Pastel Flower Drawings  
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Subject: Art 6

Interval: Quarter Class

Time: 4-5 Classes

Overview

In this lesson, students will focus on two major art concepts: **composition** and **color blending**. Students will begin with an observational drawing of a flower, focusing on realistic shapes and filling the page with little but well-planned **negative space**. Secondarily, students will shade in their flower using realistic colors. The emphasis is placed on building edges of their flowers by meeting one color next to another, using few to no outlines. Contrasting colors should be used for the background to help flowers pop.

Objectives

As a result of instruction, students will

* VA:Cr1.1.6: Combine concepts collaboratively to generate innovative ideas for creating art.
  + Utilize the elements and principles of creative design to demonstrate understanding of successful visual composition
* VA:Cn11.1.6: Analyze how art reflects changing times, traditions, resources, and cultural uses.
  + Understand O’Keeffe’s working habits and process during her era of art history, and understand the importance of her artwork during her time.

Activities

* Students will view Georgia O’Keeffe’s painting *Red Poppy* as an introduction.
* Students will discuss the terms **composition**and **color blending** and their meanings. Students will define these terms in their sketchbooks.
* Students will discuss how O’Keeffe successfully used composition to crop her flower image closely, and how the color blending adds to the realism of the artwork.
* Students will view a demonstration on how to compose a drawing using a viewfinder. Using viewfinders, students will crop their flowers to include little to no negative space, while regarding the edges and corners of their page. Students will begin to sketch their artwork directly in chalk pastel.
* Students will blend colors to add realistic colors in the positive and negative space of their artwork. Chalk pastels should be used to build value, not to outline. Students should change color/value to form edges of flower petals and leaves instead of relying on outline. In the background, students should use a contrasting color to help flowers stand out.

Adaptations

Students may work with a photograph of a flower if drawing from real life poses a challenge. Students can place the viewfinder directly against the photograph, and work from the flat shapes that are seen in the photograph.

Evaluation

See attached project checklist.

Materials

* Example painting
* 12x18” paper
* Viewfinders
* Flowers or other natural objects to draw
* Chalk pastels

Other Resources  
Georgia O’Keeffe biographical video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3AY9rDB-WBk

Performance Task: Pastel Flowers

Student Name:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Criteria | Possible Points | Self Evaluation | Teacher Evaluation |
| Elements and Principles of Design:   Considers the elements and principles of creative design in your flower composition.  Plans design in regards to the edges and corners of rectangular paper.  Uses observation and relays realistic shapes. Uses color blending to form edges of shapes without adding outline. | 30 |  |  |
| Creativity and Critical Thinking:  Student has produced a unique solution to the visual design problem.  Evidence of personality was incorporated into your design. | 30 |  |  |
| Craftsmanship:  Artwork is neat and shows concern for excellence in final presentation (few chalky fingerprints, edges are crisp and clear). | 20 |  |  |
| Reflection:  Artwork demonstrates evidence of revision, reflection, and thoughtfulness. | 10 |  |  |
| Completion:  Student created a fully colored chalk pastel drawing.  Drawing is completely colored with few white spaces. | 10 |  |  |

Comments: