

Review for *Discovering Great Artists*

Start (magazine published by the National Society for Education in Art and Design)

Discovering Great Artists offers children aged 4–12 hands-on activities to explore the styles and techniques of some of the world's greatest artists. Each art process focuses on one style and one artist with a brief biography and portrait of the artist provided.

Many of the artists are familiar – Michelangelo, da Vinci, Van Gogh, Picasso, Rembrandt – but the American authors also introduce new names such as Arp, Nevelson, Hokusai and Paik.

The book does show its origins with its focus in the contemporary section on American artists. However it is a useful single source covering renaissance, post-impressionism through to, what the authors call, 'Wild & Wacky' and there are over 100 art projects that could easily be used in the classroom. Projects are labelled for experience level, art technique, planning and preparation, and artist style.

The book ends with 'Make It and Play It', a range of games and activities and a resource guide to 'Great Art Words', for example: -v- vellum: a fine parchment made from calfskin and used to write on, such as for illuminated letters and the pages of medieval manuscripts.