
1st Grade LWSD Art Docent Project: Castle and Sun

Element of Art: Shape

Objective: To construct a 2-D building using different shapes and to achieve balance by the placement of a variety of colors.

Artistic Influence: Paul Klee (*Clay*)



Element of Art: Shape

Materials:

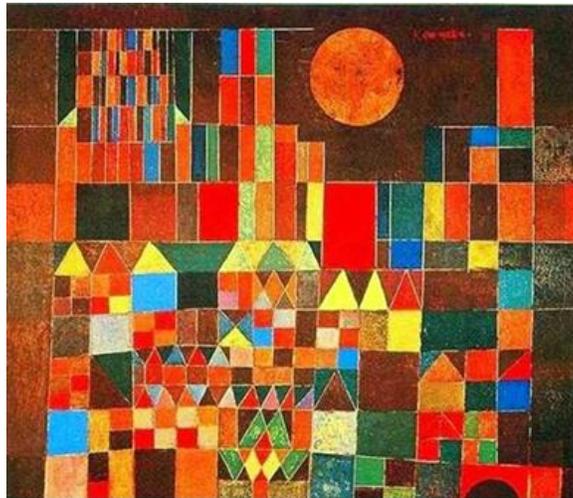
- Pencil
- Construction-paper crayons or regular crayons
- Black or white 9x12 construction paper
- Plastic shape templates or templates made from card stock

Instructions and notes:

1. Study the paintings in the PowerPoint beforehand so you can bring some of your own insights and questions about them. It is always a good idea to do a sample of the lesson so you have experienced the process of the project yourself.
2. If you choose black construction paper, you will either need to press really hard with the crayons or get construction-paper crayons that are more vibrant. This will allow you to do a nighttime scene.
3. However, if you decide not to do this, use white or colored paper to make a day time or abstract color scheme. Try the different papers ahead of time to make sure the results are what you'd like.
4. If you don't have plastic shape tracers, cardstock shapes can be easily cut out for the students to use.
5. Another idea, is to play classical music of the time as the students create their artworks.
6. Slide 2: Have this slide up while students are transitioning and getting ready to begin art.
7. Slide 3: Briefly explain the artistic element shape.
8. Slides 5-7: Questions you may ask include:
 - Which warm colors (red, orange, yellow) do you see? Where are these colors placed in the picture?
 - Which cool colors (blue, green, purple) do you see? Where are these colors placed in the picture?
 - Did Klee place the same colors right next to each other?
 - How does this painting make you feel?
 - Where does your eye go? What did you notice first?
 - What kinds of shapes do you see?
9. Go through the steps and follow the instructions in the PowerPoint slide deck.
10. Distribute parent information page for students to take home, and print an extra page to post on your bulletin board with the finished art. See following page.
11. Please complete the brief [LWSD Art Docent Program Feedback Survey](#) for this lesson.
12. Thank you for supporting our elementary students' visual arts education.

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The goal of this 1st grade lesson was to create a castle through the careful selection and placement of a variety of shapes and colors.



Castle and Sun, 1928, Klee

WA State Visual Arts Standard

Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art or design. (VA: Cr2.1.1)

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students learned that shape is the closed space made when a line connects to itself.

The students used construction paper, crayons and templates to make a 2-D castle while focusing on shape and color placement.

Paul Klee's colorful paintings were the art inspiration for this project. He used many types of mediums, but mainly paints, to construct simple and vibrant artwork. Music inspired his creations—using lines, patterns, and colors to show rhythm and movement in his paintings.

The development of this Lake Washington School District art docent lesson was made possible by a grant from the Lake Washington Schools Foundation.