

Van Gogh Starry Nights

Objective: Students will learn about Vincent van Gogh and his art, while using crayons and watercolor paint to effectively to create his swirly sky.

Materials:

- Paper
- A picture of Vincent van Gogh's painting, "The Starry Night"
- Pencils, markers, crayons, tempera paint, semi-moist watercolor (basic watercolors not recommended)
- Paintbrushes, water bowls

Open the Conversation:

Have students look at the painting, "The Starry Night." Notice how the stars and sky are swirly. What are the main colors in his painting?

Step One:

Students will draw a similar picture of someplace they have visited. It could be a beach, city, mountains, a lake, an amusement park, or even just their back yard.

Step Two:

After students draw their picture, they can trace over the lines with crayons. In the sky, use dots of yellow or white for the stars. Remember to add the moon! Use white and yellow crayons, markers or pencils to create short dash lines around the stars. Fill the spaces in between the stars with dash lines of light blue, dark blue, and purple. Try to make the sky look wavy and swirly. Leave space in between the lines for the paint.

Step Three:

The spaces can be painted with watercolor paint, or simply colored in lightly with crayons if paints are not available. Paint yellow over the circular stars and blue and purple paint in the rest of the sky.

Step Four:

Set paintings in a safe area to dry.



National Standards for Visual Arts (2015 Standards):

Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard #2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.

Anchor Standard #10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

See more at:

<http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/content/national-core-arts-standards-anchor-standards#creating>