

Grade 2 – Snowmen at Night



Value

What do you see?



Illustration from Snowmen at Night, by Caralyn & Mark Buehner

Artistic Focus: Value



Illustration from Snowmen at Night,
by Caralyn & Mark Buehner

VALUE is the lightness and darkness of a line, shape, or form.

Today's objective:

1. To use value to make shapes look like three-dimensional forms.
2. To learn how to blend oil pastels to create a smooth transition between light and dark values.

WA State Visual Arts Standard

Demonstrate safe procedures for using and cleaning art tools, equipment, and studio spaces.

(VA:Cr2.2.2)

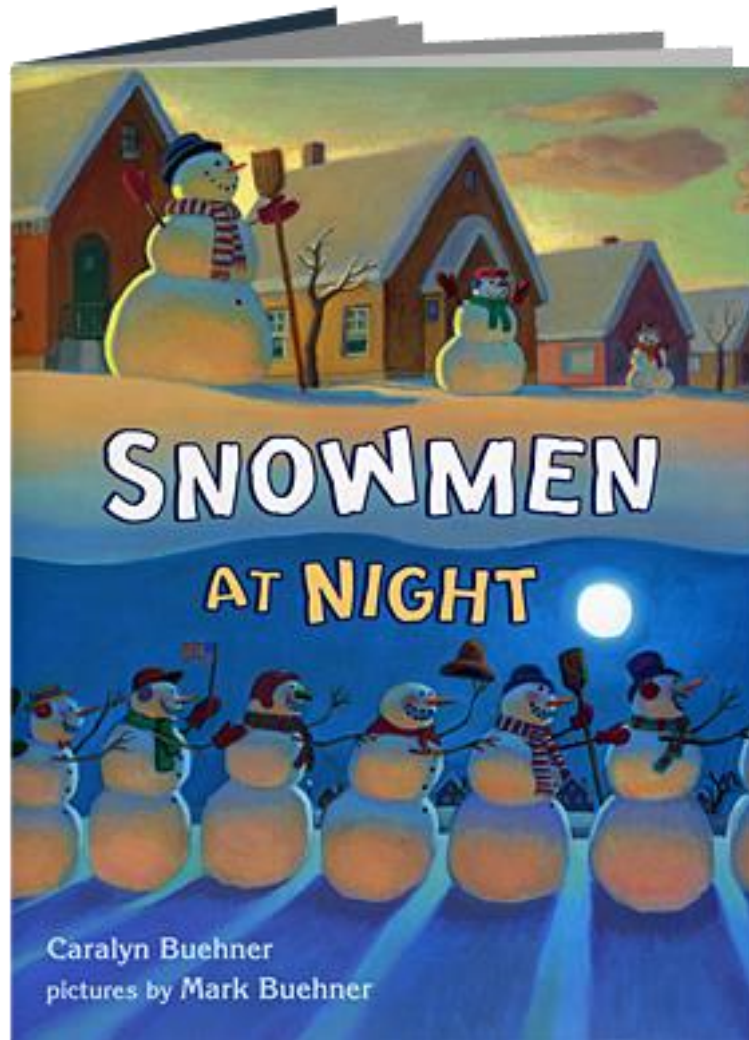
Caralyn and Mark Buehner

Caralyn and Mark Buehner are a husband and wife publishing team.

- Caralyn writes stories
- Mark paints illustrations
- Produced over a dozen children's books
- Live in Utah
- Parents to six children



