



By Art Teacher Ellen Shumaker

Greek Vase Scratch Art

Volume 149 | Gr. 3-8

Time: 4 to 5 (40-minute)
class periods



National Core Art Standards

Creating

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Presenting

Anchor Standard 5: Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.

Responding

Anchor Standard 7: Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Connecting

Anchor Standard 11: Relate artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

Objectives

Students will...

- Learn about the history and significance of Greek vases.
- Understand the concept of symmetry and how it applies to art.
- Design and create a symmetrical Greek vase using scratch art techniques.
- Incorporate traditional Greek patterns into their vase designs.
- Use watercolor techniques to create a background that complements their artwork.
- Reflect on their work and assess their progress.

Directions

Introduction to Greek vases

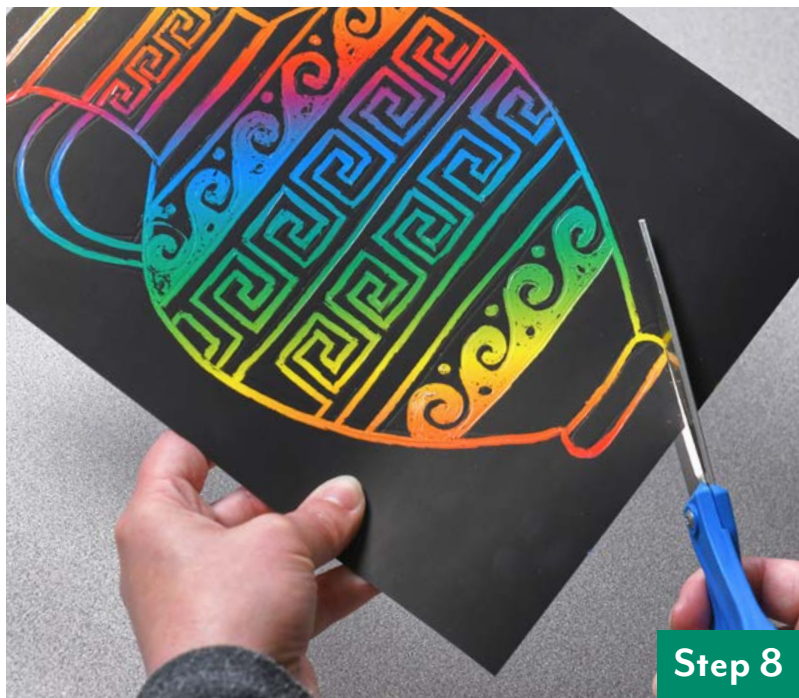
1. Introduce students to the history of Greek vases by showing them various styles and discussing their cultural significance. Show clips from online resources, such as
 - [Ancient Greek pottery](#)
 - [Figures in red: Red-figure technique in ancient vase painting](#)
 - [Art around the world - Ancient Greek pottery vase](#)
2. Ask students what they noticed about the vases they saw. What patterns did they see? What imagery?
3. Introduce the concept of symmetry and then pass out tracing paper for students to begin drawing just the outline of half of a vase.
4. Demonstrate how to rub on the back of the tracing paper to transfer the vase outline and create a symmetrical image.



Designing the vase

5. Review Greek vase designs and discuss their meaning. Then, have students select patterns for the outside of their vase and explain their choices.
6. Once students finalize their vase designs on tracing paper, they will transfer their images onto their scratch art paper by tracing over them with firm pressure.
7. Have students complete their symmetrical vase by carefully scratching the details into the paper.
8. Next, have them cut out their vases, making sure to cut on the outside of their scratched outlines.





Step 8



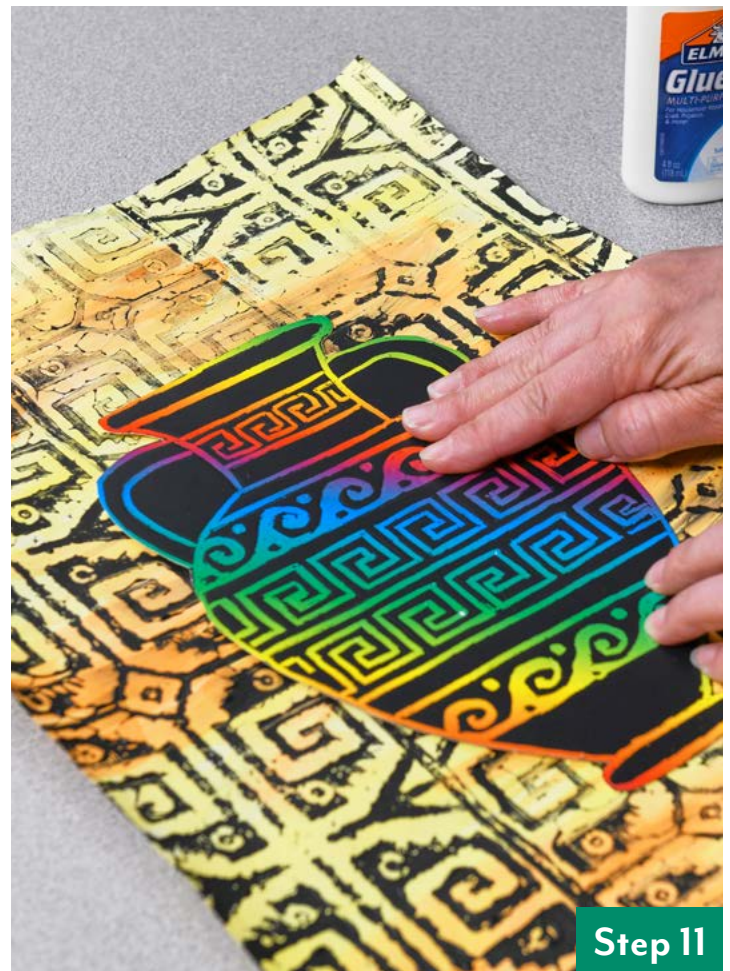
Step 9



Step 10

Adding the background & finishing touches

9. Guide students in creating a watercolor background using yellow and orange hues.
10. Once dry, have them add a Greek-inspired border pattern using black ink and textured rollers.
11. Once dry, have them glue their vases onto their background paper.
12. Have students create their artist statements, and then facilitate a class discussion where students reflect on their work and talk about why they designed their vase the way they did and what they learned.



Step 11



Materials list

- Pacon® Now You See It! Art Paper - Color Splash (**9740621**)
- Stylus Sticks - Pkg. of 100 (**0900846**) or Engraving Cutter Tools - Pkg. of 12 (**9723244**)
- Strathmore® 200 Series Tracing Paper Pad - 9" x 12" - 40 Sheets - 25 lb. (**9731798**)
- Nasco No. 2 Pencils - Sharpened (**NE20209** or **NE20211**)
- Nasco Budget White Sulphite Drawing Paper - 9" x 12" - 60 lb. (**9700924**)
- Nasco Standard Washable Watercolor - 8 oz. (**9723010[A]** and **9723010[B]**)
- Nasco Water-Soluble Block Printing Ink - 5-oz. Tube - Black (**9720513 A**)
- AMACO® Textured Rollers Classroom Pack B (**9731300**)