



CREATIONS

For students in 3rd & 4th years

2-Week Collage or Painting

Overview: Students have a choice between two projects, with an emphasis on composition and color scheme.

Project 1: Still life painting using the space between objects in the composition; they're called, Air Shapes, or Negative Space.

Project 2: Collage using cut paper you've painted

In both projects, you should create 5 or 6 (or more!) thumbnail layout sketches, to work on the placement of your shapes. Thumbnail sketches should be no wider than 2" on the longest side. These are not about details, but only the size and placement of the Big Shapes.

Remember your composition needs:

Emphasis - The most important spot

Balance - Asymmetrical is usually best for this project

Harmony - This is achieved mostly by having a strong color scheme using 4 or 5 colors and with shapes or subject matter that look good together. With 5 colors, make at least 3 of them closely related on the color wheel, ie: magenta, red, and red-orange.

One of the most important things to do in either version of this project (and every artwork), is to try out several completely different design ideas. Then you can try some slight variations of an idea you like best. Only by experimenting will you know if you have found the best solution. You can always go back to your first idea if it was best, but you'll almost always improve as you try new things.

STILL LIFE

Use objects to set up a still life in front of you. Then sketch these any way you like. You can make them as realistic as you want, or you can stylize the shapes, flattening them out. If you're shading, try

to set up the objects near a window so one side gets a lot of light. You can also use a lamp. Take a picture so you can view the reference next week even if it gets put away.

1. Set up the still life.
2. Create idea and composition layout thumbnail sketches.
3. Set up your canvas - if you want a color other than white for the underpainting, go ahead and do that now.
4. Draw guidelines on the canvas.
5. Paint and enjoy! Remember to mix colors, using white to create opaque colors.

COLLAGE

Consider your subject matter. Even if you want it to be abstract, taking real life and then simplifying it creates much more interesting shapes and images. For this collage, you'll use an entire sheet of watercolor paper for your background, and another sheet for your various shapes in more colors.

1. Find examples and figure out your basic color scheme.
2. Mix acrylic to create your background color and cover one sheet of watercolor paper.
3. Mix acrylics to create 3 or 4 more colors, painting them in various areas on the second sheet of watercolor paper. If you want some long shapes, make sure you create a long color area for them. Set aside to dry. Make sure your name is on them.
4. Draw ideas and compositions as thumbnail layout sketches. Make at least 5 or 6.
5. If papers become dry, go ahead and begin cutting; drawing with your scissors.

Finish the project next week, or if you're a fast worker, create two works that go together.

Instructions

Color Cutouts

CREATIONS

For students in 3rd & 4th years

1. Choose one of the animals from the references that you haven't used before. Then draw the animal as large as possible in your sketch book using charcoal. Draw it at least 3 times, and up to 5, to learn the shapes.
2. There are 3 choices of medium to create the finished work.
 1. **Watercolors** on watercolor paper
 - Instead of using the pencil to create the shadows and painting over them, advanced students should create all of the shadows using *only* the watercolor.
 2. **Acrylic** on canvas
 - Work dark to light, and feel free to create a thin layer of color as an underpainting, such as a brown or bright red.
 3. **Graphite** pencil - very detailed
 - The shading technique is very important, and should be done in hatch shading with as little obvious pencil strokes as possible.
3. Draw guidelines on **watercolor** paper, **canvas**, or good drawing **paper**.
4. Paint or draw the animal in your preferred medium, paying special attention to the shadows.