Contents

Foreword *by David P. Nelson* v

Acknowledgments vii

INTRODUCTION: Hidden in Plain Sight 1

Studio Thinking: A Lens 1
Teachers Weigh In 1
About This Book 2
Developing Your Lens 3
A Note About "Pedagogical Appropriation" 5
Where to Find More 5

PART I: Understanding Studio Thinking

1 The Studio Habits of Mind 8

What Are Habits of Mind? 8
Using the Studio Habits: Micah's Self-Portrait 9
DEVELOP CRAFT: Technique and Studio Practice 12
ENGAGE & PERSIST: Finding Passion and Sticking with It 17
ENVISION: Imagining and Planning 22
EXPRESS: Finding Meaning 25
OBSERVE: Looking Closely 28
REFLECT: Question & Explain and Evaluate 30
STRETCH & EXPLORE: Play, Use Mistakes, and Discover 37
UNDERSTAND ART WORLDS: Domain and Communities 39
Studio Habit Clusters 44
Studio Habits as Entry Points 45
In the Classroom: Catherine Karp's 5th-Graders Put Everything Together 45
Things to Think About 47

2 Studio Structures 48

Adapting Studio Structures to the Elementary School 48
Zeroing in on Each Studio Structure 49
Moving from Structure to Structure: Transitions 54
Things to Think About 54

PART II: Enacting Studio Thinking

3 Portraits of Practice 56

"Let's Make Some Art"—Julie Toole 56
Hand, Mind, Heart, and Community—Celia Knight 65
"I Have Something That Might Work Better for You"—Kitty Conde 72
Things to Think About 80

4 Portraits of Planning 81

What Does It Mean to Make Art?—Nicole Gsell 81
Planning a Year in a Choice-Based Class—Wynita Harmon 87
Working Together on Scope and Sequence—Caren Andrews and Jennifer Stuart 95
District-Level Planning and Professional Development—Elementary Art Teachers of Acton-Boxborough, Massachusetts 101
Things to Think About 106

PART III: Evaluating and Sharing

5 Assessment **108**
Quality Assessment 108
Assessment and Motivation 112
Getting Concrete 120
Conclusion 122
Things to Think About 122

6 Beyond the Art Room: Studio Thinking for Advocacy and Integration **123**
Making Habits Visible 123
Keeping Parents in the Loop 124
Collaborating with the School Community 127
Committing to Studio Thinking: A Day at the Maya Lin School 127
Things to Think About 133

APPENDICES: Resources for Teachers **134**
Appendix A: Making Studio Habits Visible 134
Appendix B: Student Planning and Reflection 137
Appendix C: Reflecting on Completed Works 139
Appendix D: Talking About Art 142
Appendix E: Documentation—Collecting and Keeping Everything Together 144
Appendix F: Connections Between the Studio Thinking Framework and the National Core Arts Standards 145

References **146**

Index **148**

About the Authors **152**

Full-color mini-posters that illustrate each of the eight Studio Habits of Mind appear after page 152