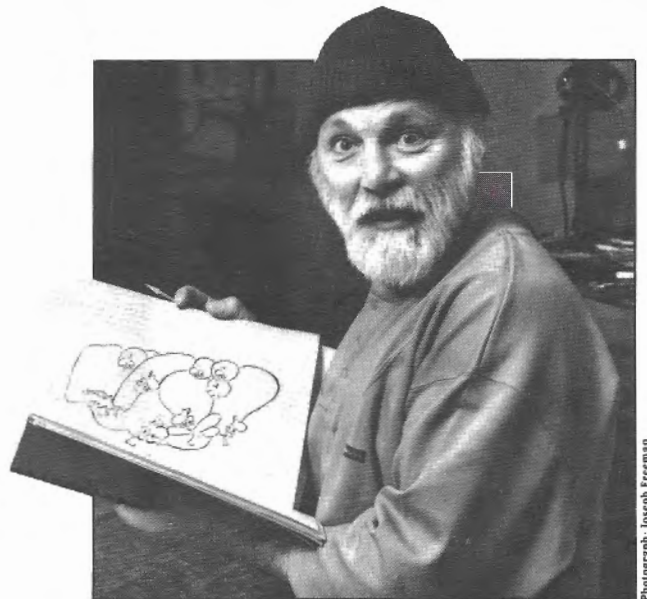


# Teacher's Idea Book



Photograph: Joseph Freeman

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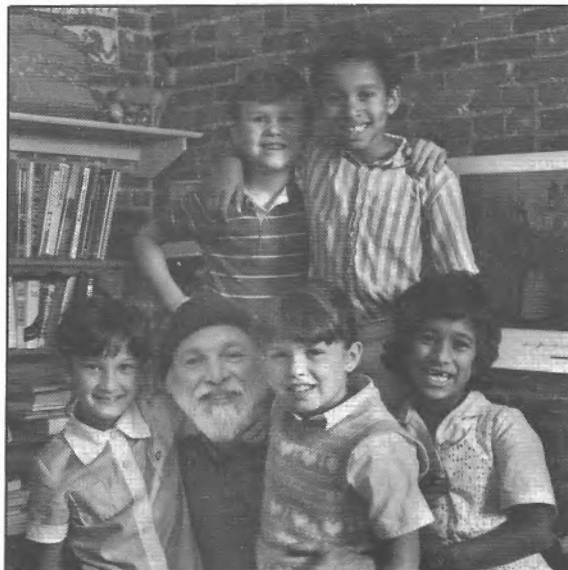
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**Don Arioli and THE BIG A kids**

**Bryan Coggins   Azizi Tookas  
Sashya Clark   Amanda Miller   Jessica Jacob**



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### Ten 15-minute programs on the visual arts for children in grades 1-3

THE BIG A is designed to delight and instruct children in the skillful and imaginative processes of looking at art, talking about art and creating art.

Lively animation introduces each program and communicates the series' theme: "In art, there are many different ways of looking, thinking, feeling and doing."

THE BIG A is hosted by internationally acclaimed cartoonist Don Arioli, who guides a cast of five youngsters as they work with him in his studio, talk about famous works of art, explore museums and galleries, and visit with well-known artists. The children in the classroom will travel with THE BIG A kids as they visit the "hot shop" of glass artist Dale Chihuly, watch Haida artist Robert Davidson carve a totem pole, or paint a mural on an enormous gas tank with the help of billboard artist James Crespinel. Animated sequences underscore the key concepts in each program.

The program order provides sequential, systematic instruction. However, since each program is a complete unit, teachers have the option to alter the sequence.

Based on the nationally recognized art curriculum of the Ohio Department of Education, THE BIG A offers balanced, comprehensive instruction that integrates the four disciplines of the visual arts: art history, art criticism, production and aesthetics.

## Ohio Department of Education Approaches to Studying Art

	Personal Development	Artistic Heritage	Art in Society
Expression	Discovering ideas for art in personal experiences	Learning how artists discover ideas in personal experiences	Learning how society expresses values and beliefs in visual forms
	Transforming ideas to create art	Learning how artists transform ideas to create art	Learning how society expresses changes in values and beliefs through visual forms
	Working with media to make art	Learning how artists work with media to make art	Learning how society works with its technologies to make visual forms
Response	Perceiving and describing works of art	Learning how critics and historians perceive and describe works of art	Learning how society perceives and recognizes visual images
	Interpreting works of art	Learning how critics and historians interpret works of art	Learning how society interprets visual images
	Judging works of art	Learning how critics and historians judge works of art	Learning how society judges visual images

# About the Teacher's Art Kit

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## Teacher's Art Kit

THE BIG A is intended to be used by classroom teachers, art teachers, teachers-in-training and museum educators. The Teacher's Art Kit provides individualized guidance for program viewing and follow-up. The suggested activities, Appendix and Bibliography are meant to assist with initial use of each program and to encourage further planning and use.

In fact, the purpose of THE BIG A series and the Teacher's Art Kit is to enable teachers to build substantive, long-range art programs that cross over to other subject areas and utilize community resources. Each program is designed for repeated use, either in its entirety or in segments. For example, Program 4, "Tools and Materials," introduces children to wood carving, glass blowing and painting. Once the entire program has been viewed, these segments can be reviewed independently. The painting segment can be reviewed to prepare students for sequential instruction in using brushes and tempera paints, for a classroom visit by a professional painter, or for a museum visit to study painting techniques from a historical and cultural perspective.

Students can imitate THE BIG A kids and experience art firsthand through activities such as classroom visits by professional artists, art critics or historians, or field trips to an artist's studio, a museum or gallery, an advertising agency, an architect's office, or a dress rehearsal for a theatrical production.

THE BIG A Teacher's Art Kit contains the Idea Book, eight Art Reproductions and the Guide for Museum Educators.

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## Idea Book

The Idea Book includes the following directives for each of the ten programs: Key Ideas, Program Summary, Key Words, Featured Artwork, Before the Program, and After the Program. This last section offers four steps to program follow-up: recalling the program, discussing ideas for creating art, creating art and responding to art. The Appendix offers specific instructions for creating art, including Supplies/Set Up and Techniques/Methods. The Bibliography lists books and resource materials for teachers and museum educators, and books for children. The Idea Book is written by Jerry Tollifson, Art Consultant, Ohio Department of Education; Lee Nourse Watkins, Teacher, Shoreline School District, Seattle, Washington; and Ricki Deragisch, Project Director, THE BIG A.

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## Art Reproductions

Eight art reproductions are provided for program follow-up and are referred to in the Idea Book. The reproductions represent artwork that appears in the series or has been created by some of the featured artists. On the back of each print is a description of the artwork written by the artist or an art expert. (NOTE: Laminating the art prints will extend their use.)

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## Guide for Museum Educators

The Guide for Museum Educators is written by Bonnie Pitman-Gelles, Associate Director for Program, Seattle Art Museum, to assist museum staff and teachers in coordinating museum visits to support and enhance program follow-up.

