



### Learning Target:

- Students will understand that people of different backgrounds, talents, cultures, and life experiences can come together to accomplish great things.

### Materials:

- [Video: Kid Congress - What We Can Do Together](#)
- [A Sunday on La Grande Jatte by Georges Seurat](#) from Google Arts and Culture website
- Specific materials will depend on selected pixel art format (see Note to Teachers box below)
- Pencils
- Paper
- Drawing materials

## VIEW

the video [Kid Congress - What We Can Do Together](#), then discuss the following questions:

- Is it easy to work together?
- Why should we work together?
- What are some examples of people coming together to make great things happen?

## GUIDE

students to recognize that throughout history, some of our greatest accomplishments are the result of teamwork. People of different backgrounds, talents, cultures, and life experiences can come together to create something beautiful.

## EXPLAIN

to students that they will use teamwork to create a work of art.

## DISPLAY

the painting [A Sunday on La Grande Jatte by Georges Seurat](#) using the Google Arts and Culture website. Begin viewing the image at 100% zoom. (Double click the image to zoom in.)

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:** *Georges Seurat developed a painting technique called pointillism, where small dots of various colors become blended in the viewer's eye so they appear to create one image from a distance. This style of art is the foundation of the modern-day pixel.*

## ASK

students to make observations while you slowly move to 0% zoom, zooming outward approximately every 15 seconds. (Hover over the black square and click on the - button to zoom out.)

## TURN AND TALK

about what students notice about the image and the artist's style. Ask students to share their observations. Ensure students recognize that each individual dot in the painting plays an important role in the creation of the final image.

Today, pixels are used to create images on digital displays like televisions, computer screens, and video games. The display is divided into thousands or millions of pixels. Each individual pixel is a solid color. The pixels are close together, which makes them appear connected to create a larger image.

- Can you think of any examples of where you have seen pixel art before? (Games, movies, television, advertisements?)
- How is this type of art like teamwork?

**NOTE TO TEACHERS:** *There are many ways students can create pixel art. Before beginning the lesson, select one of these options based on your available time and resources. Alternatively, you might allow students to select which method they would like to use:*

- Put colorful sticky notes on the walls ([Examples](#))
- Color squares in graph paper ([Printable graph paper](#))
- Use [fuse beads](#)
- Create digital pixel art using [Pixel Art Maker](#) or [ABCya Pixel Maker](#)
- Create pixel art in [Excel](#) or [Google Sheets](#)
- Use [Mosaically](#) website to create art that can be shared digitally (It is free to create and share links to zoomable photo mosaics online but there is a fee to print completed mosaics)
- Use pieces of painted paper/cardboard or scraps of construction paper ([Example](#))

## COLLABORATE

to create pixel art that conveys a message of positivity. Students will work in groups of three or four. Each group member should have a specific role.



## Suggested Roles:

- **Quality Control** - This student will ensure art aligns with the purpose and make sure project creation matches the plan.
- **Materials Manager** - This student will ensure all group members participate and use materials appropriately and equally, while also retrieving any needed materials.
- **Facilitator** - This student will ensure the group stays on task and will manage time for the group.
- **Harmonizer** - This student will encourage their group members through the completion of the project, maintain positive group dynamics, and facilitate problem-solving.

**BEST PRACTICE:** *Utilizing roles during group work gives students accountability during the project. If you teach older students, encourage them to create their own roles based on the tasks that they feel are crucial to the completion of the project.*

## CREATE

pixel art following these steps:

1. Create a plan - What message of positivity will be shared? What words and images will be used to convey the message?
2. Design a draft of the pixel art piece (Depending on the scale/design of the project, this step may not be needed)
3. Gather appropriate materials and begin creating the pixel art piece.
4. Collaboratively complete the piece
5. Share completed art with the class using a gallery walk or large group discussion

**TECH TIP:** *Using [Wakelet](#) or [Flipgrid](#), have students digitally share their pixel art piece. These tools can also be utilized as digital reflection measures for students to reflect on their projects.*

## DISCUSS

the activity:

- Now that you have completed your project, what connections do you see between pixel art and teamwork?
- Why is each individual pixel important?
- What problems did you confront in designing your pixel art? How did you work as a team to solve them?

- What were your individual contributions to your group? How did these contributions help with the success of your group?
- What are some of the challenges of working as a group?
- How can we share our message of positivity with others?

**CROSS-CURRICULAR CONNECTION:** *Extend student learning by connecting their art to important math concepts such as perimeter, area, fractions, and percentages.*

## REMINDE

students that in pixel art, each individual square is different, and they come together to create something beautiful that could not be accomplished on their own. It is our job to team up with other people to make awesome things happen.

**EXTEND:** *Many children's toys connect to the concept of pixels. The following resources can be used for further learning:*

- [Bloxels](#)
- [Minecraft](#)
- [Pixel art using Legos](#)

## Anchor Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.2

Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

## Standards for Mathematical Practice

4. Model with mathematics

## Visual Arts Anchor Standards

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

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

Anchor Standard 3: Refine and complete artistic work.

Anchor Standard 11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding

## ISTE Standards for Students

Standard 6- Creative Communicator:

Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals.