

Elementary Visual Arts Lesson Plan

Elm School



Author: Heather Kostal

Activity Title: Van gogh Sunflowers **Grade Level:** Kindergarten

Objectives:

Students will recognize the art of Vincent van Gogh.

Students will understand how to use lines and shapes to create overlap in their art compositions.

Students will learn how to create a watercolor resist.

Students will know how to paint skillfully with watercolor paints.

Materials:

Pencil

17" x 23" Watercolor Paper

circle tracers (approx. 2-3")

Oil Pastels

Watercolor Paint

Brushes

Paint palettes

Procedure:

- 1.) Teach students about the life and art of Vincent van Gogh. We started by watching a video clip of *Art with Mati & Dada - Van gogh* found on Youtube.
- 2.) Show images of Van Gogh's sunflower paintings and use Visual Thinking Skills to discuss with students the colors, shapes, lines, style, feelings, etc. they see in the painting by asking "What do you see?" and "What more do you see?"
- 3.) Pass out watercolor paper and have students use pencil to write name and class code on back.
- 4.) With brown oil pastel, have students trace 5 circles in the upper half of their paper. Demonstrate putting them in various places. Not on top of each other, not in a line, not too close to the bottom. (My friend in the example above traced 8 circles!)
- 5.) Students can color in their brown circles. No white showing. Once they are colored, they can add seeds too.
- 6.) With yellow or orange pastel, students will add big petals to their sunflowers. Do they look like "v"s or "u"s? Are they big or small? What happens if your petals are too close to another flower? Discuss overlapping with the class and demonstrate putting petals behind other petals. Remind students not to color the petals, since we will be painting them.
- 7.) Students can choose two colors for the vase. Isn't it funny to draw the vase after we've drawn the tops of the flowers? I explain to the class that the stems will come later. I demonstrate a low smile and a big smile for the shape of the vase. However, if they have seen a vase at home that they would like to draw I ask them to practice it and then they can draw that vase.
- 8.) Students use two colors and color entire vase. No white.

9.) Now students add the stems from the flowers into the vase. Again, we discuss overlapping and our lines.

10. Is our vase floating? No. It is sitting on a table. Not the very edge of table where it might fall off though. It is sitting in the middle of the table. Again, showing overlapping, we draw a straight line behind the vase.

11. Finally it is time to paint. Students get instructions on how to properly use their watercolor paints. It is highly suggested that they use one color for the table, one color for the wall, and one color for the petals. However, that is not always the case. When they begin painting they will notice that the paint will not go where the oil pastel is. Now explain to them what a resist is.

Closing:

Can the student recognize the art of Vincent van Gogh?

Does the student show understanding of using lines and shapes to create overlap in their art compositions?

Did the student create a watercolor resist.

Did the students paint skillfully with watercolor paints.