

The Japanese Footbridge

Exploring
Impressionism

Developed with Nicole Elizabeth Roth, New Jersey
Grades 1-4

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

- Use all art materials in a safe and responsible manner.
- Understand that impressionism is a specific art movement and that Claude Monet was known as the founder of French Impressionism.
- Understand that impressionism is marked by paintings that contain bright colours with brush strokes that show lots of movement.
- Recognize the painting *The Japanese Footbridge* and understand that it is an example of an impressionist painting.
- Understand the materials and processes associated with impressionist paintings.



STANDARDS

The Creative Process

- Identify elements of art and principles of design that are evident in everyday life.
- Compare and contrast works of art in various mediums that use the same art elements and principles of design.

History of Arts and Culture

- Relate common artistic elements that define distinctive art genres in dance, music, theater, and visual arts.
- Determine the impact of significant contributions of individual artists in dance, music, theater, and visual arts from diverse cultures throughout history.

Performance

Identify common and distinctive characteristics of artworks from diverse cultural and historical eras of visual art using age-appropriate stylistic terminology (e.g. cubist, surreal, optic, impressionistic), and experiment with various compositional approaches influenced by these styles. Identify common and distinctive characteristics of genres of visual artworks (e.g. realism, surrealism, abstract/nonobjective art, conceptual art, and others) using age-appropriate terminology, and experiment with various compositional approaches influenced by these genres.

Aesthetic Responses & Critique Methodologies

Make informed aesthetic responses to artworks based on structural arrangement and personal, cultural, and historical points of view.

STEP 1

Discuss Monet's painting, draw footbridge.

1. Discuss and analyze a print of Monet's painting *The Japanese Footbridge*. Ask students to tell you what they see. Lead a group discussion about the piece with an emphasis on the bright colours seen in the painting and how the brush strokes have a lot of movement.
2. Demonstrate how to create a Japanese footbridge. Begin by very lightly sketching out a horizon line, then gently sketch the three arches of the Japanese footbridge. Finish the sketch by adding the posts by using straight lines in the opposite direction.

STEP 2

Demonstrate watercolour techniques, paint background.

1. After your bridge is created, show students how to use oil pastels to outline only the bridge.
2. Once your bridge is outlined with pastels, demonstrate and talk about watercolours and the techniques used to create vertical strokes behind their Japanese footbridge.
3. Demonstrate how to use blue and purple or cool colours to create brush strokes that have "lots of movement" to fill in the water underneath their Japanese footbridge.



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

STEP 3

Demonstrate creating lily pads.

1. Give each student a dollop of blue, yellow, and white tempera paint.
2. Take a small dip of blue and a small mix of yellow to create green paint for the shadow of the water lily pad.
3. Mix equal parts yellow, blue, and white to create a green tint to use in creating the water lily pad.
4. Move across the paper using the green tint to create an uneven yet balanced distribution of water lilies floating in the water.
5. Gently dip brush in the green paint and create one smooth and simple brush stroke beneath the lily pad to create the shadow.

STEP 4

Demonstrate lily flowers.

1. Give each student a dollop of red, yellow, and white tempera paint. Mix red and white to create a pink colour for the flowers.
2. Paint a "W" shape on the lily pad with white paint to create the lily blossoms.
3. In the center of the "W"-shaped lily blossom, make three small dabs of pink or yellow paint to create the coloured center of the blossom.



MATERIALS

- Jack Richeson® Studio Watercolour Paper - 250 Sheets, 11" x 14", 135 lb - [9734499](#)
- Ticonderoga® Pre-sharpened No. 2 Pencils, pkg. of 30 - [9730407](#)
- Nasco Gum Erasers, box of 24, 1" x 1" x 1/2" - [9728739](#)
- Crayola® Oil Pastels, set of 16 - [9716514](#)
- Crayola® Washable Oval Pan Watercolours - 16 Colour Set - [9715528](#)
- Spectrum Watercolour Brushes, Set of 5 - [240718](#)
- Disposable Paper Cups, pkg. of 250, 3/4 oz. - [W05545](#)
- Crayola® Washable Tempera Paint, blue, pint - [9706081F](#)
- Crayola® Washable Tempera Paint, yellow, pint - [9706081D](#)
- Crayola® Washable Tempera Paint, white, pint - [9706081B](#)
- Crayola® Washable Tempera Paint, red, pint - [9706081L](#)

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EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES

150 Pony Drive Newmarket, ON L3Y 7B6
Telephone: 1-800-668-0600
Fax: 1-800-668-0602
Online: spectrumed.ca

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