



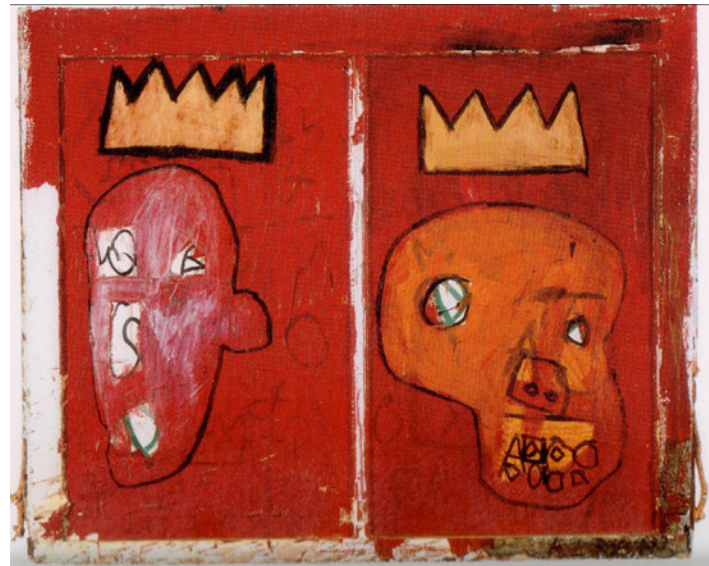
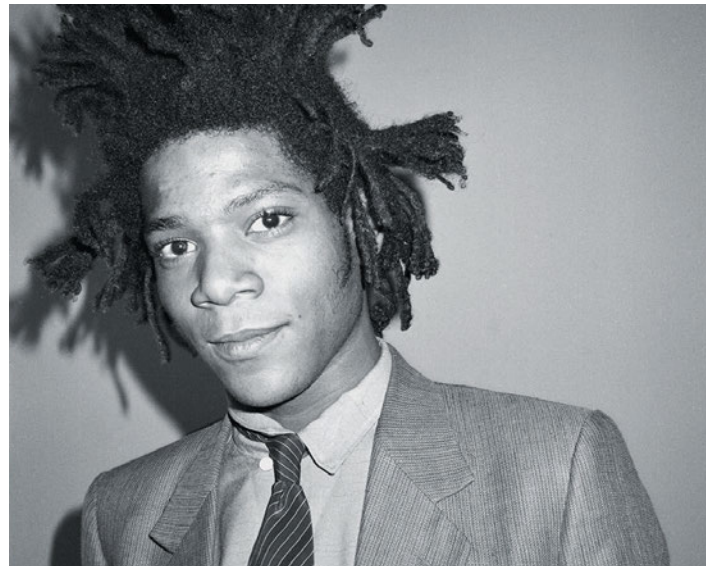
LESSON PLANS

Spotlight on Art History

Including Integration with
Core Curriculum Standards

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Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat



Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Red Kings*, 1981

About the Artist

"I don't think about art when I'm working. I think about life."

Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960–1988) was a New York street graffiti artist who at a young age became very prominent Neo-Expressionist artist. He was the son of a middle-class Haitian father and Puerto Rican mother. He was a very forward child, being able to read and write at four years of age, he became fluent in English, Spanish and French at eleven. After his parents had separated and his mother committed to a mental institution, Jean-Michel dropped out of school and ran away from home. Staying with friends in Brooklyn, he started creating artwork to sell on the streets to support himself. At the age of sixteen, Basquiat began producing graffiti using spray-paint in Lower Manhattan, using the alias SAMO. Later he went on to form a rock band which performed at various New York clubs. He met the famous artist Andy Warhol at a restaurant and showed Warhol samples of his artwork. Warhol was so impressed by Basquiat's talent that they worked together on a series of projects. Jean-Michel's work appeared at a multi-artist exhibition on The Times Square Show, and this

introduced Basquiat's work to the wider art world. He often used crowns in his work. The first crown appeared in his *Red Kings* (1981). The painting contains two images in the same portrait. On the left side of the canvas you can see Basquiat himself, tellingly by the initials B, Q, and S. On the right of the portrait is a skull representing one of Basquiat influencers Pablo Picasso. There are many theories as to why Basquiat used crowns in so many of his works. Many critics argue that it was a combination of seeing himself the artist as king, his association with people he considered kings (such as his heroes), and his ambition to become great. One friend who knew him early on wrote: "He could walk into a thrift store with five bucks and come out looking like a king. In fact, he basically behaved like a king who had accidentally switched lives with an identical pauper." Jean-Michel Basquiat was a very prolific artist and produced many paintings in the same Neo-Expressionism style as *Bird on Money*. Titles of his paintings include *Dustheads*, *Hollywood Africans*, *Horn Players*, and *Trumpet*. Work produced in collaboration with Andy Warhol include *Arm and Hammer* and *Ten Punching Bags*. In only a few years Basquiat rose to fame that was to exceed by far his short lifetime, which was sadly ended in 1988.

Art at Home Basquiat Crown Portrait

Step 1: Paint an abstract background onto your canvas then allow it to dry.

Step 2: Create a portrait on top of the dried background using different colors so it pops out.

Step 3: Using your cardboard, cut out a simple crown shape.

Step 4: Paint the crown and glue on aluminum foil if you like to make it shine.

Step 5: Once your painting is entirely dry, glue your crown to the top of your head!

Step 6: Glue on any additional collage materials you think will complete your portrait.

Step 7: Clean up your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- Talk about why you added different details to the background.
- Write down the different reasons you deserve to wear the crown, or why the person you chose to depict in the portrait deserves to wear a crown.
- If you could ask Basquiat one question, what would it be?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (5th Grade)

5.V.1.2 Create art that reflects personal voice and choice.
5.CX.1.1 Understand how the visual arts have affected, and are reflected in, the culture, traditions, and history of the United States.

ELA

W.5.1 Write an opinion about the topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

- Introduce the topic or text and state an opinion about it.
- Provide reasons to support the opinion.

Personal/Social Responsibility

PE.5.PR.4.3 Understand the importance of culture and ethnicity in developing self-awareness and working productively with others.

Supplies:

- Large sheet of craft paper or canvas
- Paints
- Paint brushes (different sizes)
- Cardboard
- Strong glue
- Scissors
- Aluminum foil
- Collage materials (optional)
- Table cover

Look at images of Basquiat's paintings, especially those that incorporate crowns. Notice how he incorporates graffiti and abstract imagery into many of his works, adding figures and words at his discretion. Use these as inspiration for your creation of an abstract portrait of yourself or someone you look up to.

Tips

- When you add details to the background, they only need to make sense to you. You can add words for your own reasons, figures, or characters that appeal to you.
- Because Basquiat's work was often very large, sometimes he laid his canvas on the ground and painted it by walking around it. Feel free to try that approach and see how it feels.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Create a crown using cardboard for you to wear on your head. Cut the cardboard so it fits your head and add any decorations you like. Attach ribbons to each side so you can wear it.

Artist Michelangelo Buonarroti

Art at Home Upside-Down Painting



(Top) Michelangelo, Sistine Chapel Ceiling [detail], 1508-1512
(Bottom) Sebastiano del Piombo (Italian, 1485-1547), Portrait of Michelangelo [detail], c. 1520



About the Artist

"Genius is eternal patience."

Italian Renaissance painter and sculptor **Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475 - 1564)** was considered the greatest living artist in his lifetime, and ever since then he has been seen as one of the greatest artists of all time. A number of his works in painting, sculpture, and architecture rank among the most famous in the world. His practice of several arts was not unusual in his time. Michelangelo worked in marble sculpture all his life and in the other arts only during certain periods. Some of his most famous sculptures include the *David* and the *Pieta*.

One of Michelangelo's best-known works is his painting on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Some say he painted the ceiling entirely while lying on his back (while others claim he was standing and arching his head back). In order to do this, he built a large wooden scaffold so that he could climb it and be close enough to the very high ceiling to paint it, which in total covered 12,000 square feet. This project took him over four years to finish, between 1508 and 1512.

Step 1: Do your set up as listed.

Step 2: Move yourself under the table and get comfortable.

Step 3: Using your paints, begin to create your painting. The subject is entirely up to you.

Step 4: Continue painting until you feel you are done.

Step 5: Leave the painting under the table for a few hours so it is completely dry.

Step 6: Take your painting carefully off the table.

Step 7: Give your painting a name, and make sure to sign it!

Step 8: Help clean up your supplies and workspace.

Questions to ask one another

- Describe how it felt to paint lying on your back. What did you like and not like?
- Now that you've created art in the style that Michelangelo created the Sistine Chapel, does it change how you feel about his work?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (Kindergarten)

K.V.2.2 Use sensory exploration of the environment as a source of imagery.

K.V.2.3 Create original art that does not rely on copying or tracing.

ELA

SL.K.1 Participate in communication with others

Guidance 4a. Students know and use a deliberate design process for generating ideas, testing theories, creating innovative artifacts, or solving authentic problems.

Supplies:

- Paints in sturdy containers
- Paintbrushes (one in each paint color so you don't need to clean them between uses)
- Large sheet of thick paper or poster board
- Masking tape
- Table to work under (one that works height-wise for your child's reach)
- Floor cover (if working inside)
- Clothes that can get messy (you can use bandannas or shower caps to cover your hair, swimming goggles to protect your eyes, etc.)
- Items for quick clean-up if there are spills or drops (towels, rags, sponges, etc.)

