

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

## Art in Brazil

### Art Everywhere!

Brazil has a rich history of expressing ideas through the arts. The “arts” include music, **visual art**, theater, dance, **literature**, and **martial arts**. Brazil’s famous Carnival is an important celebration that comes alive through the arts. Each year, around two million people take to the streets of the city Rio de Janeiro to enjoy music, dance, and costumes. Even soccer, the most popular sport in Brazil, has a connection to the arts! Many people say that the Brazilian way of playing soccer is graceful. They say that’s because the soccer moves are influenced by Samba dance and Brazil’s martial arts, Capoeira.



**Directions:** With a partner, read the text. Talk about the **gist**, or the big idea, of each paragraph. Use **text features** to help you determine the gist. Write it here in the blank space.

## Murals in Brazil

It is no surprise that a country with an arts **legacy** would also have some of the most remarkable public art of any country in the world. Public art can be found on the outside walls of buildings, in parks, and in other places that anyone in a community can see for free. One type of public art is a mural. A mural is a large painting on a wall or ceiling. Eduardo Kobra is a **street artist** in Brazil who makes murals. He used spray paint to make the world's largest mural for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. In 2017, he made an even larger mural in the city of Sao Paulo.

This mural is painted on the sides of a



chocolate factory. It shows a Brazilian cocoa farmer rowing a boat through a river of chocolate. The mural reminds people in Brazil that the chocolate they buy and eat comes from people's hard work.

**Public Art for a Cause**

A lot of the public art in Brazil does more than show a beautiful picture. One organization, the Favela Painting Foundation, makes public art to support communities in the favelas of Brazil. The **foundation** provides jobs. It employs community members to paint large murals. Painting buildings that have not been well cared for improves the neighborhood so people want to live and spend time there. Some murals show bright colors and patterns. Other murals show images that are meant to inspire or inform.

**Inspirational Arts**

The arts are important throughout Brazil. They are part of celebrations and everyday life. People around the world have noticed and been inspired by visual and performing arts in Brazil. Brazilian artists are invited to contribute to communities in many other countries, and Carnival is celebrated with floats, costumes, and dancing in cities outside Brazil.

## Glossary

**foundation:** an organization that provides money to others in order to improve something

**legacy:** lasting reputation or impact

**literature:** writing, artwork in the form of words

**martial arts:** ways of moving and coordinating the body in self-defense

**street artist:** an artist who creates artwork in public, where others can see it

**visual art:** a form of art that people can appreciate through seeing, such as painting, collage, sculpture, and photography

### Sources:

“Brazilian Artist paints ‘biggest’ ever mural” NewsELA, adapted from AFP, April 2017 (<https://newsela.com/read/elem-brazil-biggest-mural/id/29457/>)

“In Brazil, Soccer is a way of life” NPR September 20, 2013 (<https://www.npr.org/2013/09/20/224514655/soccers-place-in-brazilian-culture>)

National Geographic Kids: Brazil Country Profile (<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/brazil/>)