History Hunt

Early Elementary
Folk Art to Fine Art
**Folk Art**

Folk art has many definitions, but here are a few ways to start thinking about folk art:

- Folk art is made by ordinary people, often with no formal training, like you and me.
- Folk art was decorative but it typically had a use, like a blanket, or a dish.
- Many artists were anonymous, especially from hundreds of years ago. To be anonymous means we don’t know the person’s name.

![A quilt by Anonymous](image1)

![A decorated trunk by Anonymous](image2)

![A decorated chair by Anonymous](image3)

**Fine Art**

Fine artists, or academic artists, have some of the following characteristics:

- They are formally trained. The artist went to school to learn how to make the art. Like your art class, but a lot harder.
- Fine art is made to purely be beautiful. There is no use for it.
- You know who created each piece of art. We know his or her name!

![The Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh](image4)

![Mona Lisa by Leonardo da Vinci](image5)

![Water Lilies, 1916 by Monet](image6)
And remember... Art is everywhere and can be anything!
Here are some types of art you will see in the houses.

**Quilt** - a warm bed covering made of pieces of fabric, typically applied in a decorative design.

**Pottery** - pots, dishes, bowls, and other pieces made of clay and then baked.

**Painting** - a painted picture.

Let’s tour the Village and find some art!

Millermore

Can you find a painting?

Which colors do you see?  
(Circle each one)

- red
- yellow
- blue
- black

Which colors do you see?  
(Circle each one)

- orange
- green
- purple
- white

Are there people in the painting? _____

Are there animals in the painting? _____

What else do you see in the painting?

- ____________________________________________
- ____________________________________________
- ____________________________________________

Do you have a painting like this at home? ______________________

Do you have a similar photograph at home? ____________________

Based on what you have read and what you have observed, do you think this is an example of Folk Art or Fine Art?
• Nip and Tuck, our Mammoth Jack Donkeys, may be providing carriage rides during your visit. Rides are 25¢ per rider and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
• Help us keep the Village tidy. Please, no food, drinks, or trash inside our buildings.
• Admission stickers need to leave the Village with students—please do not stick them on signs or barriers.
• Some of our buildings are closed to the public for various reasons. They are clearly marked.

1. Miller Log Cabin
2. Millermore
3. Brent Place (event space)
4. Potter’s Shed (closed for renovations)
5. Farmstead & Blacksmith
6. Pilot Grove Church
7. Renner School House
8. Sullivan House

9. Carriage House
10. Doctor’s Office
11. Blum House
12. Worth Hotel
13. Shotgun House
14. Section House
15. Depot
16. General Store
Please do not allow students to tour buildings unattended.
Though we certainly look like a park, please do not allow students to run through the grounds.
Please help us preserve our buildings by not allowing touching artifacts behind barriers or hanging or jumping on our buildings.

Scan to access our mobile visitor’s guide.
Look at two paintings.

How are the paintings different?  
(Circle or write)

Colors?

Where are they in the house?

Subject (are there people? things?)

Which is your favorite? Why?

Based on what you have read and what you have observed, do you think this is an example of Folk Art or Fine Art?

Find pottery.

Are they painted? 

What does the pattern look like? (Draw)

Do you think the family used the pottery every day? 

How would you use this pottery?

Based on what you have read and what you have observed, do you think this is an example of Folk Art or Fine Art?
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**Section House**

Do you see any pottery?

Which colors do you see?  
(Circle each one)

- red
- yellow
- blue
- black
- orange
- green
- purple
- white

What room is the pottery located in? Why?

Does anything else match the pottery?

Do you have something like this at home?

Based on what you have read and what you have observed, do you think this is an example of Folk Art or Fine Art?

**Shotgun House**

Find a quilt

What shapes do you see?  
(Draw)

Do you have a blanket on your bed?  
How is yours different?

Is the quilt colorful?  
How many colors do you see?

Based on what you have read and what you have observed, do you think this is an example of Folk Art or Fine Art?
You looked at quilts at the Shotgun House. Did you notice the quilts at other locations? **Draw your own!**
What pattern would be on your quilt? Would you have shapes? Or a picture of your family?