Ancona, George. *Murals: Walls that Sing*. M. Cavendish. 2003 IL 3-6 RL 5.6

Presents a photo essay about murals, a form of art the photographer, George Ancona, regards as authentically for the people or "para el pueblo."


A cumulative rhyme summarizes the life's work of renowned Mexican potter, Juan Quezada. Additional information describes the process he uses to create his pots after the style of the Casas Grandes people.


Collaboration between Angelou and the Naebele people of South Africa. Vibrant blocks of color are combined with photos of the intricately patterned painted houses.


Julie loves living in Paris, but she wishes she could walk in a country garden. When she goes with her mother to visit a friend, she mistakes the famous artist for the gardener. The artwork uses sunny colors with drawings that are brightened with colorful washes and incorporate some of Monet's paintings.


This tells the story of an artist who teaches Asian elephants to paint and raise funds and awareness for their endangered plight. The straightforward narrative is illustrated with full color photographs displaying children, elephants and artwork that are set in a well-designed layout of large multi-colored text.


In the early years of the twentieth century, a Swedish family encounters separation and other hardships upon immigrating to New York City until the son is cast in a silent movie, in a picture book that evokes an actual silent movie.


A mysterious man enters a restaurant and pays for his dinner with a paper crane that magically comes alive and dances. Follow up with some Origami practice.

Batt, Tanya Robyn *The Fabrics of Fairytale: Stories Spun from Far and Wide*. Barefoot Books. 2000 IL 5-6 RL 5.1

The weaving of intricate fabrics is related to the threads of the storyteller's tale in this collection of tales about treasured, sacred, and magical garments from around the world. Illustrated with a combination of three-dimensional collages and paintings


Examines the life and career of twentieth-century African-American artist Romare Bearden, discussing his coming of age in the midst of the Harlem Renaissance, is themes
and practices, and the sources of his inspiration, and including over three hundred color plates and black-and-white illustrations of his work in various media.


L’il Dan, informed by a company of Union solders that he is no longer a slave, follows them and uses his beloved drum to save them from attack. Includes a reading by Maya Angelou on CD. The book was completed in 1983 and published posthumously, the only children's book that Bearden (1911-1988) both wrote and illustrated.


In the rhythm of the folk song "It Ain't Gonna Rain No More," a child who loves to paint the walls and everything else he sees cannot resist adding one more dab of paint to some surprising places. Illustrated with technicolor artwork that will keep kids giggling. Sing it as you read aloud and the kids will beg for more.


This is the story of Maud Lewis, a Canadian folk-artist. Reproductions of her paintings are presented opposite text that describes events in her life.

Bonners, Susan. *The Vanishing Point*. Farrar, Straus, Giroux. 2005 IL 5.8 RL 6.8

While spending the summer in a New England coastal town with another family, Kate sees the ocean for the first time, takes a challenging drawing class, and buys a mysterious painting. The story is told in an easygoing style and will appeal to budding artists.


Recounts the life story of the Pennsylvania colonial artist who began drawing as a boy and eventually became well known on both sides of the Atlantic. A folk-art quality infuses the illustrations of this engaging biography.


The author/illustrator describes how his mother's wish to spend her birthday visiting an art museum with her family changed the course of his life forever.


An analysis of Georges Seurat's famous painting, A Sunday on La Grande Jatte, including where and when it was made, interesting details, and the techniques used to create a sense of stillness. The numerous illustrations include details from *La Grande Jatte* and Seurat's sketches and paintings.

Presents information on the life and times of the famous French artist, and includes depictions of some of his best-known paintings, drawings, and posters, to show how his art reflected the places and characters of nineteenth century Paris. It is illustrated with period photos and paintings of Paris by artists such as Pissarro and Renoir, which are mingled with reproductions of Toulouse-Lautrec's drawings, paintings, and lithographs, many in color.


Illustrations and text portray the life of Leonardo da Vinci, who gained fame as an artist through such works as the Mona Lisa, and as a scientist by studying various subjects including human anatomy and flight.

Casmer, Tom. *Henry and Pawl and the Round Yellow Ball*. Dial. 2005 RL 2.2

This is the story of a frustrated young artist whose efforts to create something meaningful result in a pile of crumpled paper. When his dog Pawl looses a favorite yellow ball, the boy paints bright and sunny “lost” posters to help find it. The man who finds Pawl’s ball also praises Henry’s paintings.

