

Lesson Plan Title: Van Gogh Cityscapes



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Grade Level(s): 4-5

Media type(s): collage, painting and drawing

Subject(s) integration: art history

Objectives and Goals:

- ***The student will understand:*** The Life and works of Vincent van Gogh. Discussion will be on his painting styles and techniques.
- ***The student will create:*** a work of art that shows the use of cardboard to create a three-dimensional cityscape, a two-dimensional tempera painting or use with oil pastels displaying the use of the quick, bright and bold brushstrokes.

Materials:

Scraps of cardboard precut into various rectangular shapes
12x18 heavy pound white drawing or construction paper
Tempera paint in cool tones
Oil pastels
Glue
Scissors
Paint brushes

Procedures:

Week One:

Read *The Starry Night* by N. Weldman. Show other images and visuals displaying the techniques used in Van goghs' artwork. On manila paper or any

scrap paper, have the students practice drawing lines that show movement like Van gogh did in the *Starry Night*. Students can also practice drawing buildings or skylines. Make sure they show various heights and different styles of buildings. Practice the techniques used to complete a background - quick colorful strokes made with crayons.

Week Two:

Review the background techniques used in *The Starry Night*. Pass out the palettes with paint, cool colors only, and have the students begin painting on their white construction paper. If they are using oil pastels they can do the same technique. Remember to paint using only quick small dashes of paint not allowing the blending of the colors. Make sure the students fill the entire paper with continuous curved lines. When completed set aside to dry.

Week Three - Five:

*** HINT to the teacher - Pre-paint the large pieces of cardboard black. This will definitely speed up the process. Begin building the cityscapes with the various scraps of cardboard. The teacher will need to pre-cut various sizes of rectangles to be used as the buildings. Students can cut the cardboard to make a shape they like. Begin to glue them directly onto the dry painted or oil pastel paper. Glue one layer of cardboard first completely across the bottom of the paper. Make sure they display various heights. The student can choose a vertical or horizontal direction of the paper. Then apply layers of cardboard on top of each other making several different levels. Make the use of windows, doors & different styles of buildings. Having a variety of rooftops will always make the design more interesting. Set aside to dry.

Final step will be to paint the small pieces of cardboard such as the windows and doors with any contrasting color against the black.

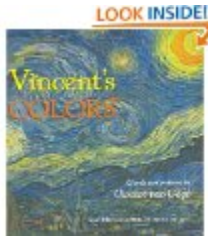
Vocabulary:

Elements of art
Vincent van Gogh
Cityscape
Contrast
Emphasis
Repetition

Resources:

Website(s): www.vangoghgallery.com
www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vincent_van_Gogh

Book(s): **The Starry Night** by Neil Waldman
Vincent's Colors by Vincent van Gogh and The Metropolitan Museum of Art
The First Starry Night by Joan Shaddox Isom



Visuals: photos and visuals of cityscapes and skylines
The Starry Night by Vincent van Gogh

Curriculum Standards:

Skills/Techniques

VA.A.1.1.1 - The student uses two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, techniques, tools, and processes to depict the works and art from personal experiences, observation or imagination.

Creation/ Communication

VA.B.1.1.1 - The student knows how subject matter, symbols, and ideas are used to communicate meanings in works of art.

Cultural/ Historical Connections

VA.C.1.1.2 - The student understands how artists generate and express ideas according to their individual, cultural, and historical experience.

Aesthetic/ Critical Analysis

VA.D.1.1.2 - The student understands that works of art can be rendered realistically, symbolically, or abstractly.

Applications to Life

Assessment:

- Teacher observation of student effort, attitude and performance.
- Teacher review of completed projects.