Artwork



Cover of Snowmen at Night, by
Caralyn & Mark Buehner

Artwork

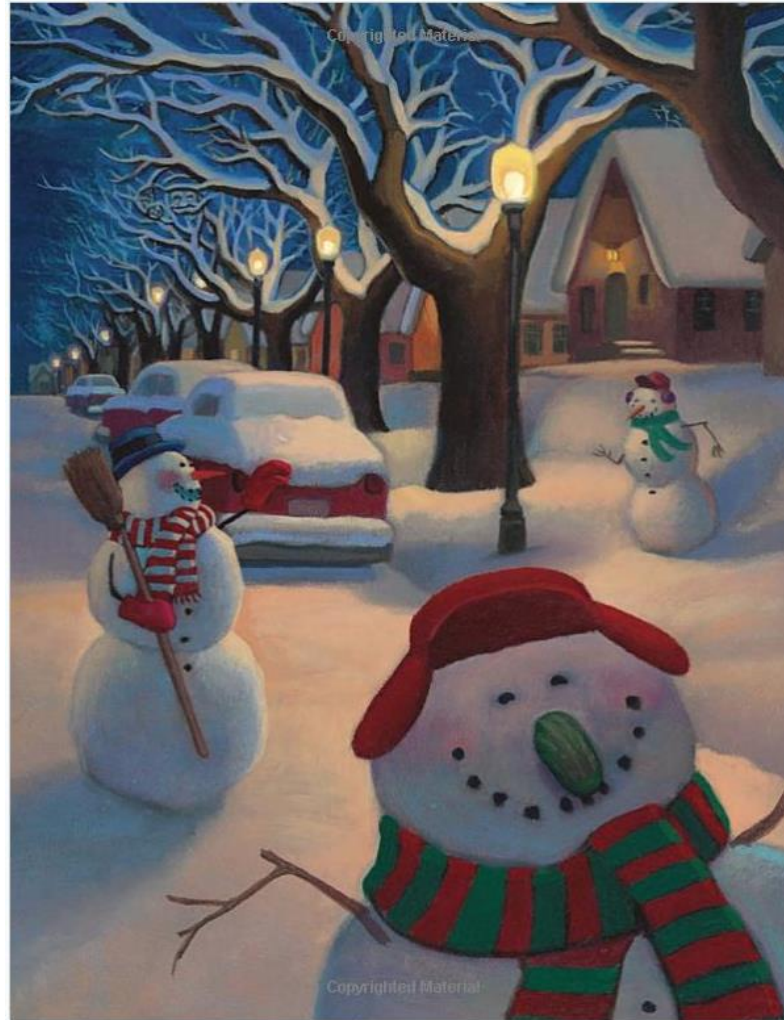


Illustration from Snowmen at Night,
by Caralyn & Mark Buehner

Materials

Oil pastels:
all colors but especially
white and dark blue



Dark blue construction paper



Baby wipes

Paper towels

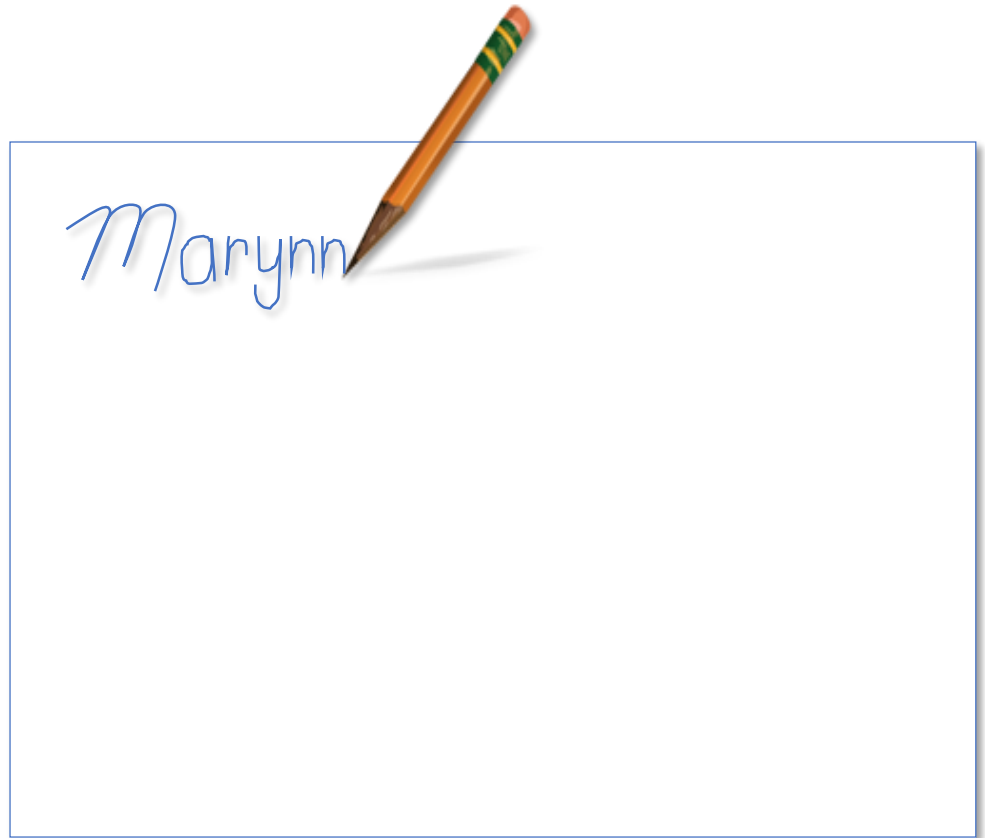