Catalanotto, Peter. *Emily’s Art*. Atheneum. 2001 IL K-3 RL 3.0

Emily paints four pictures and enters one in the first-grade art contest. Emily has painted extra large ears on her dog because “Thor hears everything” but the judge interprets Emily’s entry as a rabbit instead of a dog. Emily is heartbroken, but is cheered by her classmates who ask questions that point out the ridiculous notion of picking a best.

Chevalier, Tracy. *Girl with a Pearl Earring*. Dutton. 2000 IL YA

Forced to help support her poverty-stricken family, sixteen-year-old Griet becomes a maid in the household of Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer. Told from Griet’s perspective, first as maid and then as artist’s model, the reader is transported to seventeenth-century Delft as she shares details of everyday life and the artistic process that created some of the world’s most famous paintings.


Written as a report by a fictitious student, this biography profiles the life and artworks of Degas. The series incorporate biographical information, and artistic techniques with well-chosen art reproductions. (*Smart About Art* series)


This is a collection of reproduced paintings from renowned illustrator, Robert Ingpen, whose art has been in over one hundred books for children and adults. Includes rough,
early sketches, storyboards, and brainstorming drawings that will give readers an idea of what is involved in the process of illustrating stories.


John James Audubon, living in Pennsylvania far from his home and father in France, continues his obsession with birds, and comes up with the idea of banding the legs of his pewee bird friends to see if they will return in the spring to the nests they abandoned in the fall. The mixed-media collage illustrations incorporate elements such as photos of bird nests and bones.


A poem and portraits of children illustrate the shared beauty and heritage of people of African descent living in Africa, North and South America, Europe, and the Caribbean.


On market day, a farm family experiences all the fun and excitement of going to and from the farmers' market. The images are created from pieces of folk art from Africa, China, and South America, which are identified in a pictorial key at the back of the book.


Examines the life, career, artistic style, and literary themes of the twentieth-century author and illustrator of such classic picture books as "Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel" and "The Little House."

Falwell, Cathryn. *Butterflies for Kiri*. Lee & Low, 2003 IL K-3 RL 4.4

Kiri, a Japanese American girl who loves to draw and paint, tries to use the origami set she received for her birthday. Full color illustrations are created with cut and torn paper collage. Includes instructions for making an origami butterfly.


Presents a children's book for early readers that introduces the colors black and white and what happens when they come together. The clever paper engineering in a board book format enhances the presentation.

George, Kristine O'Connell. *Fold Me a Poem*. Harcourt. 2005 IL K-3 Illustrated by Lauren Stringer

Bright illustrations highlight a series of delightful poems featuring a young boy folding origami animals. The haiku like poems combine with the origami animals to show a young boy whose imagination is all he needs to entertain himself. Includes a list of how-to origami books.
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Imagines Jackson Pollock at work during the creation of one of his paint-swirled and splattered canvases. Portrays the events during May and June 1950 when Pollock created *Number 1, 1950 (Lavender Mist)*.


Chronicles the life of Van Gogh through quotes from his letters to his brother, as well as written accounts from others. Details of his childhood in Holland, his years in France, his relationships with his brother and Paul Gaugain, difficulties with women, his mental health, and his artistic vision.


Pieces of the seasons appear and disappear in a patchwork pattern making up a year. Illustrated with full-color photographs of quilts made by the author.


Illustrations featuring elements of the modernism movement in art provide a new look to this traditional tale of the uninvited visit of a young girl to the home of a family of bears. Includes information on designers such as Charles and Ray Eames, Isamu Noguchi, Terence Conran.

Hartfield, Claire. *Me and Uncle Romie: a Story Inspired by the Life and Art of Romare Bearden*. Dial. 2002 IL 2–4 RL 3.8

A boy from North Carolina spends the summer in New York City visiting the neighborhood of Harlem, where his uncle, Harlem Renaissance collage artist Romare Bearden, grew up. Includes a biographical sketch of Bearden and instructions on making a story collage.


When the beautiful tapestry woven by a poor woman is stolen by fairies, her three sons set out on a magical journey to retrieve it. The illustrations reflect the ancient tapestries in this retelling of a traditional Chinese tale.

