

Art Enrichment Lesson Plan

Grade K

*****Oil pastels stain!!! Be sure to roll up sleeves.**
*****Inform the teacher, ahead of lesson day, to let students know to wear messy clothes for this Art Enrichment Project. It uses oil pastels which may stain clothes.**

MASTERPIECE(S):

- *Vase of Roses*
- *Irises*
- *Sunflowers*

ARTIST:

Vincent Van Gogh (pronounced van-GOH)

BOOK:

- *Vincent's Colors*, words and pictures by Van Gogh
- *Can You Find It Inside* by Jessica Schulte
(for closing activity, use 2nd half of the book)

MATERIALS:

- 12x18" colored construction paper for background (10 pieces each of 10 different colors)- each student will choose one color
- 4 ½ x 12 " colored construction paper (10 pieces each of 10 different colors)- each student will choose one color
- 6x9" colored construction paper to fold for vases- each student will choose one color
- Oil crayons- share a set between 2 students
- Glue sticks- students to provide
- Scissors- students to provide
- Pencil or crayon- students to provide
- Newspaper- to place around artwork before sending it home (oil pastels will smear!)

SET-UP DEMONSTRATION STATION:

Choose a table that students will later gather around while you demonstrate the project step by step. Have your supplies laid out and ready to go. Keep your samples within easy reach.

INTRODUCTION:

Gain students attention. Introduce yourself and other volunteers. Explain that this is the Art Enrichment Program and parents get to come to their classroom four (4) times a year to learn about artists and have fun making art. Remind students that they need to sit quietly while you are talking and raise their hand for questions and when they need to share something.

REVIEW:

Review previous classroom Art Enrichment Projects. “Does anyone remember one of the artists we already learned about? What was special or interesting about that artist’s work?” Etc.

DISCUSS ARTIST, MASTERWORKS, & POSTERS:

1. Share information about Vincent Van Gogh and his life.
2. Read: *Vincent’s Colors*. Explain that the descriptions are Vincent’s from letters he wrote to his brother, Theo. Read Van Gogh’s description without showing the picture. Ask students to imagine what the picture might look like. Then show the picture. Ask children to share how their imagination and Van Gogh’s picture are different.
3. Explain that Van Gogh painted many famous pictures of flowers in a vase. This type of picture is called a Still Life. The term still life is used to describe a painting of objects rather than people or places. Common subjects for still life paintings are vases of flowers, bowls of fruit, or tables laid out with food. There are no strict rules about what can be pictured in a still life; artists have painted dead animals, guns, or even heaps of laundry.
4. Examine the posters and ask for observations. Discuss and draw to their attention:
 - The table and how the line of it passes behind the vase.
 - The vase and how the flowers hang over it.

STATE OBJECTIVE:

Today, we will create our own still life. We will use paper for our vases and oil crayons to create beautiful flowers.

DEMONSTRATE PROCESS:

Tape a piece of construction paper to an easel or white board. For this project, it will be best to demonstrate the project to the students up close around a Demonstration Table. Then, send students back to their desks and work the project again teaching them step by step. There is too much for students to remember from just one demonstration.

Now we are ready to create our own still life pictures. We are going to make a table, vase, and flowers.

1. First we will choose a color for our table and glue it to the bottom of the background paper. Demonstrate how to add glue stick to all edges and press in place.
2. Next, we will create a vase. Choose a different color. Fold it in half so it is a tall skinny shape like a hotdog. Draw a line with a pencil that comes out from the fold at the top and bottom. Show them how to connect it with a wavy or bumpy line.

****Demonstrate what not to do. Emphasize that we want a nice tall vase so make one line near the top and one line near the bottom.

3. Now we will cut it out. Keep it folded. Cut. Unfold. “Look, both sides are the same!”
4. We will glue the vase so it looks like it is sitting on the table, not flying in the air.
5. Glue the vase onto the picture, again, demonstrating how to apply glue to the edges of the vase shape, not just in the center.
6. Next, we will add some colorful flowers to our still life picture just like Vincent Van Gogh. But first let’s all go back to our seats and do these first steps **together**. Give students a choice of colors for their 12x18” background paper and send them back to their seats one by one with their 12x18” paper.
7. Place trays of “table” (4 ½ x 12) construction paper pieces at each group. Again, emphasize how to apply glue and place the table at the very bottom of their 12x18” background piece.
8. Gather up trays of table pieces.
9. Place trays of “vase” (6x9”) construction paper at each table. Again, demonstrate how to fold into a skinny tall rectangle. Circulate around the room and check for understanding.
10. Using a pencil or a crayon, show the students how to make the line coming out of the fold at the top and bottom. Show them how to connect it with a wavy or bumpy line.
11. Check each student and then, ask them to take out their scissors and cut. Remind them to keep it folded. Staple the top corner to keep it closed if this is difficult for a student.
12. Ask all students to show you where they will place the vase so it appears to sit on the table and not “fly”- refer them to Van Gogh’s posters. After they demonstrate, ask students to glue their vase.
13. Pick up trays of “vase” paper.
14. Explain that we will use pastels to create flowers. **Oil pastels will stain- children must roll up sleeves!!** Explain this to the students and, then, have them roll up their sleeves.

15. **Using oil pastels demonstrate one step and, then, let students complete the step. Demonstrate the next step and, again, let the students complete the step and so on.**

The stems will come out of the top of the vase. Make some tall, some short, some bent, etc. (Sometimes it is helpful to say to students, “let’s all add 8 stems.” A concrete number helps.)

16. Now let’s add leaves, some big, some small, some different shapes, etc. (“Let’s add 10 leaves.” Again, a concrete number might be helpful.)
17. Now let’s add flowers, any kind you can imagine. They can be all the same color like Van Gogh’s or different.
18. Lastly, have students sign their work **small** in the corner of the table.

CLEAN-UP:

- Gather pastels.
- Let students wash hands **BEFORE** rolling down their sleeves.
- Ask teacher if she would like to display the student’s artwork or send it home. If sending it home, place each project between newspaper- so it is wrapped. Oil pastels will smear if held against clothes or mess up the inside of a backpack.

CLOSE:

Gather everyone on the rug for a review of Vincent Van Gogh and comments on their art experience. Do closing activity with *Can You Find It?* Book (2nd half only). It would be great to add the student’s own description of their picture, just a few words, to mimic the book we read. Perhaps if time allows, they could dictate their description to a volunteer. A strip with the description could be added to the bottom by stapling.