Example of Today's Project



Before You Begin

1. Write your **name** in pencil on the **back** of the paper.
2. Flip your paper over.
3. **Roll up your sleeves!**



Step 1

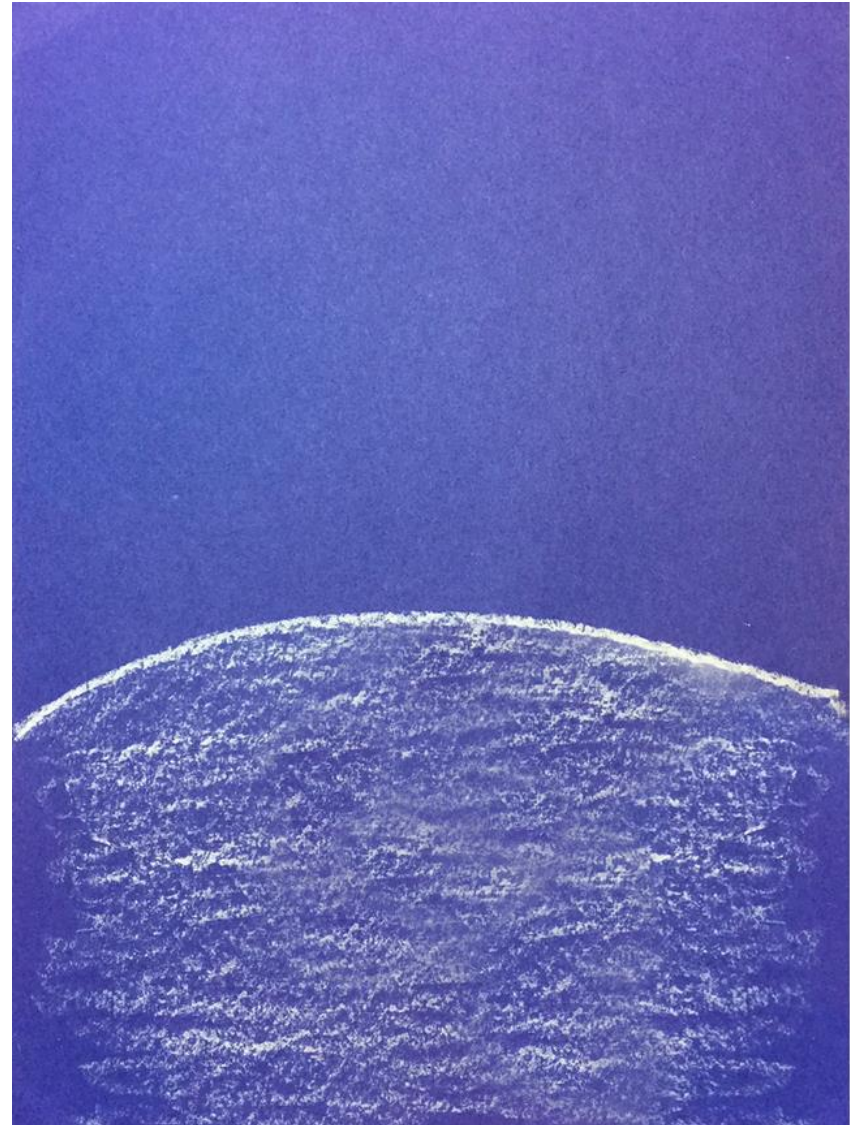
- Use a white oil pastel to draw a horizon line.
- This is the line that separates the land from the sky.
- It can be hilly or straight.

