TEXT BOOKS OF ART EDUCATION, BOOK V; FIFTH YEAR

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Text Books of Art Education, Book V; Fifth Year by Hugo B. Froehlich & Bonnie E. Snow

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These books were planned in a series of conferences and consultations with leading are trachers and educators, among whom were the following:

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BOOK V. / / FIFTH YEAR

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Preface.

In presenting to the public the series of Text Books of Art Education, of which this volume is a part, it is desired to state briefly the aims and purposes of the plan upon which the series is based.

It is not necessary to review the history of art education in public schools, nor to present argument for the introduction or retention of drawing as an important study. These questions have been exhaustively treated, and need no fresh discussion. The school that does not offer to its community some kind of systematic art instruction is today an exception.

Education along specific lines should conform to the philosophy which is accepted as fundamental in general educational work. The educational principles adhered to in these books are, therefore, in accord with the psychological laws of child development which are endorsed by the leading educators of the present time, and the effort has been made to work out in these books a series of lessons that shall be not only educationally sound and artistically correct, but at the same time adapted in the different stages to the child's ability to comprehend and his power to express,

With this end in view, the lessons in the Text Books of Art Education have been divided into three groups which may be known as the Observational or Objective Group, in which the study of things is the aim; the Subjective Group, in which the study of principles or laws of beauty is the aim; and the Creative Group, in which the application of accumulated knowledge and ability is the aim. In furthering the work of the first group, the topics so familiar to the art teacher of our modern schools are treated-landscape, plants, life, and still life. In the second group are presented the principles of perspective, of industrial drawing, of color harmony, and most important of all, the principles of pure design. In the third group are placed creative exercises in composition, in decorative design, and in many forms of manual training. While the same division of work is kept throughout the course, the manner of presentation differs greatly in the different years. In the primary grades, the work is largely objective in its character. Children are taught to see and to do. In the intermediate grades, the children are introduced to the principles of arrangement, Balance, Rhythm, and Harmony, which have been adopted as the working basis of this series of books, and in the light of which the subjective and creative work of the upper grades is planned. As the work progresses through the different years, the subjective and creative sides are more and more emphasized, and the study of objects is felt to be merely a means necessary to an end.

All through the series, there is a definite, logical progression, so that in schools where these ideas are put into practice, there should be no ground for the complaint that the work of the intermediate and grammar grades falls below the work of the primary grades, in general excellence.

These books are the outgrowth of years of experience in practical fields of work. They have been prepared with a keen appreciation of the obstacles which have confronted the art teacher in public education, and with an intimate knowledge of the child mind, in its various stages of development. Never before has an attempt been made to put into the hands of children a text of lessons in art. The illustrations serve the double purpose of illuminating the text and of furnishing the children with standards of work in the various mediums.

Special acknowledgment is made to Dr. Denman W. Ross of Harvard University, for the use of his Theory of Tone Relations, and for the adaptation of his principles of arrangement — Balance, Rhythm, and Harmony—in the subject of Design.

For permission to use in the present book the poem "Talking in Their Sleep" by Edith M. Thomas, and the verses by Celia Thaxter on Page 29, acknowledgment is made to Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Company. The verses by Elizabeth Chase on Page 51 originally appeared in the St. Nicholas Magazine, and are here used by the kind permission of the Century Company. The lines by Richard Hovey on Page 1 appeared in Bliss Carman and Richard Hovey's "Last Songs from Vagabondia," and are used by permission of Messrs. Small, Maynard & Company.

Contents

	PALL
OUT OF DOORS (Landscape) Selecting and Expressing Landscape Shapes in Values and in Color; Shapes of Boats; Night and Day Effects Expressed in Values; Colors of the Different Seasons; Picture Composition; Home Exercises.	1
GROWTH, BLOSSOM, FRUIT (Flowers and Plants) Flowers and Fruits in Color and in Values; Growth, Shape, and Arrangement of Buds and Leaves; Composition of Plant Shapes; Nature's Calendar; Home Exercises.	15
LIFE AND ACTION (The Human Figure, Birds, Animals, and Insects) Animals in Outline, Mass, and Color; Quick Sketching from Children in Action; Progressive Stages of Pose Drawing; Figure Composition; Home Exercises.	29
BEAUTY IN COMMON THINGS (Still Life) Expressing Objects in Line, Value, and Color; Grouping of Objects; Still-Life Composition; Home Exactles.	41
APPARENT DIRECTION OF EDGES AND OUTLINES (Perspective) Appearances of the Cylinder Above, Below, and on a Level with the Eye; Cylindric Objects in Color; A Beautiful Building; Home Exercises.	51
MEASURING AND PLANNING (Geometry) Laying Out of Surfaces; Making Patterns; Planning Boxes; Planning a Surface Decoration; Lettering.	61
DESIGN (Color Relations; Pure, Decorative, and Constructive Design; Picture Composition) The Color Chart; The Value Scale; Complementary Colors; Balance and Rhythm as Art Principles; Balance and Rhythm in Simple Designs; Color Sources from Nature and from Testiles, and their Applications; Design Motives based on Nature Forms; Exercises in Pottery, Basketry, and in Making Simple Articles from Paper and Clork; Pottery as a World Industry; Home Exercises.	71

What I want to do is to put definitely before you a cause for which to strive. That cause is the Democracy of Art, the ennobling of daily and common work, which will one day put hope and pleasure in the place of fear and pain, as the forces which move men to labor and keep the world a-going.

WILLIAM MORRIS.