Set up your work area first and make sure it is comfortable. Tape your paper securely under the table, check that you are able to reach the bottom of the table when lying underneath it, place a floor cover beneath the table, arrange your paints so that they are easy to reach and make sure your cleaning supplies are close at hand.

Tips

- Draw a simple sketch on the paper before taping it to the table to make the painting process a little easier.
- Work outside if the weather is nice. It's always fun to work in fresh air and getting messy is less of a concern.
- Don't focus on the finished project - this activity is about the experience of painting something above your head so you can have a better understanding of what Michelangelo experienced.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Look for close-up images of the Sistine Chapel. Choose one that you like the most. Try to re-create this painting as an upside-down painting.

Artist Salvador Dali



Salvador Dali, *Apparition of Face and Fruit Dish on a Beach*, 1938

About the Artist

"Surrealism is destructive, but it destroys only what it considers to be shackles limiting our vision."

Salvador Dali (1904–1985) was a Spanish Surrealist artist renowned for his technical skill, precise draftsmanship and the striking and bizarre images in his work. Influenced by Impressionism and the Renaissance masters from a young age, Dali became increasingly attracted to Cubism and avant-garde movements. Dali worked in painting, graphic arts, film, sculpture, design and photography, at times in collaboration with other artists. He also wrote fiction, poetry, autobiography, essays and criticism.

Dali was best known as a Surrealist painter. Surrealism is a 20th-century avant-garde movement in art and literature which sought to release the creative potential of the unconscious mind. Major themes in Dali's work include the subconscious, religion, science and his closest personal relationships. He was particularly interested in dreams. Like his fellow surrealists, Dali considered dreams and imagination as central rather than marginal to human thought. He knew that the state between wakefulness and sleep was possibly the most creative for a brain and he liked to portray that in his work.

Art at Home Dream Collage Drawings

Step 1: Cut out images that you are drawn to from your magazines (animals, flowers, dessert foods, parts of buildings, etc). Make sure you have a variety to choose from (you do not need to use them all in your collage).

Step 2: On your sheet of paper, begin to place some of your favorite cut outs around the page. Make sure there is plenty of space between the cut outs.

Step 3: When you are happy with your design, glue down the cut outs and allow them to dry.

Step 4: Using your drawing utensils and imagination, finish the collage by drawing in the rest of the picture. For example, if you have a picture of someone's face glued down, draw them onto an animal body. If you have a picture of a cupcake, place it at the top of a mountain.

Step 5: Color in any parts of your drawing that you want.

Step 6: Help clean up your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- What is the title of your artwork?
- Tell the story of what is happening in your picture.
- Did you make things up as you went along or did you have a plan in mind as you went?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (2nd Grade)

2.V.2.3 Create art from real and imaginary sources of inspiration.

ELA

SL.2.4 Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent and complete sentences.

Supplies:

- Magazines, Newspapers, Catalogues, etc for cutting out pictures
- Large sheet of drawing paper
- Markers / crayons / colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

Salvador Dali sometimes referred to his paintings as "hand-painted dream photographs," which were filled with outrageous and impossible subjects and ideas. You can choose to use dreams you have had as inspiration for your artwork, or just have fun putting together images that do not normally go together.

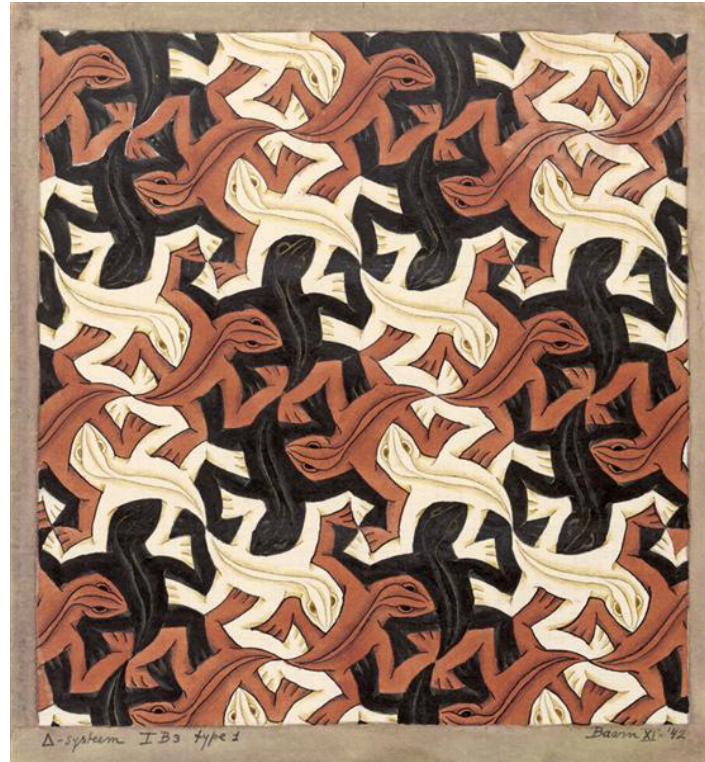
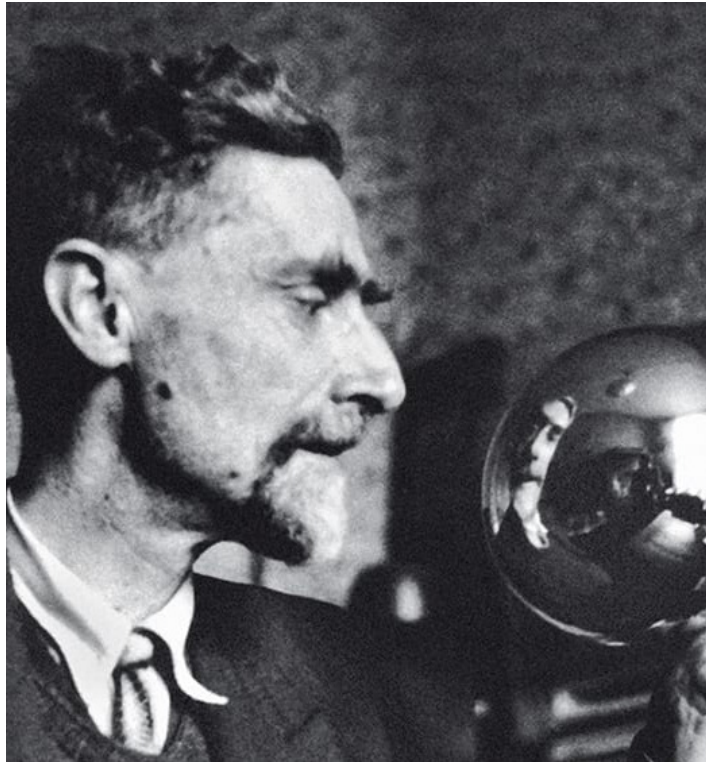
Tips

- Look at other paintings by Salvador Dali, and other Surrealist artists, for inspiration before you begin working.
- You may have to fight the urge to have your picture "make sense". Challenge yourself to create images that you've never heard of in real life.

Follow-Up Project Idea

On separate sheets of paper, write down five different animals, five random items, and five different objects from nature (you can come up with your own categories if you prefer). Place the paper in a cup and choose eight at random (or however many you prefer). Create a surrealist collage drawing that includes all those items.

Artist M.C. Escher



Artwork: M.C. Escher, *Lizard*, 1942

About the Artist

"We adore chaos because we love to produce order."

Maurits Cornelis Escher (1898-1972) is one of the world's most famous graphic artists. He was best known for his detailed realistic prints that achieve bizarre optical and conceptual effects. He made mathematically inspired woodcuts, lithographs, and mezzotints. These are sometimes referred to as *impossible drawings*, or drawings using multiple vanishing points. He also created many works that focused on tessellations. Tessellations are a special kind of design made from shapes that fit together perfectly. A checkerboard is an example of a simple tessellation. Other simple shapes, such as triangles, rectangles and diamonds, can fit together perfectly. Escher focused his work on tessellations and repeating patterns, often featuring overlapping, interlocked images morphing into something else. Escher used complex tessellations in his work that sometimes started as one form and became another.

Art at Home Tessellation Designs

Step 1: Begin by drawing a square on your heavy paper, then cut it out.

Step 2: From the left side of your square, draw a triangle with the pencil. Take your pencil to the top left corner, draw a straight line towards the middle of your square. Stop that line, then draw another straight line connecting down to the bottom left corner of your square. This creates your triangle shape.

Step 3: Cut out the triangle, then tape it onto the right side of your square. This should transform your original square into something more similar to an arrow shape.

Step 4: Trace this new shape onto the heavy paper, then cut that out. This is now your sturdy tracing template.

Step 5: On your background paper, start tracing your new shape over and over until you fill up the sheet. Align each new tracing with the last one so there's no space between the shapes and they are repeating side by side.

Step 6: If you want, place the same small design into each shape. You can do this to make the shapes look like something (eyes and a fin to make a school of fish) or simply a decorative pattern.

Step 7: Trace the outline of your shapes with a dark marker.

Step 8: Color each shape a different color - you can do a pattern with your colors (rotating the same two or three colors) or color each shape randomly.

Step 9: Help clean up your supplies and workspace.

Questions to ask one another

- What would you name this tessellation design?
- How many different things can you think of that your design shape looks like?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (4th Grade)

4.V.2.1 Identify different successful solutions to artistic problems.

4.CX.2.2 Apply skills and concepts learned in other disciplines, such as math, science, language arts, social studies, and other arts, in the visual arts.

Math

NC.4.G.2 Classify quadrilaterals and triangles based on angle measure, side lengths, and the presence or absence of parallel or perpendicular lines.

