

Expressive Self-Portraits

Grade Level or course: 2nd Grade

Narrative description of the lesson:

In this lesson, students will learn how to use color expressively to represent mood and emotion. Students will understand the differences between warm and cool color palettes.

Learning Goals:

- Students will experiment with how color can convey an emotion or mood
- Students will demonstrate skills of direct observation by painting self-portraits using mirrors
- Students will use skills of abstraction and invention to alter colors in their self-portraits
- Students will utilize line in an expressive way.
- Students will learn the warm and cool color families

Techniques:

Tempera paint

Materials: 18" x 24" white paper, mirrors, black tempera paint, warm & cool palettes of tempera paint, brushes, Picasso's portraits of women

Instructional Sequence:

1. Motivate students by asking students to "read: the teacher's expressions and discern the feeling the teacher is expressing.



2. Begin class by showing and discussing Pablo Picasso's colorful portraits of women. Discuss lines and show students how lines can be descriptive and expressive. Review different types of lines, such as wavy, curvy, thick, thin, jagged, etc.

3. Students will study their faces in the mirror and think about how they can use lines to describe their facial expressions. The teacher should demonstrate how to draw the proportions of the head, neck and shoulders. Remind the students they are to create and expressive self-portrait so the line quality should capture the emotion of the feeling.

4. Students will practice drawing 3 or more self-portraits of varying facial expressions in their sketchbooks.

5. Students will select one sketch to enlarge onto an 18"x24" white paper with black tempera paint outline. The artwork should be placed on the drying rack.

6. Week 2: The teacher begins by reading the book, *My Many Colored Days*, by Dr. Seuss. Have the students make note of how color can be expressive and convey a particular mood. Show the color wheel to the students and have them identify warm and cool colors and complementary colors.

7. The students will choose either a warm color palette or a cool color palette to paint their facial expression depending on the feeling they are trying to express. The background will be painted with the complements of the foreground. This will reinforce student understanding of warm and cool colors.



Ongoing Assessments: Observing how many students

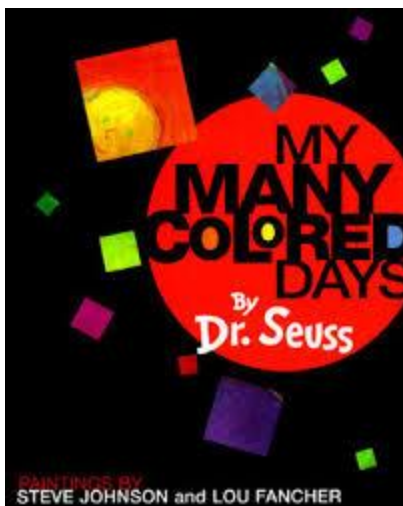
National Core Arts Standards:

Resources

Artist Exemplars by Pablo Picasso



How can color help express your feeling? Paintings by Pablo Picasso



Book: My Many Colored Days, written by Dr. Seuss. Illustrated by Steve Johnson & Lou Fancher



