



How to use this guide

Arts in Junior Cycle encourages active engagement when using short films in the classroom. The questions and activities below are a small sample of ways that this film featuring Eileen O'Sullivan could be incorporated into the lessons. Teachers will need to consider the unique context and both age and stage of their students when planning how best to use the film and adapt this resource accordingly.

Key Skills focus: Being Creative | Communicating

Before Viewing

Consider prior knowledge in anticipation of viewing

- Can you remember your first experience of art? What was it and how did it make you feel?
- What are you curious about? How do you feed your curiosity?
- When you are creating something, where does your inspiration come from?

While Viewing

Support active viewing. On second and subsequent viewing, pausing may be used for specific focus

- Eileen talks about the importance of learning from her peers in college. In what ways do you learn from your friends? How does it help your process?
- When speaking about pursuing creativity, Eileen encourages the viewer to *'let go of the pre-conceived ideas of what you think art should be.'* What do you think Eileen means when she says this?
- Eileen speaks about other people getting something from the things that she has made. She mentions *'a connection with someone else through art.'* Have you ever felt connected to someone through art? How so?

After Viewing

Follow up on key ideas and synthesize information learned

- Has your understanding of what a fine artist does changed as a result of watching this film?
- Eileen says that she aims to create paintings that slowly unfold - that have some sort of emotive quality. Consider the story that you are trying to tell in your next piece of work.
- Eileen says that she is happy to *'live in a society that gives freedom to be an artist.'* Do you agree?
- Consider taking a trip to a gallery to explore and spend time looking at art.



Eileen O'Sullivan Fine Art Painter

Arts in Action
Short film series

Did you use this guide or other Arts in Action short films in your classroom? If so, tag @JuniorCycleArts on social media or email us at info@jct.ie