Hint: If your white pastel has other colors smudged on it, wipe it on a paper towel before using.



Step 2

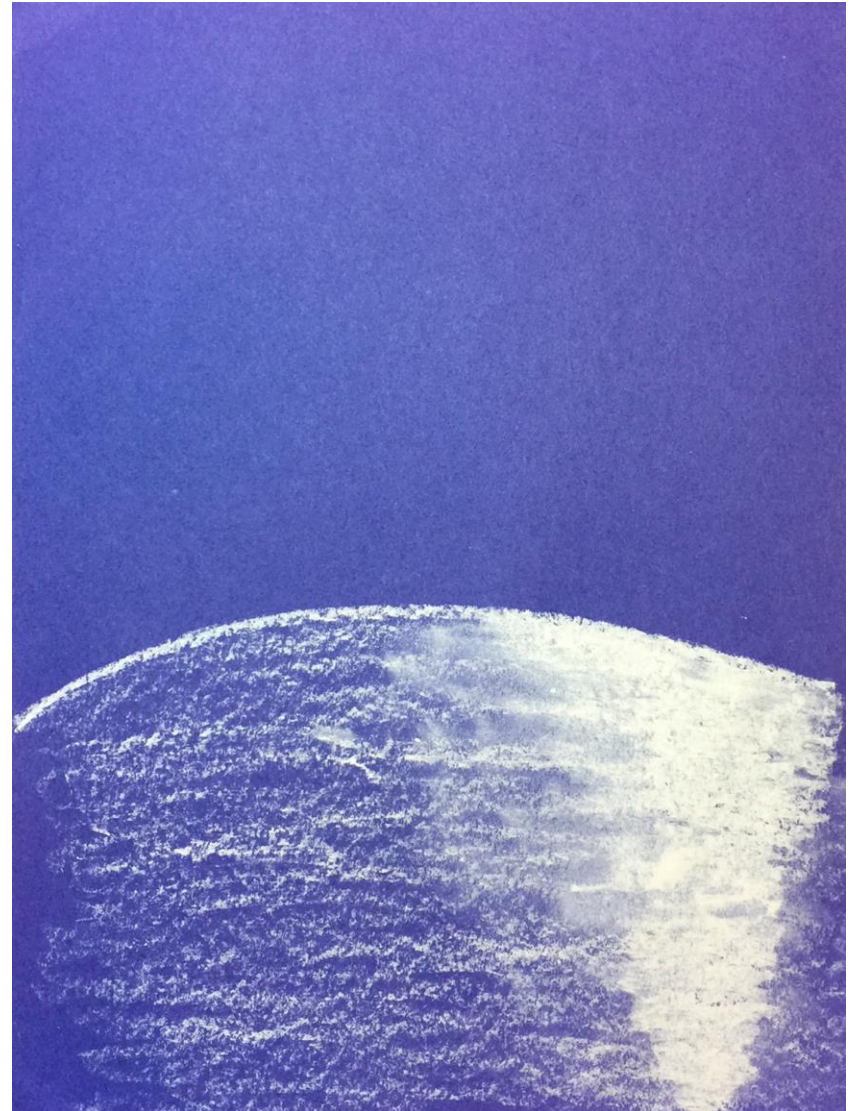
- Using horizontal (side-to-side strokes), fill in your hill with a light layer of white oil pastel.