Presents poems about nature throughout the four seasons, accompanied by photographs of quilts made by the author. Included at the book's conclusion is a section that tells "the story behind the quilts," detailing in words and photos how they were made.


DiTerlizzi's sinister silent movie cinematic illustrative style rendered in black and white spreads of gouache and pencil creates a ghoulish retelling of Howitt's 1829 cautionary poem. Older readers will identify the macabre details and appreciate connections with the likes of Charles Adamms, Edward Gorey, and Lemony Snickett.


Narrative text describes the artist's paintings and their portrayal of the lives of her African-American relatives in the rural American South. Mosaic-like paintings in an expressionist style combine African motifs with images from the American experience.


Written as a report by a fictitious student, this biography of Monet profiles his life and artworks. Childlike drawings and reproductions of the artist’s paintings in scrapbook-style layouts illustrate the stories and the artistic explanations. (Smart About Art series)


This is a basic biography of the famous muralist for middle grade children that begins with the painter's childhood and his art education. Rivera's communist connections and political ideas which are depicted in his murals plus his four marriages are discussed in child-friendly terms.

King, Martin Luther, Jr. *I Have a Dream.* Scholastic. 1997 IL 3-6 RL 8.5

Text of the speech given by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on August 28, 1963 describing his visionary dream of equality and brotherhood for humankind. Also includes illustrations by Coretta Scott King award winning artists depicting scenes described in the speech.


Discusses the group of modern artists known as The Blue Rider, who met and became friends in Munich and went on to portray in their art a highly imaginative view of the world around them. Illustrated with color reproductions.


Bilingual book introduces the Mexican technique of cut-paper art. Through intricate pictures, in which each small piece of colored paper connects to form a whole image, the
author weaves a tale about her family and the traditions and beliefs of their Mexican heritage.


Provides instructions for making paper banners and more intricate cut-outs. Includes templates for creating specific images.


The textile artist raises the sheep, shears them, cards and spins the wool, dyes it, and then weaves a picture of her Kentucky pasture where her lambs were born. The soft-focus watercolors capture the quietness of this simple tale.


A collection of interviews with fourteen artists and writers of picture books who, regardless of their country of origin, have had a major impact in the United States.


Introduces dolls from African, North American, South American, and Asian cultures. Each photograph of the doll appears on a single page or a double-page spread against a solid-color background. Accompanied by textual notes on the doll's characteristics, history, and cultural background.

Mayhew, James. *Katie’s Sunday Afternoon*. Orchard. 2005. RL: 3.4

On a hot day, Katie and her grandmother visit the art museum, where Katie climbs into the paintings of pointillist artists Seurat, Pisarro, and Signac. Includes information about pointillism. See also *Katie Katie and the Sunflowers* (2001) *Katie and the Mona Lisa* (1999) and *Katie Meets the Impressionists* (1999).


Noah and his sister Jenny invent a game where one thing is put into another, then another, and another until they place it all in the shower. When they finish that game, they imagine and draw the shower inside the house, inside the neighborhood, and all the way to the solar system. Illustrated with bright paintings that support the story.


In the late 1930s, Jacob Lawrence painted a series of pictures documenting the oppression of the Haitian people at the end of the 18th century and their eventual
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liberation in 1804. This biography of Toussaint L'Ouverture telling of his struggle to free his people from slavery features Lawrence’s paintings that were first exhibited in 1940 and are now housed at the Amistad Research Center in New Orleans.


**IL K-3  RL 4.2**

In this retelling of a tale from Ghana, a wondrous spider shows two Ashanti weavers how to make intricate, colorful patterns in the cloth that they weave. Illustrated with full-size watercolor spreads of the lush forest and rainbow web.


A collection of paintings and memoirs by the American folk artist describing the seasons and their related activities in rural upstate New York. Two parallel texts are included, one by the author for the picture book crowd, the other excerpts from Grandma Moses' memoirs for older readers.

Noyes, Deborah. *Hana in the Time of the Tulips*. Candlewick. 2004 **IL 3-6**

A little girl seeks to regain her father's attention during the tulipomania craze in seventeenth-century Holland. Rembrandt, a family friend, reminds her father of what’s truly valuable. The illustrations resemble the work of the Dutch masters.


