

picture is to **relate an event or simply to communicate**, an emphasis is placed on picture making from the imagination. A variety of exercises are designed to expand the ability to create a scene in the imagination and to express a story in picture form.

The next section describes the elements of **line, shape, color, and pattern**. These four elements form the academic structure of this **beginner** program. These elements, as well as texture, space, and form, are the building blocks of visual art. All seven elements are studied in the three **Series I** programs: *Flowers and Bulrushes*, *Peaceful Pastels*, and *Butterfly Wings*.



Then, in *Where Eagles Soar* and *Upon a Rock*, in **Series II**, these seven elements are expanded into a study of the principles of design.



The Elements of Art That Are Explored:

- 1) **Line:** A line is a *path of movement* for the eye to follow. Students in *Make Me a Rainbow* study a variety of lines including zigzag lines, wavy lines, dotted lines, and fuzzy lines. They use lines to create patterns and identify how they are used in art work.
- 2) **Shape:** A shape is a *space that is enclosed by line*. In *Make Me a Rainbow*, the children explore geometric shapes: circle, square, rectangle, triangle, oval, and diamond. They create variations of these shapes, make sequences using shapes, and combine shapes with lines to make patterns. They also use their knowledge of shape to help them to draw flowers, fish, and animals.
- 3) **Pattern:** When *lines or shapes repeat at regular intervals*, a pattern is formed. Repeating parallel lines, for example, form a pattern called *stripes*. *Plaids, checkers, and polka dots* are other examples of repeating lines and shapes that form patterns. Students in *Make Me a Rainbow* copy patterns and invent patterns of their own, combining lines and shapes, and challenging one another to be creative.
- 4) **Color:** Color can be experienced from many perspectives. In *Make Me a Rainbow*, a whole lesson is devoted to the color orange. Different shades of orange are studied and compared, and then used in a relay. A still life is prepared and compared to Cezanne's *Apples and Peaches*. And red and yellow are mixed in varying amounts to create different shades of orange.