

Monochromatic Art

(Grade 4 Print: “Mona Lisa” by da Vinci)

Curriculum Connection: Science and History

Art Concept: Monochromatic colors, identify form
(EALR grade 4 # 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2, 3.2, 4.2)

Grade: 4 and up

Materials:

White construction paper (9x12 inches)

Colored construction paper (12x18 inches)

Watercolor paints and brushes

Water containers

Black tempera paint

Newspaper

Glue

Scissors

Procedures:

1. Explain to students they will be using color in a wash across a sheet of paper and will apply lines on top of the wash to create a picture.
2. Students need to understand that a wash goes from dark to light using the same color and is achieved by adding more and more water, thus creating a monochromatic color scheme.
3. Students should begin painting on the upper left corner of the paper using only one color and plenty of paint on brush so the color is dark and bright.

4. As the student progresses down the paper they should just be dipping the paintbrush into water to dilute the paint further and create a lighter form of the color. Color should almost be gone by the time the student reaches the bottom of the paper. Let dry.
5. Have students one at a time sit in a chair next to the wall. Then shine flashlight onto student to create a shadow of their profile on the wall that a fellow student can trace onto paper.
6. Have students cut this profile out, then trace onto paper with wash.
7. Use black tempera to paint profile on wash.
8. Glue artwork to colored paper and trim to create a frame.