

**“ New Spin on Color” Grade 9 or Art 1 Submitted by Joan Maresh Hansen**

**“ New Spin on Color”**

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade or Art I** (or any class or grade level reviewing the color wheel)

**Web site links:** <http://www.artworkontheweb.com>

Blog: <http://www.artworkontheweb.com/artful-life>

<http://www.myvirtualartroom.com/member-only>

<http://www.coolartcards.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/TheArtLife> ( please LIKE)

**Tips for Success:** The teacher can do various activities when it is time to introduce the intoxicating element of color. Dress models in colorful outfits, set up colorful still lifes, show slides of nature and how colors are found in nature, show great works of art using color in ways artists used to emphasize their subjects. Talk about how color is used psychologically in restaurants like McDonalds, versus the calming colors used in hospitals. Discuss the effective use of warm and cool colors and why one might be chosen over another showing package designs or advertisements in magazines.

**Lesson Plan Objective:** Students will:

- Become familiar with color terminology and relationships.
- Use their understanding of color to devise their own color wheel or chart or produce an original painting demonstrating a full range of pure & intense colors.

**Materials:**

11” X 14” paper or larger 18” X 24” depending on the time allocation, color media which may include one of the following; tempera, watercolor, Prismacolor, markers or acrylic paint, asst. brushes, surface for mixing paint, water containers, color wheel, samples of art work using color harmonies.

**Suggestion:** Begin with a discussion of the use of a color wheel or chart and how the colors are organized. Point out the following on the chart;

- Primary, secondary and intermediate ( tertiary ) colors
- Warm and cool colors and the benefits of each
- Values, hues, tints, shades, intensity,
- Complimentary, split complimentary harmonies

**Do one or more of the following projects.**

- Use tempera paint to make a color wheel different than the chart that we normally see in textbooks. Do rough sketches of things you are interested in making sure you include twelve shapes that effectively fill the page. See example where Dorothy did a plan in her sketchbook with paint spilling off the table. Each label had “Exis Paints” on it as her Dad is a professional house painter. She framed this and gave it to her Dad for Father’s Day.
- Create an original image that has twelve parts for example a clown holding twelve balloons. Using only primary colors, mix twelve different colors for the different parts of your painting. If you draw your image on black or dark paper, then mix each of the twelve colors with white to work in tints of the colors for stronger contrast.

- Use a gesture or contour drawing that you repeat six times with some overlapping. Where the image overlaps mix the colors. For example if the person is planned for blue and the one beside it is planned for red, where they overlap, mix your colors and paint it purple. (markers were used in my example)
- Give students an opportunity to work in groups to design large banners for Youth Art Month or Open House to hang around the school. Here is Tracie's "Art Rips" banner using tissue paper to enhance her message.
- Other options are to have students do cover designs on journals in color harmonies (see Color Line Design lesson in the Art 1 section of the Artful Life blog). Advanced classes can continue contour drawings in rich vibrant colors of Prismacolor pencils, paints or markers.
- Whatever you choose to do, display it for the school to appreciate like my friend and teaching buddy, Lana Downs Awbrey did in her Dallas Tx school for Youth Art Month. By the way, she is seeking an art teaching position.

**Evaluation:** Are the colors clear and vibrant? Did you keep your colors pure and intense? Do they move in a smooth progression from one hue to the next?

**Classroom management:** Put together sets of just the primary colors ( red, yellow, and blue) in paints or pencils or markers. Use discarded cans from the cafeteria and designate colors with colored duct tape in warm or cool hues. Squeeze about a tablespoon of each color of paint into plastic cups from restaurant suppliers (use lids to save leftover paint) or styrofoam meat trays or paper plates work well for mixing paint.

**Images from Art Work on the Web, Joan Maresh Hansen**

1. Dorothy Exis: New Spin on Color



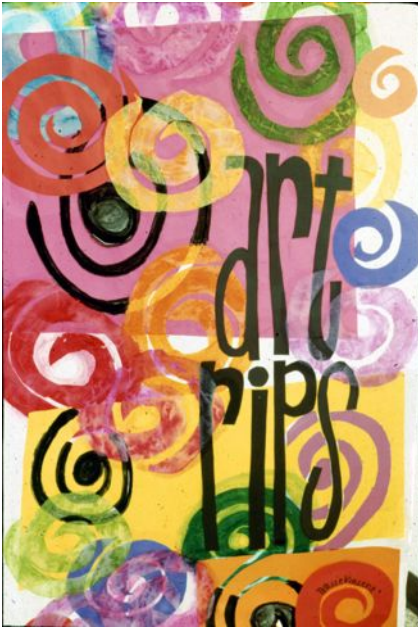


2. Clown painted on dark color of paper using tints of colors



3. Gesture drawing in markers

4. “Art Rips” Banner for Open House or YAM



See hundreds of examples of lessons and student work in my virtual art rooms and sister sites:

**Art Work on the Web**

<http://www.artworkontheweb.com>

**My Virtual Art Room:**

<http://www.myvirtualartroom.com/member-only>

Send **Cool Art Cards** to other art enthusiasts:

<http://www.coolartcards.com>

User: artguest Password: Cool123

5. Showcase of Color Harmonies and Color Wheel work.  
Thanks to Lana Downs Awbrey, Dallas Tx.