NC.4.G.3 Recognize symmetry in a two-dimensional figure, and identify and draw lines of symmetry.

Supplies:

- Heavy paper for the pattern
- Sheet of background paper
- Pencil and eraser
- Crayons/markers/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Tape and a ruler

Take your time with this project and don't expect it to work out perfectly - tessellations can be tricky so relax and have fun with your design!

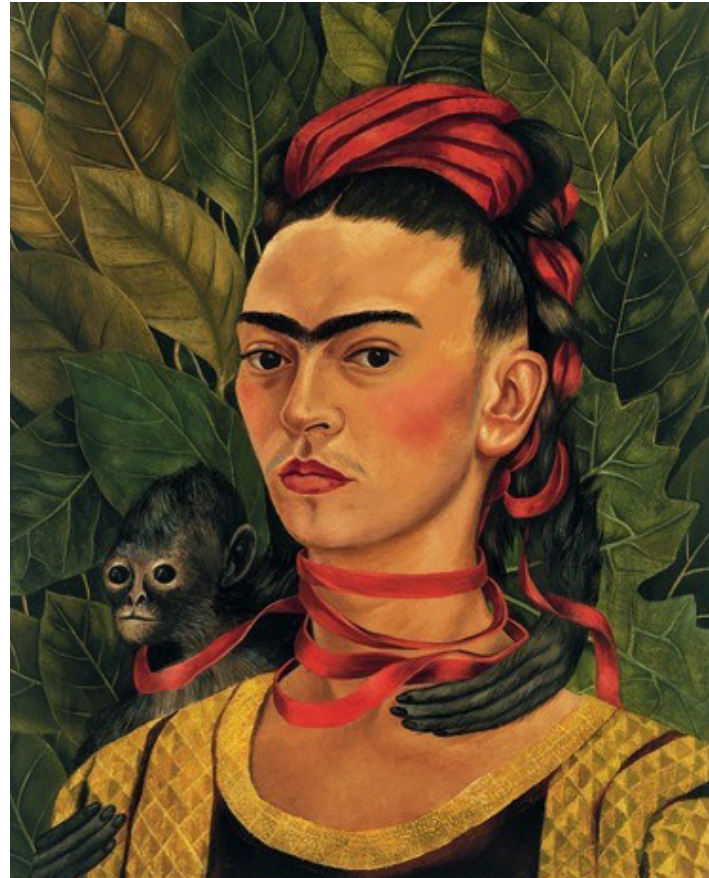
Tips

- Take your time when deciding where to place the different shapes - it's fun to play around with different designs until you figure out your favorite one!
- Be thoughtful as you apply the paint. You may not want to overpower your paper collage work, plus too much paint might make the collage paper rip.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Challenge yourself by making your initial design shape more complicated. Instead of cutting one triangle and taping it to the other end, cut out a few different shapes and have fun experimenting with ways to make it work as a repeating tessellation!

Artist Frida Kahlo



Artwork: Frida Kahlo, *Self Portrait with Monkey*, 1940

About the Artist

"I paint self-portraits because I am so often alone, because I am the person I know best."

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) was considered one of Mexico's greatest artists who began painting mostly self-portraits after she was severely injured in a bus accident. She had to wear a full body cast for three months. To pass the time and alleviate the pain, she started painting and finished her first self-portrait the following year. Kahlo later became politically active and married fellow Communist artist Diego Rivera in 1929. Kahlo and Rivera went through several periods of separation, divorced in 1939 and then remarried in 1940. While she never considered herself a surrealist, Kahlo befriended one of the primary figures in that artistic and literary movement, Andre Breton, in 1938. "Really I do not know whether my paintings are surrealist or not, but I do know that they are the frankest expression of myself". Kahlo experienced illness throughout her life, and often depicted how she felt through her self-portraits, which were known for their honesty and stark imagery.

Art at Home Personality Self-Portrait

Step 1: Position yourself comfortably in front of your mirror and use your pencil to make a sketch of your face. Outline your sketch with a sharpie.

Step 2: Paint in the details of your face and place it aside to dry.

Step 3: Go through your magazines and cut out pictures that you identify with.

Step 4: Once your self-portrait is dry, cut it out.

Step 5: Arrange your self-portrait and your cut-outs on your background sheet.

Step 6: Once you are happy with the layout, glue down your pieces.

Step 7: If there are things you want to include in your picture but were unable to find them, draw or paint them in.

Step 8: Clean up your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- Discuss why you chose the items you included in your portrait.
- Give your portrait a title.
- Frida Kahlo's self-portraits often depicted sadness and challenges in her life. What kinds of mood does your portrait evoke?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (5th Grade)

5.V.1.2 Create art that reflects personal voice and choice.

5.V.2.2 Use ideas and imagery from the global environment as sources for creating art.

Healthful Living

5.PCH.1.1 Explain the influence of personal values on health behaviors.

PE.5.PR.4.3 Understand the importance of culture and ethnicity in developing self-awareness and working productively with others.

Social Studies

5.C.1.4 Understand how cultural narratives (legends, songs, ballads, games, folk tales, and art forms) reflect the lifestyles, beliefs, and struggles of diverse ethnic groups.

Supplies:

- Large sheet of background paper and another sheet of paper
- Paints (tempura or watercolor)
- Brushes
- Pencil
- Sharpie and markers
- Magazines, newspapers, or other items to cut pictures out of
- Glue
- Mirror

Frida Kahlo was known for expressing parts of her life through her self-portraits. Think about how you can express different aspects of your personality through the images you choose to include, such as things you love most, your favorite pastimes, words, etc.

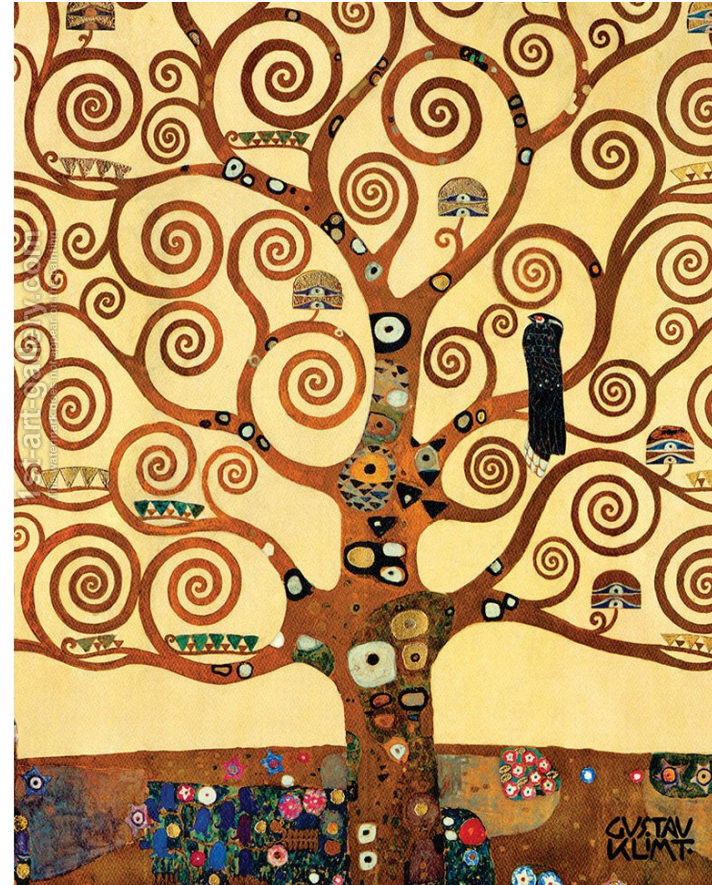
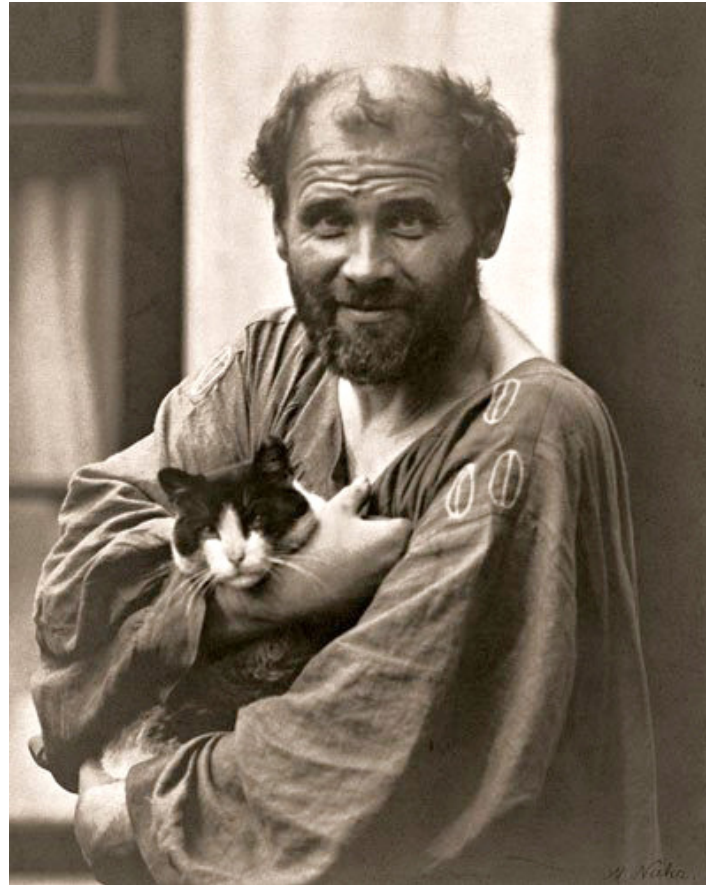
Tips

- Self-portraits can be challenging, so do your best and have fun with it!
- Cut out lots of different items so you have plenty to choose from.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Using a large sheet of paper, outline your entire body. Fill in your outline using a combination of details of how you look as well as images that express your personality. This will create a more surreal self-portrait.

Artist Gustav Klimt



Artwork: (Right) Gustav Klimt, *Tree of Life* [Detail], 1909

About the Artist

"Art is a line around your thoughts."

Gustav Klimt (1862–1918) was an Austrian symbolist painter and one of the most prominent members of the Vienna Secession movement. Klimt is noted for his paintings, murals, sketches, and other objet d'art. He became known for the highly decorative style of his works, which were seen as a rebellion against the traditional academic art of his time. At 14 years old he left his traditional school to attend the Vienna School of Arts and Crafts on a full scholarship. Klimt received a conservative, classical training that he readily accepted. In 1892 he was profoundly affected by the passing of his brother and father, and he began to reject the naturalistic trappings of his training in favor of a more personal style, one that relied heavily on symbolism and drew from a wide range of influences. In 1897, Klimt and a group of like-minded artists resigned their membership in the Vienna Artists' Association and

founded a new organization known as the Vienna Secession. Although primarily rejecting classical, academic art, the group did not focus on any one style, instead focusing its efforts on supporting young nontraditional artists, bringing international art to Vienna and exhibiting the works of its members. In 1900, three of his murals were met with criticism and controversy due to various nude human forms and rather unsettling and dark symbolic imagery. Yet despite these frustrations, Klimt's success was reaching its peak during this time. Despite its rejection in Vienna, his works were embraced in other European cities. In the early 1900s, Klimt entered his "Golden Phase" in which he created a series of paintings that made extensive use of ornamental gold leaf and a flat, two-dimensional perspective reminiscent of Byzantine mosaics to create striking iconic figures. The majority of his later work featured sketches and paintings of women as well as landscapes, many of which were painted during summers spent with Emilie Flöge, his sister-in-law, and her family at Attersee, a lake in the Salzkammergut region of Austria.

Art at Home Layered Tree of Life

Step 1: Tear your pieces of tissue paper. Choose colors that will create the type of leaf and seasonal background you are trying to convey (oranges, red, and yellows for fall or light blues, purples, and pinks for spring, etc).

Step 2: Paint on a thin layer of glue to your entire poster board.

Step 3: Apply your torn pieces of tissue paper to the background. Feel free to overlap the pieces. Try your best to cover the entire surface. Add more glue to the edges to make the tissues smooth.

Step 4: Allow your piece to dry entirely.

Step 5: Paint the trunk of your tree and then add several branches.

Step 6: While you let the paint dry, begin to assemble the pieces that you will glue on to the branches, being sure to cut them to an appropriate size in relation to the branches.

Step 7: Glue your decorative additions onto the tree trunk and branches.

Step 8: Clean your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- Give a title to your work. Explain why you chose this.
- Place your finished work a few feet away from you. What is the first thing you notice about your work from a distance?
- How do the colors effect the mood of your piece? How do the decorative pieces add or detract from the mood?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (3rd Grade)

3.CX.1.3 Classify artists, styles, and movements.

3.CX.2.2 Understand how to use information learned in other disciplines, such as math, science, language arts, social studies, and other arts in visual arts.

Science

3.L.2.1 Remember the function of the following structures as it relates to the survival of plants in their environments:

- Roots - absorb nutrients
- Stems - provide support
- Leaves - synthesize food
- Flowers - attract pollinators and produce seeds for reproduction

3.L.2.2 Explain how environmental conditions determine how well plants survive and grow.

Supplies:

- Poster board
- Tissue paper
- Glue
- Paint brushes
- Tempura paint
- Scissors
- Tin foil, decorative paper, sequins, etc

Gustav Klimt's work were known for their rich imagery, colors, and composition. Look at the images of Klimt's work for inspiration before you begin. Look closely at *Tree of Life* for ideas regarding composition and decoration.

Tips

- Be sure to fill the entire poster board.
- When you are painting the tree trunk, you can begin by making a large "Y", then add twirling tree that resembles Klimt's.
- Before you glue down your decorative additions, you can place them on the piece and rearrange them until you find a design that looks the best to you.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Klimt was known as a symbolist. Designate a meaning for what each decorative piece represents. You can create a "key chart" to show what each symbol means.

Artist Henri Matisse



Artwork: Henri Matisse, *The Sorrows of the King*, 1952

About the Artist

“Cutting into color reminds me of the sculptor’s direct carving.”

Henri Matisse (1869–1954) was a draughtsman, printmaker, and sculptor, but is known primarily as one of the most important French painters of the 20th century. He was the leader of the Fauvist movement and he pursued the expressiveness of color throughout his career. The intense colorism of the works he painted between 1900 and 1905 brought him notoriety as one of the Fauves (wild beasts). Many of his finest works were created in the decade or so after 1906, when he developed a rigorous style that emphasized flattened forms and decorative pattern. In 1917, he relocated to a suburb of Nice on the French Riviera, and the more relaxed style of his work during the 1920s gained him critical acclaim as an upholder of the classical tradition in French painting. After 1930, he adopted a bolder simplification of form. When ill health in his final years prevented him from painting, he created an important body of work in the medium of cut paper collage. The cut-outs were created in distinct phases. The raw materials—paper and gouache—were purchased, and the two materials combined: studio assistants painted sheets of paper with gouache. Matisse then cut shapes from these painted papers and arranged them into compositions. For smaller compositions, the artist worked directly on a board using pins. For larger compositions, Matisse directed his studio assistants to arrange them on the wall of his studio. Subsequently, cut-outs were mounted permanently, either in the studio or in Paris by professional mounters.

Art at Home Cut-Out Collage

Step 1: Cut out a variety of shapes of many different colors. Be sure to have a selection of large, medium, and small shapes and a selection of geometric shapes, organic shapes, and shapes that resemble specific objects and figures.

Step 2: Begin to arrange the shapes onto the background paper. Take into consideration how the colors look together and what the overall composition looks like. Continue to move them all around until you have found a design that makes you happy.

Step 3: If you have shapes that are overlapping, glue down the shapes that are on the bottom first. Then glue down the top layer of shapes.

Step 4: Place your collage somewhere safe to dry and place something heavy on top to make sure the shapes dry flat.

Step 5: Clean up your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- What is the title of your artwork?
- Tell the story of what is happening in your picture.
- Did you make things up as you went along or did you have a plan in mind as you went?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (2nd Grade)

2.V.1.2 Create original art that expresses ideas about people, neighborhoods, or communities.

2.V.3.3 Use the processes of drawing, painting, weaving, printing, stitchery, collage, mixed media, sculpture, and ceramics to create art.

ELA

W.2.2 Select a topic and use drawing, dictating, or writing to create a written product with one or more facts about the topic.

W.2.3 Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal transition words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.

Supplies:

- Large paper for background (color of your choosing)
- Multi-colored construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue

Look at the cut works of Matisse before you begin for inspiration. Notice his color choices, shapes, sizes, and composition. Before you begin, brainstorm what type of image you want to create. Will it be primarily shapes or will it tell a story with abstract figures?

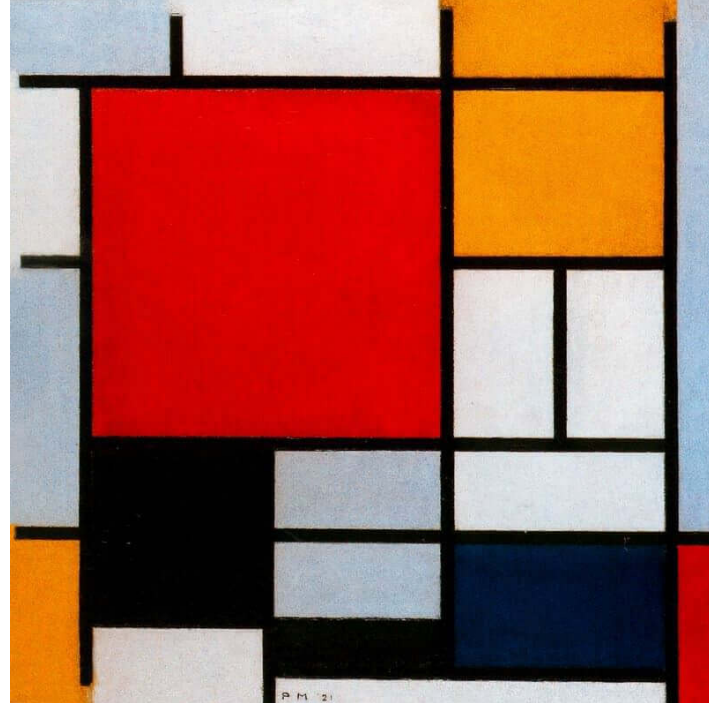
Tips

- Cut out plenty of shapes - you need to include them all in the collage. It's nice to have lots of options!
- As you cut out the shapes, pay attention to the leftover paper - you may find great shapes in the scraps.
- Apply the glue evenly so that all the shapes dry flat.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Matisse hand painted his paper and then cut them into different shapes. Do the same project but instead of using colored construction paper, paint white paper using gouache or watercolor. Let them dry, then cut them out into different shapes and create your collage.

