
3rd Grade LWSD Art Docent Project: Klimt's Garden

Element of Art: Color

Objective: Identify complementary colors and use them to create a flower garden painting. Students were also taught how to demonstrate proper brush care.

Artistic Influence: Gustav Klimt's garden paintings



Element of Art:
Color

Do Ahead:

- Check your paint supply to be sure you can offer specific colors needed for this lesson.
- Acrylic paint will work best and will dry as you go, but tempera can be used. Tempera is more liquidy so the colors may smear a little.
- Familiarize yourself with complementary colors (opposites) on a color wheel.
- If you don't have fine point (smallest size) round brushes, very small square brushes will also work.

Materials:

- **Sturdy white paper or canvas boards**
- **Water cups**
- **Small round paintbrushes** (size 5 or smaller)
- **Paint palettes**
- **Acrylic or tempera paint**

Instructions and notes:

1. Go through the steps in the PowerPoint slide deck and follow each step carefully, noticing that the colors chosen for each quadrant of the painting are paired complementary colors which contrast and highlight each other.
2. Be sure to demonstrate proper brush care because there will be a lot of brush cleaning throughout the lesson.
3. Invite students to share their art and talk about the process, if time allows.
4. 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.
5. Please complete the brief [LWSD Art Docent Program Feedback Survey](#) for this lesson.
6. Thank you for supporting our elementary students' visual arts education.

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The goal of this 3rd grade lesson was to learn what complementary colors are by creating a flower garden painting.



“Bauerngarten” – which means farmer or peasant garden

WA State Visual Arts Standard

Demonstrate an understanding of the safe and proficient use of materials, tools, and equipment for a variety of artistic processes. (VA:Cr2.2.3)

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students learned about **color** which is the visible range of reflected light. Color has three properties: hue, value, and intensity (brightness and dullness).

Gustav Klimt was a painter from Vienna, Austria who lived from 1862-1918. He is known for his ornamental painting style of painting and often painted flowers. He sometimes layered gold leaf into his artwork.

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