Step 3

- Now imagine that the full moon is in the upper right of the sky.
- Make the right side of your hill brighter white by filling in thick white pastel on the same side of the hill as the imaginary moon.
- Put down your pastel, hold your paper down with one hand, and use a finger on your other hand to blend and blur the line between the thin white and the thick white.

Note the difference between the darker and lighter values.

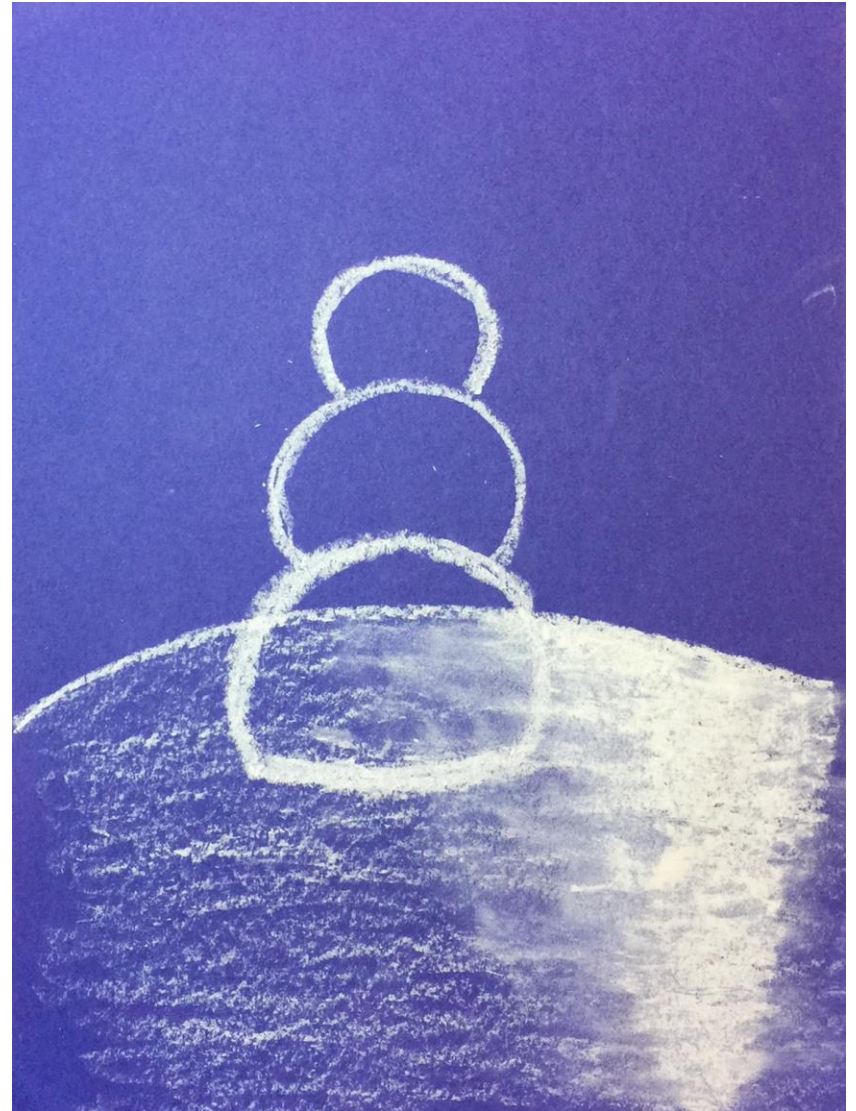


Step 4

Time to build a snowman!