Artist Piet Mondrian



Piet Mondrian, *Composition with Large Red Plane, Yellow, Black, Gray and Blue*, 1921

About the Artist

"Every true artist has been inspired by the beauty of lines and color and the relationships between them than by the concrete subject of the picture."

Dutch modern painter **Piet Mondrian (1872–1944)** is best known for his 1920's works of art that feature only horizontal and vertical lines along with black, white and primary colors. These pieces reflect his belief that objects must be simplified down to their basic elements to reveal their energy and balance. Though he began his artistic career as a traditional landscape painter, his artistic work evolved and progressed until they were purely abstract versions of modern reality. When Mondrian made his paintings, he would always mix his own colors, never using the paint directly out of a tube. He often used primary colors – red yellow and blue. Mondrian became an important artist whose ideas and work influenced lots of later artists. In fact, it wasn't just visual art that Mondrian inspired. The influence of his paintings can be seen in lots of other things – from furniture to fashion.

Art at Home Line Design

Step 1: Begin by drawing vertical and horizontal lines all over your canvas. In doing so, try to create interesting patterns of different sizes of rectangles and squares.

Step 2: Paint the squares and rectangles. Be sure to leave some of the shapes without color, since Mondrian often left some of the shapes white.

Step 3: Set the painting aside to dry.

Step 4: Once the painting is dry, apply the black tape along the outlines.

Step 5: Give your painting a title!

Step 6: Help clean up your supplies and workspace.

Questions to ask one another

- If you could ask Piet Mondrian one question, what would it be?
- How many different shapes can you find inside your work?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (4th Grade)

4.V.2.3 Create abstract art that expresses ideas.

Math

NC.4.MD.1 Know relative sizes of measurement units. Solve problems involving metric measurement,

NC.4.MD.3 Solve problems with area and perimeter.

NC.4.G.1 Recognize parallel lines and intersecting lines.

NC.4.G.2 Classify quadrilaterals and triangles based on angle measure, side lengths, and the presence or absence of parallel or perpendicular lines.

Supplies:

- Large poster board/cardboard/canvas
- Pencil
- Ruler/straight edge
- Black tape
- Paint (red, yellow, blue)
- Paint brushes for each color you use

Mondrian did not use a ruler when drawing his lines, but we will since it will help to develop our composition (but if you're up for the challenge, try free-hand drawing the lines).

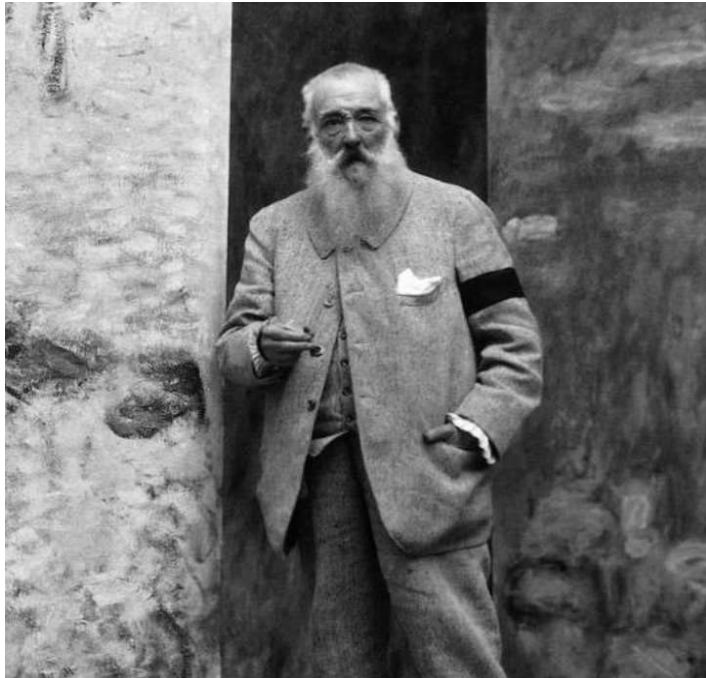
Tips

- Look at pictures of Mondrian's work before you begin for inspiration!
- Though Mondrian usually worked with bright primary colors, feel free to use your own favorite colors.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Using painter tape to outline your shapes, create this project on your driveway using chalk. Instead of using the tape to divide the shapes and colors, remove the tape so that the empty space is the outline. Your neighbors will appreciate your artwork!

Artist Claude Monet



Claude Monet, *Water Lilies*, 1906

About the Artist

"I am following Nature without being able to grasp her, I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers." - Claude Monet

Claude Monet (1840–1926) was a French painter who was best known as a leader of the Impressionists, a group of painters who painted what they saw and felt rather than painting exactly what something looked like. The term Impressionism was inspired by Monet's work *Impression: Sunrise* because the painting gives the feeling of the sun rising without being realistic. Monet used short brush strokes and splashes of beautiful colors to give the impression of light and reflection in his work. He focused on form and light over realism in his works.

"One instant, one aspect of nature contains it all," said Claude Monet, referring to his late masterpieces, the water landscapes that he produced towards the end of his career at his home in Giverny. The focal point of these paintings was the artist's beloved flower garden, which featured a water garden and a smaller pond spanned by a Japanese footbridge. His *Water Lilies* series was created during this time.

Art at Home Garden Watercolor Drawings

Step 1: With your pencil, lightly sketch a picture of a garden, a lily pond, or another outdoor scene that you would like to create.

Step 2: Begin by drawing with your oil pastels. You will want to trace the details of your picture (flowers, patches of grass, ripples in a pond, etc.) with the oil pastels and leave the background colors for your watercolors.

Step 3: Once you have drawn with nice thick lines, begin to watercolor in all the empty space. You will notice that the oil pastels push through the watercolor, so your designs remain clear and strong.

Step 4: Lay your painting somewhere to dry.

Step 5: Clean up your work area and thoroughly wash your brushes.

Questions to ask one another

- What is the name of your painting?
- Tell a story about the place you have created. Where is it? Who or what lives there?
- Monet was inspired by the outdoors around him. What inspires you to make art?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (3rd Grade)

3.V.2.3 Create art from realistic sources of inspiration.

3.CX.1.3 Classify artists, styles, and movements.

Science

3.E.2.2 Compare Earth's land features (including volcanoes, mountains, valleys, canyons, caverns, and islands) by using models, pictures, diagrams, and maps.

EX.3.E.1.1 Identify common characteristics of the 4 seasons (winter, spring, summer, and fall).

Supplies:

- White paper (cardstock or watercolor)
- Oil pastels (you can substitute crayons)
- Watercolors
- Pencil with eraser
- Cups for water
- Paper towels for wiping off brushes

Look at images of Monet's painting before you begin (especially his paintings of nature, gardens, and lily pads) for inspiration! You can also find inspiration by taking a walk or looking around your own yard.

Tips

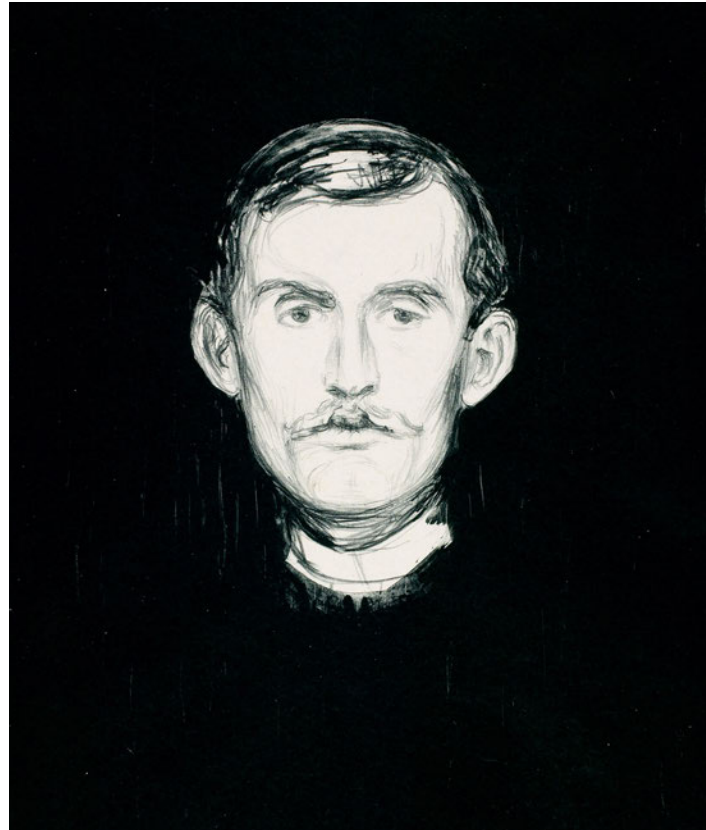
- Use your entire paper, being careful not to make the painting too wet (that may tear your paper).
- Make sure you have plenty of colorful lines and markings that you make with your oil pastels before you apply the watercolors. You want the oil pastels to be applied heavily so it pushes through the watercolors.
- Clean your paintbrushes in between different colors so that they do not get muddled.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Create another outdoor painting using the same method. This time, experiment with your oil pastel lines. Make some very thick, make some very thin and wispy, create swirls, etc. Notice how the watercolors interact differently with different types of strokes.

Artist

Edvard Munch



Edvard Munch, *Self-Portrait* [Detail], 1895

About the Artist

"In common with Michelangelo and Rembrandt I am more interested in line, its rise and fall, than color."

