

# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade LWSD Art Docent Project: Tints & Shades

## Element of Art: Value

**Objective:** to mix one color (blue) with white and black paint to create one tint and one shade of that color. Use those tints and shades to create a winter scene with strong value contrast.

**Artistic Influence:** Arnab Das of West Bengal, India



**Element of Art:**

Value

**Materials:**

- 1 paper plate or plastic palette per student
- Blue, black & white tempera paint
- Palette knife/paint scraper (1 per student)
- Paintbrush (1 large or medium round per student)
- Water tubs
- 90 lb. white sulphite paper
- Baby wipes & paper towels

**Instructions and notes:**

1. Start students on the rug to watch the accompanying PowerPoint presentation, pausing on slide 16 (step 7), so that students may look up during their project and use the tree silhouettes for reference.
2. Pencils should only be used to write student's names on back of the paper.
3. Have students mix their paint carefully.
  - The blue **tint** should be about 1/3 blue + 2/3 white.
  - The blue **shade** should be mostly blue **with only a drop of black** – the black paint is very strong and will completely overpower the blue if too much is used in the mix.
4. The children should start with the white band of paint at the bottom of their page.
5. When they are finished with the white band, have them wipe the excess paint off of their brush using a paper towel.

**Note:** If the students move from lighter paint to darker paint, they will not need to wash their brushes between every change of color/paint. Simply wiping off the brush well will suffice.
6. Once the 5 bands are completed, have the students pause and talk with them about the shape of evergreen trees. This will give the paint time to dry a bit. Talk with them about how they can angle their brushes with the brush tip/point to form the bottom of every branch.
7. Have them paint their trees on the white hillside band. This part of the page should be almost completely dry.
8. Ask the children to paint their moon very carefully/lightly if they do it over darker paint, as it may not be dry.
9. Clean-up! Volunteer docent helpers should take the lead, but students should take charge of wiping down their trays with baby wipes, putting their brushes in the dirty water bin, throwing away paper towels, etc.
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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## LWSD Art Docent Project: Tints & Shades

The goal of this 1<sup>st</sup> grade lesson was to mix one color (blue) with white and black paint, creating one tint and one shade of that color, and then to use those tints and shades to create a winter scene with strong value contrast.

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Misty Morning, 2016, Arnab Das



### WA State Visual Arts Standard

Demonstrate safe and proper procedures for using materials, tools, and equipment while making art. (VA: Cr.2.2.1)

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students learned that value is the lightness or darkness of a line, shape, or form. They also learned that tints are created by mixing a color with white and that shades are created by mixing a color with black. Students then mixed their own tints and shades for use in creating a serene winter scene like the one above. The focus was on the process and how students had the power to mix the tint or shade they want.

This monochromatic style of painting was inspired by Indian artist Arnab Das, whose watercolor paintings provide excellent examples of using tints and shades effectively to create a rich landscape.

Additionally, the seasonal theme invited students to celebrate the winter landscapes found in our region.

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