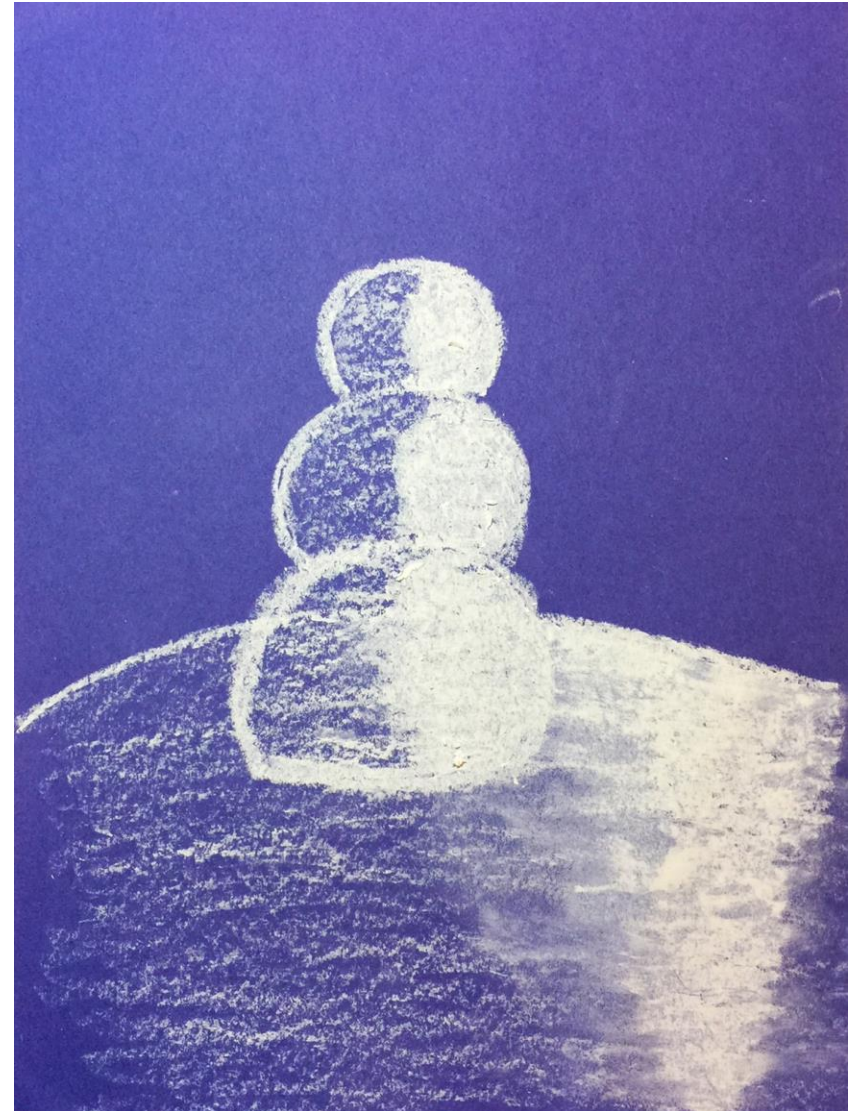
- Start with the bottom snowball. Imagine you are drawing a very round capital letter **D** lying down on its flat side.
- Next draw a smaller circle on top of the big, round **D**.
- Finally, an even smaller circle on top.

Note: We call them circles, but these are not perfect circles at all.