Edvard Munch (1863–1944) was a Norwegian painter and printmaker. His best known work, *The Scream*, has become one of the most iconic images of world art. His childhood was overshadowed by illness, sadness and the dread of inheriting a mental condition that ran in the family. Munch's own deeply original style crystallized about 1892. The flowing use of line in his paintings was similar to that of contemporary Art Nouveau, but Munch used line not as decoration but as a vehicle to express his inner feelings and turmoil. For this reason, he is commonly known as an Expressionist artist. The violent emotion and unconventional imagery of his paintings and prints created controversy. Critics were also offended by his innovative techniques, which to most appeared unfinished. The scandal, however, helped make his name known throughout Germany, and from there his reputation spread farther. He continued to move around extensively until he settled in Norway in 1910. At the heart of Munch's achievement is his series of paintings on love and death. Munch's massive output of



Edvard Munch, *The Scream* [detail], 1893

graphic art— consisting of etchings, drypoints, lithographs, and woodcuts—began in 1894. The principal attraction to him of printmaking was that it enabled him to communicate his message to a much larger number of people, but it also afforded him exciting opportunities for experimentation. His lack of formal training in any graphic medium was no doubt a factor in pushing him toward extremely innovative techniques. Like many of his contemporaries, he was influenced by the Japanese tradition in his use of the woodcut, but he radically simplified the process by, for example, printing from a single block of wood sawed into a number of small pieces. Munch's use of the actual grain of the wood for expressive purposes proved an especially successful experiment, and it greatly influenced later artists. He also frequently combined different media or overlaid one medium on top of another. Munch's prints closely resemble his paintings in both style and subject matter. Munch suffered a nervous breakdown in 1908–09, and afterward his art became more positive and extroverted. Upon his death, Munch bequeathed his estate and all the paintings, prints, and drawings in his possession to the city of Oslo, which erected the Munch Museum in 1963. Many of his finest works are in the National Gallery in Oslo.

Art at Home

Linear Prints

Step 1: Using your pencil, lightly sketch your design into the plate.

Step 2: In the negative space of your drawing, make a series of concentric lines that follow the outlines of drawing. This will give it the linear feel of Munch's woodcuts.

Step 3: Begin to "carve" your design by tilting your pencil into the line and applying a moderate amount of pressure. You want to break through the surface of the styrofoam, but not go all the way through. Take your time so that you follow your sketch. You can always go over lines if you need to.

Step 4: Place your paper nearby so that you are ready to print..

Step 5: Roll or paint over your entire styrofoam surface. Make sure the paint is not so thick that it falls into the carved lines.

Step 6: Carefully place your painted plate onto your paper, being careful not to wiggle it. Gently rub your hand over the back of the plate to make sure the paint is evenly distributed.

Step 7: Carefully pull the plate and the paper apart.

Step 8: Wipe your plate clean and repeat the process, using different colors if you choose, as many times as you want.

Step 9: Place your prints somewhere safe to dry while you clean your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- What part of the process was most enjoyable? What part was the most challenging?
- What advice would you give to someone else before they start this project?
- Munch liked to express emotion in his artwork. How would you describe the mood of your picture? How does it change if you used different colors?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (2nd Grade)

2.V.3.1 Use a variety of tool to safely and appropriately create art.

2.V.3.2 Recognize characteristics of a variety of media.

ELA

W.2.3 Select an event or personal experience and use drawing, writing, or dictating to compose a message about it.

Healthful Living

2.MEH.1 Understand the relationship among healthy expression of emotions, mental health, and healthy behavior.

Supplies:

- Styrofoam plate
- Sharpened pencil
- Paint
- Paint brush or roller
- Table cover
- Several sheets of thick paper or cardstock (larger than your styrofoam plate)

Edvard Munch worked in woodcuts often. This project gives you an idea of how that type of work feels without using actual wood and woodcarving tools. Before you begin, look at images of Edvard Munch's work and choose one that you want to recreate (or make up your own design).

Tips

- If you don't have a styrofoam plate, you may find styrofoam as food packaging you can wash and use.
- Remember that your sketch will print a mirror image, so avoid using words or numbers (or you can draw them in reverse so that they print properly).
- A good way to tell if your lines are deep to print is to close your eyes and run your fingers over the plate. If you can easily feel where all the lines are, they are ready to print.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Munch was known for cutting woodcut into different pieces, like a puzzle, and applying different colors to each piece. Then he would put the block back together and make a multi-colored print. Try this using a styrofoam plate!

Artist Georgia O'Keeffe



Georgia O'Keeffe, *Red Canna*, 1928

About the Artist

"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way - things I had no words for."

Georgia Totto O'Keeffe (1887-1986) was an American artist. She was known for her paintings of enlarged flowers, New York skyscrapers, and New Mexico landscapes. O'Keeffe has been recognized as the "Mother of American modernism". In 1905, O'Keeffe began her serious formal art training at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and then the Art Students League of New York, but she felt constrained by her lessons that focused on recreating or copying what was in nature. Alfred Stieglitz, an art dealer and photographer, held an exhibit of her works in 1917.

They developed a professional relationship and a personal relationship that led to their marriage in 1924. O'Keeffe created many forms of abstract art, including close-ups of flowers, such as the Red Canna paintings. She made a number of Red Canna paintings of the canna lily plant, first in watercolor, but primarily abstract paintings of close-up images in oil. O'Keeffe said that she made the paintings to reflect the way that she saw flowers. O'Keeffe and Stieglitz lived together in New York until 1929, when O'Keeffe began spending part of the year in the Southwest, which served as inspiration for her paintings of New Mexico landscapes and images of animal skulls. After Stieglitz's death, she lived permanently in New Mexico at Georgia O'Keeffe Home and Studio in Abiquiú, until the last years of her life when she lived in Santa Fe.

Art at Home

Abstract Flower Collage

Step 1: Begin painting several coffee filters using different watercolors.

Step 2: As you finish each coffee filter, place it somewhere to the side to dry on a non-stick surface.

Step 3: Once the filters are dry, begin to place them all on your background paper to create an abstract collection of flowers (Georgia O'Keeffe was known for how large her flowers were, so be sure to take up a lot of the paper).

Step 4: Overlap some of the filters and cut them into different shapes to create a composition you are happy with.

Step 5: Once you have decided on your design, glue down your filters. You may want to use a small paintbrush to paint on the glue so that it is not too thick. Use a sparing amount of glue (the filters are thin so they will tear easily with too much glue).

Step 6: Let the collage dry.

Step 7: Outline different parts of the flower to highlight petals and give the flower more definition.

Step 8: Clean up your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- What title would you give your painting?
- What was the most challenging part of this project? What was the most enjoyable?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (3rd Grade)

3.V.1.3 Identify themes from masters' works.

3.V.3.2 Use a variety of media with refined skills.

Science

EX.3.L.2.1 Identify the structures (leaf, flower, roots, and stem) of a plant and their functions.

Supplies:

- Watercolors
- Paint brush
- Cup of water
- Coffee filters
- Large sheet of light-colored background paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or sharpies

Look at pictures of Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings before you begin, focusing on her flowers. Be inspired by her colors and shapes, and how they seem almost abstract because they are so close-up.

Tips

- Experiment with how you paint the filters so you have a variety of styles - paint some all one color and some with lots of colors, use light and heavy applications of color, etc. Let some of the colors bleed into other colors to see what kind of effects that can create.
- Create lots of colorful coffee filters so that you have plenty of options when it is time to start collaging.
- Be sure not to oversaturate the coffee filter. This could lead to them tearing.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Gather real flowers and arrange them into a still life. Use them as a model to create your next collage!

Artist Jackson Pollock



Jackson Pollock, *Convergence* [Detail], 1952



About the Artist

Jackson Pollock (January 28, 1912–August 11, 1956) was an American painter. He became famous for painting in the abstract expressionist style. His paintings are in museums all over the world, and his work is rated very highly. Pollock has been the subject of many movies because of his interesting life. Pollock was born in Cody, Wyoming. Pollock's most famous paintings were made by dripping and splashing paint on a large canvas. His nickname was Jack the Dripper. Because of the method, this style is often called *action painting*. Pollock was helped by his wife, artist Lee Krasner, and his style was very new at the time.

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Art at Home Action Painting

Step 1: Water down your paint in buckets. You want a ratio of about 1-part paint, 3-parts water (though it's not an exact science, work as best you can with what you have). Watery paint needs to be high enough in the bucket for the water shooter to be able to load with paint.

Step 2: Place your cardboard up against a tree or pole. Make sure there isn't anything behind it (you don't want to get paint on anything besides the cardboard).

Step 3: Place the buckets of watery paint about six feet away from the cardboard (you can adjust the distance once you've started).

Step 4: Make sure no one is in between you and the cardboard (dogs, brothers or sisters, etc.).

Step 5: Load up your water shooter with watery paint, aim, and shoot it at the cardboard!

Step 6: Repeat Step 5 as many times as you want, or until you run out of watery paint.

Step 7: Lay the cardboard flat when you are done to let it dry.

Step 8: Help clean up your supplies and workspace.

Questions to ask one another

- What type of mood do you think Jackson Pollock was in when he made this painting? What makes you think that?
- When you are making your painting, what does it sound like when the paint hits the cardboard? How can you change the sound it makes? What does it sound like now?
- When you look at your finished painting, what does it remind you of? Even though it's abstract, does it look like something to you?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (4th Grade)

6.V.1.3 Identify artists' styles.

6.V.3.3 Create art in different media using various techniques and processes.

Math

NC.6.RP.1 Demonstrate a ratio relationship with whole numbers using pictures of numbers.

Science

6.P.2 Understand the structure, classifications, and physical properties of matter.

