

# Classroom Connections

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS | Tinkering: Light Painting  
Grade Level: 3rd-5th

The  
Nelson-Atkins  
Museum  
of Art



## CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

### National Visual Arts Standards

- Media, Techniques and Processes (NA.VA.1)
- Structures and Functions (NA.VA.2)
- Characteristics and Merits of Artwork (NA.VA.5)
- Visual Arts and Other Disciplines (NA.VA.6)

### Missouri Visual Arts Standards

- Product and Performance (MO.FA.1.1.C, 1.1.D)
- Elements and Principles (MO.FA.2.1.A, 2.1.B)
- Artistic Perceptions (MO.FA.3.1.A)

### Kansas Fine Arts Standards

- Media Techniques and Processes (KS.FA.1)
- Visual Art and Other Disciplines (KS.FA.6)
- Characteristics and Merits of Art (KS.FA.5)

### Common Core Standards

Reading Standards for Literature K-5

- Integration of Knowledge and Ideas: 7

Reading Standards for Informational Text K-5

- Key Ideas and Details: 1

Anchor Standards for Writing

- Production and Distribution of Writing

Math Standards 1-8

- Use Appropriate Tools Strategically

The following information will help guide you in selecting a Museum visit that connects to your classroom curriculum, and offers before and after visit suggestions to enhance your students' learning experience.

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Connections are made with science and art as students have fun exploring circuitry, wearable art and the photographic techniques of light painting.

### WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Create a circuit that activates a light source
- Create a piece of wearable art that utilizes a light source as part of the design
- Create a light painting using a light source and a camera with a slow shutter speed

### COLLECTION FOCUS

Works of art that illustrate various mark making techniques as well as show light being used as part of the art will be viewed and discussed in the galleries.

*Certain collections or galleries may be unavailable due to rotations or construction. We apologize for the inconvenience.*

4525 Oak Street | Kansas City, Missouri 64111  
[nelson-atkins.org](http://nelson-atkins.org)

**School Workshop Scheduler**  
**[StudioWorkshops@nelson-atkins.org](mailto:StudioWorkshops@nelson-atkins.org)**

## BEFORE and AFTER YOUR VISIT

- Review the vocabulary/concepts list.
- Use the light painting printout as an element in another art project such as collage or bookmaking.
- Explore the effect of magnets by creating “throwies” using the LED lights and batteries.
  1. Remove the LED light and batteries from the wearable art created in the workshop.
  2. Tape a small magnet to the LED and battery.
  3. As a class, discover what the magnets will stick to in the classroom.
  4. As a group, create designs, turn the lights off and photograph.
- Use social media to show off the students’ light paintings. (Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram)

## VOCABULARY/CONCEPTS

**Circuit:** In electronics, a circuit is a path between two or more points along which an electrical current can be carried.

**LED Lights:** A light emitting diode is a two-lead semiconductor light source.

**Mark making:** A term used to describe the different lines, patterns and textures that are created in artwork using a variety of materials.

**Light Painting:** A photographic technique in which exposures are made by moving a light source and using a slow shutter speed.

**Functional Art:** Something that has been created as a useful object as well as having aesthetic value.



Donald Judd, American, 1928-94  
*Large Stack*, 1968



Franz Kline, 1910-1962  
*Turin*, 1960



Sam Francis, American, 1923-1994  
*Untitled*, 1958



## EDUCATOR RESOURCE CENTER

*The ERC can help you expand your before and after visit activities to fully connect your museum experience with your classroom curriculum. The ERC provides:*

- Curriculum consultations
- Circulating Resources
- Professional Development Workshops

[nelson-atkins.org/education](http://nelson-atkins.org/education)