

Still Life With Apples

Level: Primary

Duration: 2 class periods (45 minutes)

Media: Watercolor/Tempera

Objective: The students will learn about still life through the use of printmaking. Warm and cool colors and cast shadows will be introduced.

Materials:

White 12"x18" paper

Liquid Laundry Detergent Lids

Tempera Paint: Black, Red, Yellow and Green (to make "apple" green)

Warm and Cool watercolors OR watered down tempera

Brushes

Large Circle tracer and crayon for plate

Sharpie fine point black marker



Additional Student Examples:

<http://tinyurl.com/AppleExamples>

Procedure:

1. Introduce Henri Matisse "Apples" 1916, The Art Institute of Chicago

Image found online at <http://www.artic.edu/aic/collections/artwork/64001>

Or buy print here: <http://tinyurl.com/MatisseApples>

2. Compare and contrast other still life images.

3. Have the students trace large circle on 12" x 18" white paper - or to save time, pre-draw the plate with brown crayon prior to distributing to the kids.

4. Discuss warm and cool colors. I have them paint the plate first with yellow and/or orange and then paint half of the space outside the plate with *warm colors (adding red for contrast)*. *Tip: I have used watercolors in the past but now I find that if I water down tempera and put it in little cups, the effect is much nicer.* While the students are painting the outside of the plate, I go around and soak up any puddles to keep the apple print from bleeding into it.

PRINTMAKING

5. I made green apples by mixing tempera paints. I then put trays of red and apple green at each table. We used liquid laundry caps (of different sizes) to make the print. I tell them to lift straight up and hold the paper down with their other hand if the paper sticks to the cap. While they are printmaking inside the plate I soak up any puddles outside the plate in case they want to show an apple falling out. We let dry until the next week.

The second week . . .

1. We start with sharpie for the apple stems. (an incomplete circle with a line coming from center)

2. Premix watered down tempera for the *cool colors* and the black shadows.

3. Students paint the remaining white space with cool colors.

3. I ask the children to paint the letter "C" ON the apple *Tip: When they are painting the shadows, I turn the warm colors so that they are on the "right" side of the student. (this makes the cool side the shadow side when drawing the letter "C")*. Then I have them draw a wide letter "C" for the cast shadow and fill in. We do the two shadows separately because the tempera from the apples sometimes remoistens and will spread into the cast shadow.

Discussing artwork . . .

What do you see?

What colors, shapes, etc?

How is this still life the same as . . .

Resources:

Various Still Life Images

Matisse "Apples" found at <http://www.artic.edu/aic/collections/artwork/64001>

NGA Kids Still Life Composer: <http://www.nga.gov/kids/zone/stilllife.htm>

Assessment:

View this rubric online to edit and make your own: <http://tinyurl.com/27kug5a>

Matisse Apples			Powered by iRubric™
	Excellent! 3 pts	Good 2 pts	Fair 1 pts
Warm/Cool	Excellent! Appropriately separated warm from cool colors.	Good Appropriately separated warm and color colors in most places.	Fair Warm and cool colors were mixed.
Print	Excellent! Created solid, circle-shaped prints for all.	Good Created solid, circle-shaped prints for most.	Fair Created print but did not create a complete circle in some or all.
Shadow	Excellent! Shadows were used on all apples. All shadows fall on appropriate side.	Good Shadows were used. Most fall on the appropriate side.	Fair Few shadows were added. Some or all go different directions.
Craftsmanship	Excellent! Lots of attention to detail.	Good Some attention to detail.	Fair Artwork is rushed or not carefully completed.

Plan Submitted by:

Theresa McGee

Monroe Elementary

<http://tinyurl.com/MonroeArt>

tmcgee@d181.org