Supplies:

- Water Shooter
- Washable tempura paint
- Old buckets/Tupperware/leak-proof containers (for as many colors of paint as you will be using)
- Large scraps of cardboard
- Water
- An outdoor area and a tree to lean cardboard against (this is **NOT** an indoor project)

This is a messy project, so make sure you are in clothes and shoes that are allowed to get painty. Also, the finished project may not fit in your house - this project is all about the fun of making it!

Tips

- Have fun trying out new angles and different distances from the cardboard. Jackson Pollock moved around while working on his paintings, you should too.
- If you want to experiment with how paint will drip, turn the cardboard onto its side.
- Mix colors by having two people using two different colors shoot at the same spot at the same time.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Do this project again, but this time play music when you do. Maybe choose a few different songs to listen to while you make the painting and see if it changes the way that you work or the way you feel.

Artist Faith Ringgold



Faith Ringgold, *Tar Beach*, 1990

About the Artist

"You can't sit around and wait for somebody to say who you are. You need to write it and paint it to do it."

Faith Ringgold (born in Harlem, NY 1930) is a painter, writer, mixed media sculptor and performance artist, best known for her narrative quilts. Ringgold's artistic practice is extremely broad and diverse, and includes media from painting to quilts, from sculptures and performance art to children's books. As an educator, she taught in the New York City Public school system and at the college level. During the early 1960's Ringgold traveled in Europe. She created her first political paintings, *The American People Series* from 1963 to 1967 and had her first and second one-person exhibitions at the Spectrum Gallery in New York. In the early 1970's Ringgold began making tankas (inspired by a Tibetan art form of paintings framed in richly brocaded fabrics), soft sculptures and masks. She later utilized this medium in her masked performances of the 1970's and 80's. Although Faith Ringgold's art was initially inspired by African art in the 1960's, it was not until the late 1970's that she traveled to Nigeria and Ghana to see the rich tradition of masks that have continued to be her greatest influence. In 1973, she

quit teaching public school to devote herself to creating art full-time. Ringgold began experimenting with sculpture as a new medium to document her local community and national events. Her sculptures range from costumed masks to hanging and freestanding soft sculptures, representing both real and fictional characters from her past and present. Ringgold has been an activist since the 1970s, participating in several feminist and anti-racist organizations. She made her first quilt, *Echoes of Harlem*, in 1980, in collaboration with her mother, Madame Willi Posey. The quilts were an extension of her tankas from the 1970's. However, these paintings were not only bordered with fabric but quilted, creating for her a unique way of painting using the quilt medium. She published her first book, the award-winning *Tar Beach* in 1991. It has won over 20 awards including the Caldecott Honor and the Coretta Scott King award for the best-illustrated children's book of 1991. The original painted story quilt, *Tar Beach*, is in the permanent collection of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City. In 1995, Ringgold published her first autobiography titled *We Flew Over the Bridge*. The book is a memoir detailing her journey as an artist and life events, from her childhood in Harlem and Sugar Hill, to her marriages and children, to her professional career and accomplishments as an artist.

Art at Home Autobiographical Quilt

Step 1: Glue your background fabric onto the cardboard. Smooth the fabric with your hands and allow it to dry.

Step 2: Cut other pieces of fabric into think rectangular pieces that will fit as a frame. Place them to the side to apply after to you paint.

Step 3: Using your pencil or thin tipped marker, sketch our your design.

Step 4: Paint in your design.

Step 5: Once the paint it fully dry, outline parts of it with fabric markers if you like.

Step 6: Glue your fabric frame onto the edges of you background fabric.

Step 7: Clean your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- Show your work to someone else and ask what they see when they look at it. Tell them about what you were thinking when you were making your artwork.
- How does it feel to create artwork based on your life?
- Look at the many different types of work of Faith Ringgold. Which is your favorite? Is it her sculptures? Her paintings? Her narrative quilts? Explain why.

Core Standards

Visual Literacy

6.V.3.3 Create art in different media using various techniques and processes.

6.V.2.2 Use observation skills of the immediate environment to create original imagery.

ELA

W.6.2 Write to share information supported by details.

a. Introduce a topic and write to convey ideas and information about it including visual tactual, or multimedia information as appropriate.

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a. Introduce a topic and write to convey ideas and information about it including visual, tactual, or multimedia information as appropriate.

Supplies:

- Fabrics (you need one larger solid piece for the background, preferably with light colors, and smaller pieces to create the frame)
- Fabric glue
- Pencil or thin tipped marker
- Many colors of paint
- Paint brushes of different sizes
- Fabric markers
- Cardboard that is the same size as the background fabric

Faith Ringgold's work often focused on telling her story. Her work represented what was important to her as well as scenes and memories from her life. Before you begin, think about what you want to convey in your work. You can illustrate a favorite memory or develop a scene that expresses who you are and what you value.

Tips

- To keep the glue from being too thick and showing through the fabric, you may want to apply it using a paint brush.
- Painting and drawing on fabric feels different than painting and drawing on paper. Take your time and use small brushstrokes at first.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Read Faith Ringgold's book *Tar Beach*. Use that as a guide to write your own story that illustrates the artwork you created.

Artist Georges Seurat



Georges Seurat, *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* [Detail], 1884



About the Artist

"Originality depends only on the character of the drawing and the vision peculiar to the artist."

Georges-Pierre Seurat (1859–1891) was a French post-Impressionist artist. He is best known for devising the painting technique known as pointillism, a technique of painting in which small, distinct dots of color are applied in patterns to form an image. Seurat's artistic personality combined qualities that are usually opposed: on the one hand, his extreme and delicate sensibility, on the other, a passion for logical abstraction and an almost mathematical precision of mind. His large-scale work *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* (1884–1886) altered the direction of modern art by initiating Neo-impressionism, and is one of the icons of late 19th century painting. The painting shows members of each of the social classes participating in various park activities. The tiny juxtaposed dots of multi-colored paint allow the viewer's eye to blend colors optically, rather than having the colors physically blended on the canvas. It took Seurat two years to complete this 10-foot-wide work.

Art at Home Pointillist Picture

Step 1: Decide what you want to draw and sketch a picture of it - the subject is completely up to you!

Step 2: Outline your sketch with the sharpie.

Step 3: Within each shape created by the sharpie, begin to apply small dots of color to cover the entire area. You want to have at least a little space between each dot so that it doesn't become a solid color.

Step 4: When applying your dots, you can decide if you want to have one color per area or combine two colors to experiment with how the colors look together. You can try this out on a separate sheet of paper first.

Step 5: When you are done, give your picture a title!

Step 6: Help clean up your work area.

Questions to ask one another

- Look at your picture close-up, then far away. How does its appearance change?
- If you combined different colors side by side, how do they appear together? Did it look the way you thought it would, or did it turn out differently than you planned?
- Now that you have created your own small pointillist artwork, how do you think it felt for Seurat to work on *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* for two years? Do you think you would enjoy working like that?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (3rd Grade)

3.V.2.1 Create art through a process that includes generating ideas, planning solutions, and producing original art.

3.V.1.4 Understand characteristics of the Elements of Art, including lines, shapes, colors, textures, form, space, and value.

Social Studies

3.G.1.5 Summarize the elements (cultural, demographic, economic and geographic) that define regions (community, state, nation, and world).

3.C.1.2 Exemplify how various groups show artistic expression within the local regional communities.

Supplies:

- Paper
- Sharpie
- Markers
- Pencil with eraser

Look at image of *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* before you begin your project. Also look at details of the painting so that you can see how Seurat applies the dots.

Tips

- Keep your design simple and use a smaller piece of paper so that creating the dots doesn't become too overwhelming.
- Either lightly on the sketch itself or on a separate sheet of paper, make a note of what colors you want to put in each area.
- When drawing your dots, remember that putting them closely together and side by side will give the impression of a darker color. If you want the color to appear lighter, space the dots out a little bit more.

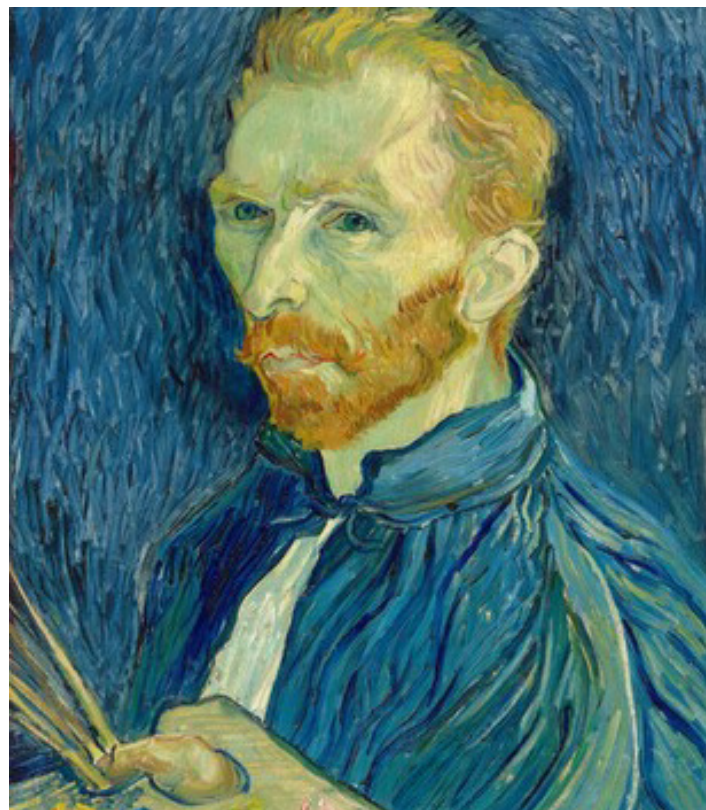
Follow-Up Project Idea

Create another pointillist work but this time create the dots using paint. You can apply them with small paintbrushes or Q-tips!

