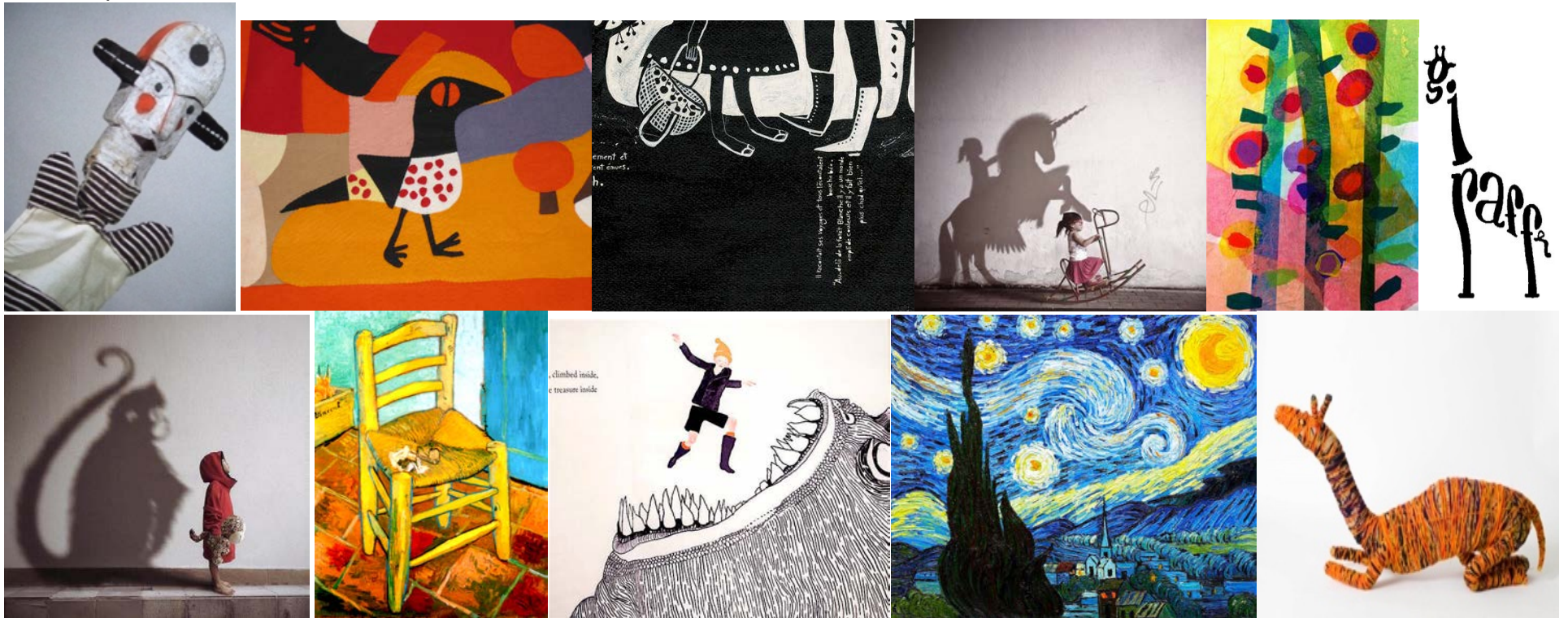


The Artist Within— Building a Symbolic Language through Folktale and Rhyme

A 12-Week Skill-Building Course, Exploring the Elements of Art and Design, Grades T/K-5

Created by Visual Arts Teacher, Sarit Swanborn



Keep a poem in your pocket and a picture in your head, and you'll never feel lonely at night in your bed. -Beatrice Schenk de Regniers

Enduring Understanding— The expressive powers of figurative language and symbolic representation are essential tools that artists use to more vividly inform, enhance and refine their creative processes— *to reveal the essence within.*

Course Objective: Cherished folktales, poems, metaphors, and clever word-play become linguistic portals for students to delve deeper into their vibrant imaginations in order to tell a more compelling visual story. From singing nightingales, wild horses, and sleeping cats to frozen candy, monsters in the dark, and floating fish, students embrace folktales and rhyme as a means to harness artistic expression through a playful, metaphoric lens. And along the way—*on this wild linguistic ride*—students will learn fundamental elements of art, principles of design, and key visual art vocabulary in an engaging format that organically builds in complexity, scope and emphasis at each grade level (T/K-5). **The primary goal being to help young artists develop their perceptual and analytical thinking skills** while simultaneously refining their artistic technique, sensitivity, and level of craftsmanship over time.

Weeks 1, 2, 3— Configuring Ordered Relationships

order (line weights, shape, space, scale, balance, movement), contour lines, pos/neg space (edges)



T/K K 1 2 3 4 5

Week 4, 5, 6— Playing with Meaning

concept-building (catalyst: figurative language; symbolism)



T/K K 1 2 3 4 5

Week 7, 8 and 9— Creating Mood, Depth, Textural Distinction

lights and darks (value, contrast, emphasis, color, texture)



T/K K 1 2 3 4 5

Week 10, 11 and 12— Interpreting Parts of a Whole

parts of a whole (unity, variety, proportion, pattern, rhythm)



T/K K 1 2 3 4 5
