovative and self-aware. We don't need rationality any more than we need imagination!



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See 

- In our school we try to focus on balance-developing all aspects of the human psyche in order for our children to grow into individuals that can chose who they want to be rather than following what they are expected to become.



Through reawakening the power of art in society, we also reawaken our love for our origin and our love for Earth. Self-expression is our only way to liberation.

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