

Symmetrical Butterfly Lesson

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Time Frame: 2-3 classes

Narrative description of the lesson:

Kindergarten artists will understand and explore the concept of symmetry by creating a mixed media symmetrical butterfly through drawing and painting.

Learning Goals:

- Students will develop an understanding of symmetry
- Students will experiment with collage and painting techniques

Techniques:

Oil Pastel drawing and stamping to create a symmetrical design; painting; paper collage

Materials: 12x18 white 90#paper, dark oil pastels; tempera paint (cake or liquid); pipe cleaners; 12x18 color background paper; assorted size color & pattern paper scraps.

Instructional Sequence:

1. Begin by introducing the concept of symmetry and observing symmetrical forms in nature. Have students identify symmetrical objects in the art room. Observe images of butterflies and models if possible.
2. Explain that students will be drawing their own symmetrical butterflies using oil pastel. To begin, they will focus on only 1 half of the butterfly. Demonstrate folding the paper in



half like a book.

3. Show students how to make a mark on the fold for the body. Have students draw the body of the butterfly.

4. Observe butterfly wings and discuss the shapes and patterns. Identify the number of wings on either side. Have students draw out one set of wings and fill with patterns.

Remind students to press firmly with their pastels.

5. Explain that students will be stamping the oil pastel to the other side of the paper with their hands! Demonstrate folding the paper to the other side and rubbing to transfer the pastel. Sometimes rubbing with a pencil helps speed up the process! When students finish, demonstrate tracing the lines with pastel to make them more visible.

6. The next class, reinforce the concept of symmetry. Read the book, *Waiting for Wings*, by Lois Ehlert. Demonstrate painting the butterflies symmetrically, with the same colors balancing on either side.

7. For the last day, have students carefully cut out their butterflies and use pipe cleaners to create antennae. Glue butterfly to background paper. Demonstrate cutting shapes to make flowers to surround the background. Have students cut and glue their shapes to the background paper.

8. If time allows, have students share work and read the book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle, to close.

Ongoing Assessments: Observing student understanding of symmetry. Observing student handling of materials.



<p>National Frameworks:</p>	
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<p>Resources</p>	
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<p>Smart Notebook lesson with images of butterflies, student examples, butterfly models, <i>Waiting for Wings</i>, by Lois Ehlert, <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i>, by Eric Carle.</p>	
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