

3rd Grade - Still Life

Materials needed:

9x12 white paper (1 sheet for each student)

Crayons and/or colored pencils

Ruler (groups can share)

LESSON

Introduction

Background

Still Life-

A still life is a picture of objects that don't move.

Artists set up still life in their studio and study the objects.

Typically are common objects, which may be either natural (food, flowers, plants, shells) or man-made (drinking glasses, books, vases, jewelry, coins)

Painters look at shape, color, texture, light and shadows

Review famous Still Life artists and share examples of their work.

Paul Cezanne

- Born January, 19, 1839, in France
- Believed that everything in the world was made up of either a sphere, a cone, a cylinder, or a cube
- Wanted to show nature as solid and monumental
- When Cezanne first exhibited his art, the public and critics didn't like it
- Today his art is considered as being of enormous importance to the development of modern art

Henri Matisse

- Born December 31, 1869, in France
- Trained as a lawyer, but had surgery and his mother gave him an art set to help him pass the time during his recovery
- At the age of 21, Matisse discovered painting and decided to become an artist
- Despite the fact that his first teacher told him he would never learn to draw, he was determined to succeed
- Matisse was one of the artists known as "Fauves" (The Wild Beasts). His paintings were expressive, often without regard for the natural colors of the subject and contained aggressive brush strokes and bold primary colors.

Pablo Picasso

- Born October 25, 1881, in Spain
- At the age of 7, Pablo began receiving art instruction from his father who was an art teacher
- He attended prestigious art schools in Spain
- When he went to Paris, Picasso met French artist Henri Matisse and the two became lifelong friends
- In 1907, Picasso painted one of his most important works- *Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J. Version O)*, creating with painter and sculptor Georges Braque the brand new art movement known as Cubism. Cubism allowed the artist to show his/her model from many different viewpoints.

Georgia O'Keefe

- Born, November 15, 1887, on a farm in Wisconsin

- When she was five, O'Keefe went to school in a one-room schoolhouse and enjoyed private art lesson after school
- After high school, O'Keefe studied at the Art Institute of Chicago for a year
- She used an old barn as her studio and she painted inspired by her natural surroundings
- She used strong colors and painted close up views
- In the 1930s, O'Keefe took some trips to New Mexico. She loved it so much that she eventually moved there.
- She continued to paint until she lost her eyesight.

PROJECT

Option 1-

1. Starting with a 9x12 paper, have the students draw a vase that takes up most of the paper. To help with making a symmetrical shape, you can hand out scrap paper that is about 5x8, fold it in half, have them draw their vase and cut. This can be used as a template, if desired. After the vase is traced, a few simple flowers are added on top.
2. Using a ruler, the drawing is dissected by drawing about 7 or 8 rotating lines all the way across the paper. The goal is to have a lot of medium sized shapes to color.
3. All of the shapes inside the vase and flowers are colored with warm colors: red, orange, and yellow. All of the shapes on the outside are colored with cool colors: blue, green, and purple. The students are to color all the shapes lightly first, and then chose one corner that gets shaded darker with the same color.

Options 2- Set up an area on a table or chair with things for kids to draw. It can be a bowl of fruit, an apple, a garden plant, or anything colorful. It is especially fun for them to set up a still life with their own toys. Just keep it simple, or it can be difficult to draw. A teddy bear, toy car, book, ball, blocks, etc.)