

Fourth Grade

Title: “Ranchos Church” (1929)

Artist: Georgia O’Keeffe (1887-1986)

EALR’S: Arts

- 1.1.1- Understands art concepts and vocabulary, line, texture, color, value, shapes- geometric shapes (triangle, diamond, square....) and organic shapes, (curvy, natural look, flowing).
- 1.2-Understands art concepts and vocabulary, principals of organization. (Balance, proportion, movement.....).
- 1.3-Understands and applies art styles from various artists' cultures and times.
- 1.4-Applies audience skills in a variety of art settings and performances.
- 2.1-Applies a creative process in the arts.
- 2.3-Applies a responding process to an arts presentation.
- 3.1-Uses the arts to express and present ideas and feeling.
- 3.2-Uses the arts to communicate for a specific purpose.
- 3.3-Develops personal aesthetic criteria to communicate artistic choices.
- 4.2-Demonstrates and analyzes the connections between the arts and other content areas.
- 4.3-Understands how the arts impact lifelong choices.
- 4.4-Understand that the arts shape and reflect culture and history.

Text:

In O’Keeffe’s spare approach, she gave the church a forceful and dynamic quality by exaggerating the contours of the building, by eliminating extraneous detail, by adjusting shapes and contours to suggest the relation of architecture and landscape, and by subtly varying the color in order to evoke the physical gradations of light.

Questions:

1. Looking at color, shape, line and pattern: How does O’Keeffe create a natural harmony between church and nature? The artist often used curvilinear forms and rounded shapes. Look at the lines and shapes of the building. Do you see any patterns?
2. What is the mood of this image? How do the colors, shapes and contours contribute to that feeling?
3. What clues does O’Keeffe provide to illustrate when or where this composition was painted?