Step 5

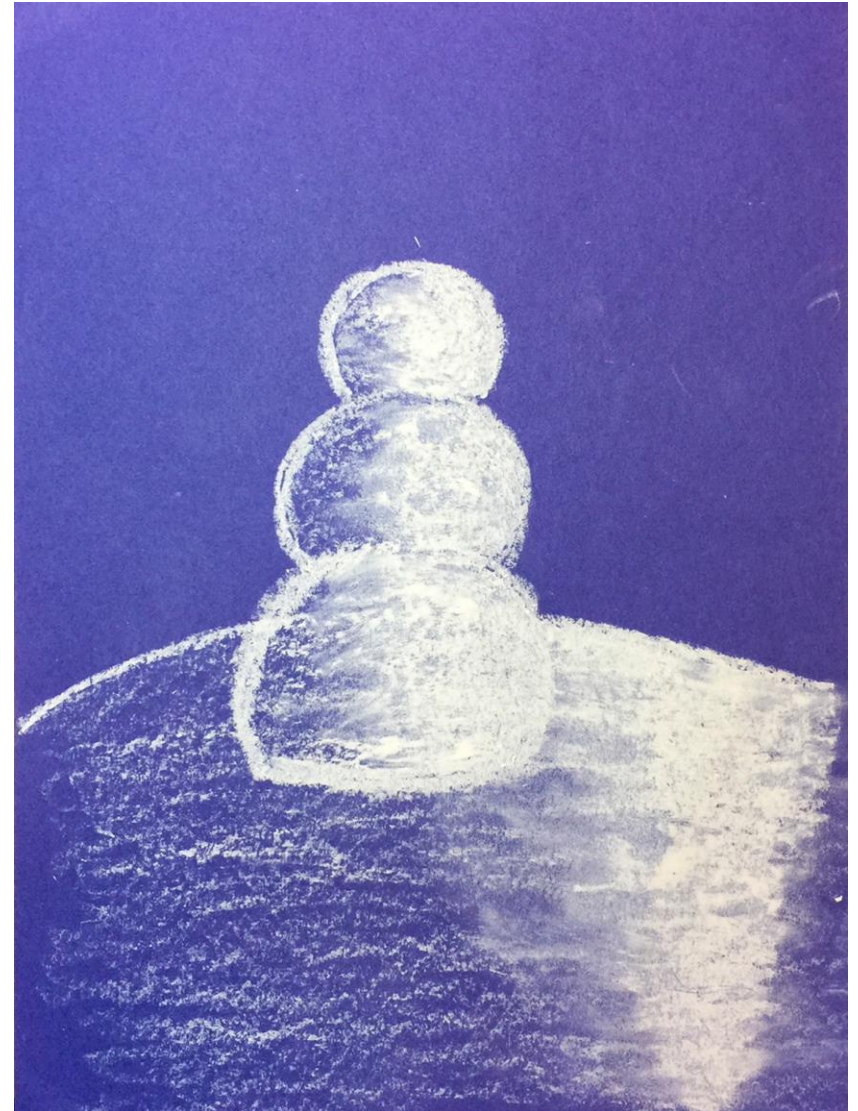
- Use light horizontal (side-to-side) strokes to fill in each circle.
- Then use firm strokes to fill in the light side (the moonward side) with a thicker layer of white.



Step 6

- Put down your pastel, hold your paper down with one hand, and use a finger on your other hand to blend and blur the line between the thin white and the thick white.

Note the difference between the darker and lighter values.



Step 7

- Now use the dark blue oil pastel to fill in a sliver of color on the darker side of each circle, almost like a crescent moon.



Step 8

Time to blend!