Artist Vincent van Gogh



(Top) Vincent van Gogh, *The Starry Night* [detail], 1889
(Bottom) Vincent van Gogh, *Self-Portrait* [detail], 1889, National Gallery of Art: Collection of Mr. and Mrs. John Hay Whitney, 1998.74.5



About the Artist

"Be clearly aware of the stars and infinity on high. Then life seems almost enchanted after all."

Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) was a Dutch post-impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art. However, when he was alive, he was not very famous at all. Largely self-taught, van Gogh produced more than 2,000 oil paintings, watercolors, drawings, and sketches, which became in demand only after his death. He also wrote many letters, especially to his brother Theo, in which he worked out his thoughts about art. After moving to Paris in 1886, he developed a style known as Post-Impressionism, a term encompassing works made by artists unified by their interest in expressing their emotional and psychological responses to the world through bold colors and expressive, often symbolic images. "This morning I saw the countryside from my window a long time before sunrise, with nothing but the morning star, which looked very big," wrote van Gogh to his brother Theo, describing his inspiration for one of his best-known paintings, *The Starry Night* (1889). The window to which he refers was in the Saint-Paul asylum in Saint-Rémy, in southern France. *The Starry Night* is based on van Gogh's direct observations as well as his imagination, memories, and emotions.

Art at Home Starry Night

Step 1: Have an image of *The Starry Night* nearby so you can use it for inspiration and reference.

Step 2: Begin by painting the star-filled background of your artwork on dark construction paper (black or dark blue preferably). You can first paint the larger stars and moon then use short brush strokes to create movement around them. You can stagger the colors in whatever way you choose. Cover the upper 2/3 of your paper, since the book will be covered up later.

Step 3: When you are done painting the upper portion of your paper, set it to the side to dry.

Step 4: While it is drying, cut out a variety of shapes to create buildings and hills in the foreground, using Van Gogh's painting as a guide. You do not have to copy his design exactly.

Step 5: Cut out a shape to represent the large cypress tree.

Step 6: Glue the paper buildings, hills, and tree onto the foreground, making sure there is no blank space in between these and the painted portion.

Step 7: Place your artwork somewhere to dry completely while you clean up your workspace.

Questions to ask one another

- Do you see movement in your stars?
- How does the darkness of the paper cut outs look against the brighter colors of the painted sky?
- What did you prefer - painting or collaging?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (1st Grade)

1.V.1.3 Recognize that symbols, subjects, or themes are used in the works of others to communicate.

1.CX.1.5 Understand that art is a reflection of the artist's ideas, environment, and/or resources.

Science

1.E.1.1 Recognize differences in the features of the day and night sky and apparent movement of objects across the sky as observed from Earth.

EX.1.L.2.3 Describe materials found in various environments (e.g. rocks, soil, water, cloth, paper).

Supplies:

- Construction paper (preferably darker colors)
- Paint (suggested colors: white, yellow, and orange)
- Paintbrushes for each color
- Paper towels
- Scissors
- Glue

Your background of stars and the moon will be created using your paints, and the foreground imagery of buildings, hills, and trees will be created by gluing paper shapes on top of the dried painted background. Keep this in mind when planning out your design.

Tips

- When creating the paths of the stars, you can choose whether you want to follow the format of Van Gogh's Swirling stars, or you can experiment with concentric circles of your own design.
- If there is space between the painted background and collaged foreground, you can decide whether to add more collaging or painting to connect the spaces.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Van Gogh was inspired to create *The Starry Night* by looking out his window. Choose a window in your house and create the same project using YOUR view as the inspiration. Give it a title!

Artist Andy Warhol

Art at Home Pop Art Portraits



Artwork: Andy Warhol, Marilyn Monroe (Marilyn) [detail], 1967

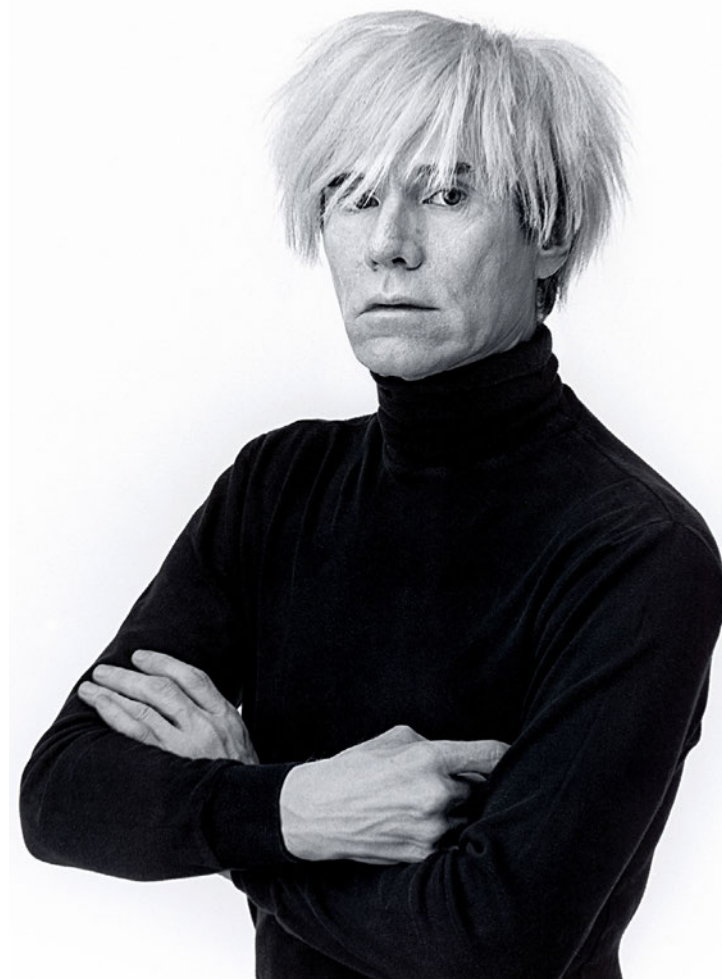
About the Artist

"Art is what you can get away with." - Andy Warhol

Andy Warhol (1928-1987) was an American artist, film director, and producer who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as pop art. Pop art is a style of art based on simple, bold images of everyday items, such as soup cans, painted in bright colors. Pop artists created pictures of consumer product labels and packaging, photos of celebrities, comic strips, and animals. Andy Warhol is famous for exploring popular culture in his work. Popular culture is anything from Coca Cola to pop stars to the clothes people like to wear.

Warhol liked to use bright colors and silk screen printing techniques. He liked using screen printing because he could mass-produce artworks based on photographs of celebrities, like his image of Marilyn Monroe. Sometimes Warhol would switch colors around and present a group of prints with contrasting colors together.

Warhol hung out with a group of actors, models and artists in New York city in the 1960s. Warhol's studio in New York City was called The Factory. This was a reference to the mass-produced nature of his artworks. He saw art as a product, the same as the clothes you wear and the food you eat.



Step 1: Have someone take your picture. We recommend having your face and shoulders take up most of the frame.

Step 2: Print this image in black and white four times.

Step 3: Make sure your poster board is large enough to glue these four images onto.

Step 4: Outline your picture the same on all images. Don't get too detailed - you want it to be almost like the way a cartoon is outlined, just focusing on the bigger parts. For example, outline the shape of your face, hair, shirt, eyes, mouth, background, etc.

Step 5: Carefully color in the outlines using different colors each time on all four images. Color in every part. In pop art, the colors don't need to be realistic, so have fun experimenting with different crazy color combinations!

Step 6: Arrange your four images onto the poster board and glue them down. Be sure to smooth the paper down.

Step 7: Take something large and heavy (like books) and lay it on top of your picture while it's drying.

Step 9: Help clean up your supplies and workspace.

Questions to ask one another

- How do the colors that you choose change the way that your image looks?
- Andy Warhol was inspired by images from popular culture. What inspires you to make art? What is your favorite thing to draw, paint, create, etc?
- If Andy Warhol was alive today, what one question would you like to ask him?

Core Standards

Visual Literacy (6th Grade)

6.V.3.3 Create art in different media using various techniques and processes.

6.CX.2.4 Understand the role of art in creating digital images, technological products, and designs.

6b. Students create original works or responsibly re-purpose or remix digital resources into new creations.

Social Studies

6.E.1.2 Explain how quality of life is impacted by economic choices of civilizations, societies, and regions.

EX.6.E.1.1 Distinguish between needs (food, clothing, shelter, transportation) and wants (types of food, leisure activities).

Supplies:

- Phone camera to take a picture of yourself
- Printer (if you don't have the ability to take a picture of yourself and print it at home, there is an alternate way of creating this project)
- Poster board/thick paper
- Different colors of markers and crayons
- Glue stick
- Scissors

If you can't print from home, choose a simple image that you can replicate easily (ice cream cone, beach ball, cat face, etc). Draw the same thing four times on four different pieces of paper.

Tips

- Try to use complimentary colors side by side - that tends to make the image really "pop"! These are colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel.
- If your printer has the capability, you can print four images on one sheet and create a smaller version of the project. This eliminates the need for poster board and glue.

Follow-Up Project Idea

Choose one image and draw it with simple lines on a large piece of poster board/canvas. Outline the lines with black sharpie and paint the inside with complimentary colors.

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