In this collection of poetry, the author includes full-page full-color paintings that illustrate the poems and range in style from narrative folk art and intricate Arabic calligraphy to surrealism and contemporary graphics.


After three Hoboken children and their giant chicken Henrietta begin to appreciate beautiful sidewalk art, they venture into art class and visits to Manhattan. Offers a natural springboard into discussions on Van Gogh, art appreciation, and the idiosyncrasies that afflict brilliance.

Presilla, Maricel E. *Mola: Cuna Life Stories and Art*. Holt. 1996 **IL 3-6 RL 5.8**

Tells about the history, everyday life, society, and culture of the Cuna Indians who live on the San Blas Islands in the Caribbean Sea, illustrated with pictures of molas, an art form that uses fabric design to present details of Cuna life.

Raczka, Bob. *No One Saw: Ordinary Things Through the Eyes of an Artist*. Millbrook. 2002 **IL 3-6 RL 5.3**

Simple rhyming text and reproductions of paintings show young readers how certain artists saw the world. The selections present the impressionist through modern works, introducing the works of fine modern artists from Renoir to Kandinsky.
Raczka, Bob. **Unlikely Pairs.** Millbrook. 2006 IL 3-6

This is an engaging book that invites the reader to discover fourteen funny stories produced by pairing twenty-eight paintings from different eras and styles.


A grandmother tells the tale of Gullahs and their beautiful sweetgrass baskets that were brought from West Africa to South Carolina and Georgia in an effort to keep their African heritage alive. The poetic text is illustrated with exquisite watercolor paintings by E. B. Lewis.


An illustrated exploration of the life and work of famous Japanese artist Hokusai. Some reproductions of his artwork are included along with sketchbook pages reproduced on the endpapers and a spread devoted to a famous woodblock print.

Reynolds, Peter H. **The Dot.** Candlewick. 2003 IL K-3 RL 3.3

Vashti believes that she cannot draw, but her art teacher's encouragement leads her to change her mind. Art teachers might consider reading this at the beginning of each semester to quell the idea, "I can't draw."

Reynolds, Peter H. **Ish.** Candlewick. 2004 IL K-3 RL 2.3

Ramon loses confidence in his ability to draw, but his sister gives him a new perspective on things by telling him a house can be “house-ish” or a fish “fish-ish”. Thinking “ish-ly” re-inspires him to let his artwork flow.

Ringgold, Faith. **Tar Beach.** Crown. 1991 RL 4.4

In this book, originally created as a story quilt, a young girl dreams of flying above her Harlem home, claiming all she sees for herself and her family. The illustrations are done in the same style as the quilt.

Roberts, Lynn M. **Cinderella: an Art Deco Love Story.** Harry Abrams. 2001 IL K-up RL 5.5

A retelling of the familiar Cinderella story, illustrated with authentic art-deco motifs and other period details such as wallpaper, pottery, furniture, and paintings of Augustus John and Tamara de Lempicka.

Romer, Harriet, Ed. **Just Like Me: Stories and Self-Portraits by Fourteen Artists.** Children’s Book Press. 1997 IL 3–6 RL 4.8

14 artists from different communities are presented through self-portraits and personal stories that explore their varied ethnic origins, their work, and their feelings about themselves.

Fourteen artists and picture book illustrators present paintings with descriptions of ancestors or other sources of inspiration that inspired them.


This alphabet book has as its ingenious theme - and its only text - various noises and exclamations. The illustrations are reminiscent of nineteenth-century illustrations and make use of a wide variety of historic type faces.


Covers the years during which Friedl Dicker, a Jewish woman from Czechoslovakia, taught art to children at the Terezin Concentration Camp. Includes art created by teacher and students, excerpts from diaries, and interviews with camp survivors.


Published in association with the Art Institute of Chicago, this is the story of the two-month period in 1888 when Paul Gauguin moved into Vincent van Gogh's Yellow House so that the two artists could paint side by side. Images placed side by side show each artists' interpretations of the same subject, offering an introduction to their styles, techniques, and mutual influences.


An assignment to paint a large billboard in the desert changes the life of an aspiring artist. This story plays homage to modern artists, including Hopper, Warhol, and Magritte.


