

Montgomery County Public Schools

Art on a Cart Tips

By Art Teachers for Art Teachers- 2012

1. A slightly smaller cart is easier to maneuver in and out of tight spaces in the classrooms.
2. Travel with a flash drive so you don't have to take the time to log the teacher off the computer and log yourself in.
3. Take big pieces of construction paper -older and faded- on the bottom of the cart to place on tables when you paint, reusing the same paper for the whole year. Have a big towel on your cart for spills.
4. Pass the paint is great for PEP and Pre- K. Put one color refill on a tray with a little water and rotate the colors, brush stays with the paint. They mix on the paper.
5. Try to use the same material with different grades within one day whenever possible.
6. Leave work in progress in a spot in the classroom prearranged with the teacher in the beginning of the year.
7. Label everything.
8. Keep a box of things just for you (big scissors, pencils, sharpener, glue, tape, Band-Aids, smock, etc.)
9. Use one of the cardboard portfolios and tape it (really well) to the side of the cart to hold visuals and posters.
10. Put magnets on the poster ahead of time so you can put them up quickly.
11. Invest in a portfolio with backpack straps. (use a 50% coupon from Michaels or AC Moore)
12. Wear an apron with pockets to hold reward stars, etc. (keep one at each school)
13. Laminate white paper or lined manila paper and use white board markers as a white board.
14. Ask building service to drill holes in the side of the metal cart and use "s" hooks to hang visuals and posters.
15. Use a shoe rack for the top of your cart to keep your exemplars organized.
16. Use box tops to partition the sections of your cart.
17. Use paper passers and equity sticks to pass out materials.
18. Keep your own set of paper towels on your cart. Use old towels for washing hands and tables. Wash them periodically.
19. Keep hand sanitizer on your cart.
20. Use laminated placemats for clay or wallpaper for clay.
21. Ask for an extra drying rack to put in the hallway.
22. Use color coded table folder with their names on the outside to organize distribution of materials, equitable calling practices, etc.
23. Preprint labels with student names on them for students who have trouble writing their name or for putting their name on clay (you will have to carve it in later).
24. Have premade labels with student photos. Students put their clay on top of their photo and you write their name later.
25. Prep, Prep, Prep
26. Get older students to help you sharpen pencils, etc. for your cart in the am.