## Welcome to Art with Ms. Henson!

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

## HELLO DEAR FAMILY!

It has been wonderful getting to know your first grader in art class. Now, as we know, first grade is a pretty big deal (as I'm sure your child tells you), and in art class especially, it is important that we acknowledge that your responses and reactions toward the wonderful artworks they bring home will affect their attitude toward art in the next few years.



As a first grader, your child is in their schematic or representational phase meaning that art becomes a major communication point for them.

Your child is currently working on combining basic forms in art to make symbols and then using that to communicate their thoughts, feelings, and experiences.

When your child approaches you with a new piece of art, avoid asking what it is or identifying what you think the picture depicts and instead ask them to tell you about it. Things look and are processed a lot differently for our 3ft friend.

Even if you do not understand it, please be admiring of their work to further encourage them to continue to use art to help them express themselves.

I am looking forward to an exciting year of creativity and exploration. Thank you for your diligent support in your child's journey through art.

Sincerely,

Olivia Henson

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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