

Art Express Catalog

THEMES IN ART

Wilderness Revisited: A painting lesson in observance of the passing of the Wilderness Act of 1964

Students will learn watercolor techniques to express their experience and knowledge of an area that is not crossed by roads but remains in its natural state. This could include lakes, trees, swamps deserts, and the original flora and fauna.

There are three artists included in this kit. Thomas Moran and Albert Bierstadt were painters; Edward S. Curtis was primarily a photographer. Using their art they raised awareness of the perils of ignoring the impact of humans on the natural environment. With their art they captured a period before human occupation changed the world of nature. Grades 1-5

Animals in Art: Teach students how to mix colors from primary colors: red, yellow, and blue watercolor sticks. Encourage imagination by drawing/painting animals in unfamiliar colors. Introduce artists Franz Marc, Rene Magritte, and Alberto Giacometti.

Children in Art: An historical view of paintings of children reflecting prevailing styles. Using mirrors & templates, students draw themselves. Grades 1-5

Peace: Visions of peace by well-known artists become the inspiration for students to illustrate themselves at peace. Grades 1-5

Classrooms: Based on the art of Winslow Homer, student illustrate their classroom. Grades 3, 4, & 5

The Forest & Emily Carr: Canadian artist Emily Carr is the inspiration for students to illustrate an experience in the forest. Grades 1-5

The Art of the Book: Students make a simple book ready to illustrate. Grades 1-5

Button Blankets: Using the button blankets of Pacific Northwest Natives as a theme, students create their own symbolism. Grades 1-5

The Art of India: Mandalas: Mandalas are the basis for designs students create using the influence of Indian traditions. Compasses, CD's, and protractors are used to create the designs. (a.k.a. Geometry in Art: Mandalas) Grades 1-5

The Art of India: Kolams: Kolams are designs created in southern India to bring prosperity to homes. Students create the designs on paper with a grid of dots, learning about both geometry and Indian culture. Grades 1-5

Flags: After learning the history of flag design, students will illustrate The Star Spangled Banner. Grades 4 & 5

Georgia O'Keeffe: Twentieth century American artist whose work takes you into the heart of the subject through enlargement. Students will draw objects similar to those O'Keeffe used in her art. Then colors will complete the picture. Grades 3,4, and 5

The Five Senses: Eyes, Ears, Nose, Mouth, Touch: A lesson in cartooning for all grades. Students will be introduced to masterpieces that are remembered for their use of the "senses." Then they will draw their own cartoons. All grades.

SCIENCE AND ART

The Art of M.C. Escher: Students draw the four stages of butterfly metamorphosis onto the sides of handmade tetrahedrons. Grades 1-5

The Art of Vincent Van Gogh: Students illustrate the solar system in the style of Van Gogh. Gr.1-5

Botanical Illustration and the Corps of Discovery: Using Spring wildflowers, students will create pencil drawings after learning the history of botanical illustration emphasizing the drawings of Lewis and Clark. Grades 1-5

Weather and Clouds: Students view art by artists that use weather as a theme. Meteorology is introduced. Drawings related to weather observations are created. Grades 1 – 5

Moon and Tides: The moon, its origin, how artists picture it, and how the moon affects the tides, is the basis for this lesson.

TECHNIQUES IN ART

Color Field Painting: Referring to artists Raoul Dufy and Helen Frankenthaler, students will try to define shapes from an abstraction of color. Grades 1-5

Collage: Picasso: Based on the work of Pablo Picasso, this lesson gives students a pre-cut shape from printed matter. They are encouraged to embellish the shape, mimicking the art of Picasso.

Mosaic: After viewing the history of mosaic, students create a design from seeds mimicking the technique of mosaic.

Wire Sculpture: With telephone wire and wood blocks students make small Alexander Calder-like sculptures. Grades 3-5.

Collage: Archimboldo: Faces cut and glued from printed flowers and other natural objects, imitating the work of Archimboldo.

Clay: The importance of a pot. Using low-fire clay, students create a pinch pot and embellish it with incised designs. Teachers may also request a lesson in clay relief, masks in clay, or other objects. This lesson is especially for schools with kilns. Other arrangements for firing can be made. Grades 3-5

Collage: Matisse: The art of Henri Matisse. Using cut colored paper, students will create a mural based on a theme they design. Grades 1-5

Frottage: The art of rubbing. Using petroglyphs and pictographs as a theme, students will create scenes of rock art. Grades 1-5

Printmaking: The history of woodcut and printing is taught. Using water-based inks, students make prints from foam pieces. Grades 1-5

PRINCIPLES OF ART

Color and Pointillism: Using the work of Georges Seurat, students learn the principle of visual color mixing. Q-tips are provided to paint simple shapes. Grades 1-5

Color and Light: Based on the work of Claude Monet, this lesson illustrates color mixing and sources of light that affect color. Using acrylic paint, students will practice the same color-mixing principles used by Monet. Grades 3-5

Value: The concept of light and dark value is taught using the art of Georges Seurat and Chuck Close. Students will create images using inked stamp pads. Grades 1-5

Balance: Symmetry and asymmetry is taught using the art of Edgar Degas, Diego Rivera, and Wayne Thiebaud. Students will be asked to draw and recognize symmetry and asymmetry. Grades 1-5

Line: The art of directing vision with line. Students will see the work of Edgar Degas, Millard Sheets, and M.C. Escher. Using graphite and watercolor sticks, students will create a work of art applying the principle of line. Grades 1-5

Relief: The principle of relief is explored through the work of Louise Nevelson. Students create small reliefs from "found" objects that are glued and later painted a uniform color. Grades 1-5

Shape: The art of Paul Cezanne is used to teach the principle that all objects are composed of four basic shapes: the sphere, the cone, the cube and the cylinder. Students will be given pre-printed papers that allow them to study the effect of light on the basic shapes. Grades 3,4,5.

