

Creative Minds

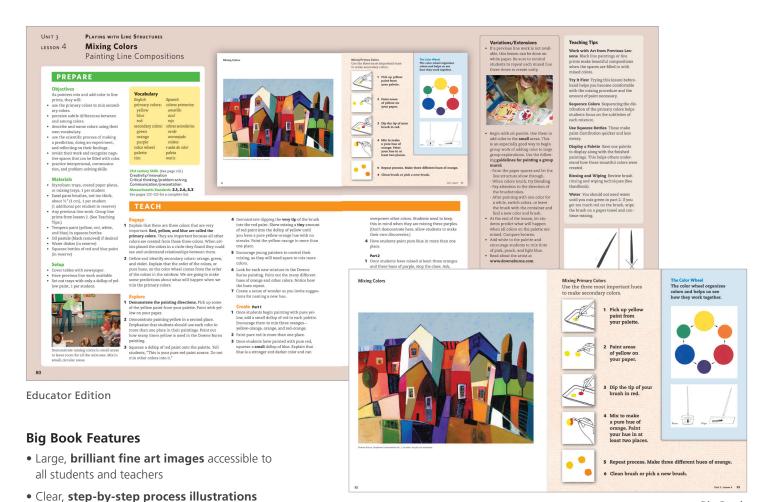
By Cathy Weisman Topal

For After-School Educators and Programs, Grades K-5

Creative Minds is a K–5 **art-based curriculum** that introduces young people to the joy and wonder of viewing, wondering about, and creating art. This innovative, classroom-tested program capitalizes on children's natural curiosity and readiness to create.

Creative Minds includes step-by-step support for after-school educators to create an authentic context in which to engage young people in viewing and making art while fostering **inquiry**, developing **problem-solving** and **communication skills**, **teamwork**, and **creativity**. This program is uniquely designed to provide many **opportunities for sharing and celebrating students' work** with families, the school, and wider community.





Big Book

Educator Edition Features

- **Step-by-step support** for closely observing, discussing, and creating art
- Suggestions to help teachers differentiate instruction by age, ability, and interest
- Key vocabulary in both Spanish and English
- Literature and STEM connections
- Teaching tips including activity extensions and variations
- Many art activities feature natural and found materials for limited program budgets
- Detailed materials list included in each unit

"Within the Creative Minds Curriculum, elementary students are introduced to the basic elements of design used by an artist when creating a work of art (color, line, shape, form, texture and space). The curriculum facilitates students to learn not only art principles such as movement and proportion, it also helps students express themselves by means of multiple art mediums. Creative Minds lessons, suggested extensions, and connection with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) makes it a must-have teaching tool for all elementary teachers. It offers a wealth of knowledge and fun!"

—Nancy Thibault, Strategic Communication and Development
Manager, Rainbow Child Development

This unique, innovative program was developed as a partnership with the Massachusetts Cultural Council—the state's art and culture agency—in part-nership with the Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership and Davis Publica-tions, the nation's leading publisher of art education materials. The program was piloted in out of school and after school settings. The positive response was overwhelming.

For information on how Creative Minds is used in after-school classrooms in Massachusetts, visit www.creativemindsmakeart.org.