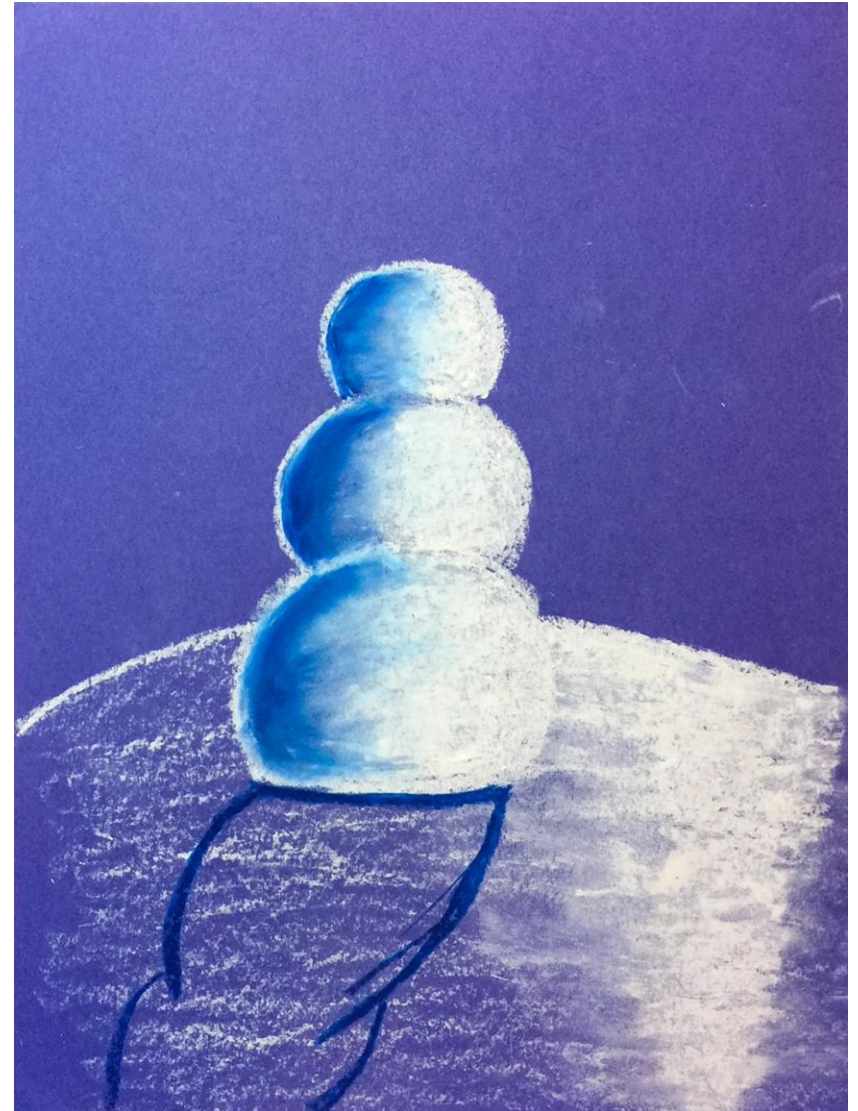
- Put down your pastel, hold your paper down with one hand, and use a finger on your other hand to blend the blue into the white.
- Stop blending as you reach the middle of the circle. You want the other side to stay bright white.



Step 9

Your snowman needs a shadow.

- Use your dark blue pastel to draw a line under the snowman.
- At an angle down and away from the light side of the paper, draw an oval that looks like your snowman shape all stretched out.



Step 10

Create the shadow.

- Fill in your shadow shape with the dark blue pastel.
- Put down your pastel, hold your paper down with one hand, and use a finger on your other hand to blend the blue pastel to even it out.



Step 11

Now add your full moon.

- The moon should be in the upper right corner of the paper, because the moon is casting its light on that side, leaving the other side in shadow.
- Make a white circle and fill it in with thick white oil pastel.



Step 12

Sometimes when it is very cold outside, the moon has a faint halo of light around it.

If you want, you can add a halo or light clouds.



Step 13

Now it's time to add some details!

- Scarf
- Black coal dots for eyes and buttons
- Maybe a carrot nose
- Choose a hat style

knit cap



top hat



bowler hat



Reflection

- Can you see how blending values light to dark can make art seem more three-dimensional?
- What was your favorite part of our project today?
- How did it feel to blend the oil pastels?
- Was it hard or easy to blend the colors smoothly?
- Would anyone like to share their art, if time allows?



Credits

1. Caralyn & Mark Buehner's official website <http://buehnerbooks.com>
2. <http://buehnerbooks.com/our-books/snowmen-at-night/>
3. Original LWSD sample art, used with permission.



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