Sara gets stuck when she must paint a picture for the second grade art show, until she discovers the best place to begin. This is a gentle, supportive message for young art students or weekend doodlers.

Scieszka, Jon and Lane Smith. *Seen Art?*. Museum of Modern Art/Viking. 2005 IL 3.6 RL 4.9

This whimsical book celebrates the opening of New York’s Museum of Modern Art (MoMA). As a boy searches for his friend, Art, he is directed to the MoMA where visitors enthusiastically show him their favorite works of art. When he finally leaves the museum, he finds his friend waiting. Illustrated with small reproductions of the famous paintings, the story carries the message that art is made in many media and can touch each person differently and profoundly.
Shafer, Anders C. *The Fantastic Journey of Pieter Bruegel*. Dutton. 2002 IL 3-6 RL 5.5

For over two years in the mid-1500s, Pieter Bruegel keeps a journal of his trip from his home in Antwerp, the Netherlands, to Rome, where he studies art before returning home again. The illustrations are rendered drawings washed with watercolor and acrylic. The book ends with a section of small color reproductions of Bruegel’s paintings and information about each.


An introduction to the world of folk artist Grandma Prisbrey, who used multicolored glass bottles to build the Bottle Village in Simi Valley, California. Introduces the genre known as self-taught, or outsider art. Includes photographs and an endnote that explains that her creation was damaged by a 1994 earthquake, and provides a link for the Preserve Bottle Village Web site.


A biography of the Italian Renaissance artist and inventor who, at about age thirty, began writing his famous notebooks which contain the outpourings of his amazing mind. The large, handsome illustrations illustrate the engaging text that provides information on art techniques as well as details of his life.


This is a handsome, artistically ambitious, and factually accurate biography of the Renaissance sculptor, painter, architect, and poet, well known for his work on the Sistine Chapel in Rome’s St. Peter’s Cathedral. Using digital technology, Stanley integrates reproductions of Michelangelo's own paintings and other two-dimensional art into the illustrations.


This is an adaptation of "The Bee-man of Orn and Other Fanciful Tales," published in 1887 by Scribner's Sons in New York. The Bee-man, informed by a Junior Sorcerer that he was once something or someone entirely different, sets out to discover his original form so that he can be changed back. The artwork is richly detailed, providing a series of imaginative settings that create a romantic vision of this original fairy tale. Also includes a DVD that provides a look at illustrator P.J. Lynch at work.


Carmine loves the color red and stops to paint a picture on her way to visit her grandmother, while her dog Rufus meets a wolf and leads him directly to Granny's house in this delightful alphabet and fairytale twist. Includes Granny's recipe for alphabet soup.

When Aunt Stella takes Luke and Sophie to search for artist's treasure, they explore ways of seeing and different ways of creating, and try various materials. This title is one in a new series called *Wonder Wits*, short chapter books that have a distinctive look and will engage reluctant readers.


A fictionalized account of the art classes taught during the early 1900s by the Northwest Coast painter Emily Carr who supported herself by teaching art to children. The text is written in spare, free-verse poetry in the voice of a student. The text is accompanied by beautiful oil paintings that provide rich illustrations.


A wordless picture book that depicts a young artist who draws a picture of a magpie which comes to life and interacts with a series of colorful drawings. The child draws cherries, and the bird eats them; the child draws an orange balloon, which the bird pops. Each illustration brings in one or two colors at a time, with the rest of the page in finely detailed black and white.


As she waits for her baby to be born, a young African woman describes some of the sights and sounds of her Mali homeland as she creates a beautiful *bogolan* cloth for her child.


Illustrations and simple text help chronicle the life of artist Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo, discussing how she learned to paint, how painting saved her life, and why her paintings are so unique. Illustrated with artwork characterized with traditional Mexican folk-art motifs.

Young, Ed. *Voices of the Heart*. Scholastic. 2004 IL 3-6 RL 4.8

A small volume that combines visual symbols of the West into a series of collages that offer a reinterpretation of twenty-six ancient Chinese characters that express Eastern attitudes about virtue. Collages are executed from a variety of papers, from handmade to paper toweling.


Autobiography told in simple words highlighted by paintings and sketches. The paintings are cheerful and realistic in a traditional Chinese style.