

Fourth Grade

Title: "The Virgin Forest"

Artist: Henri Rousseau (1844-1910)

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:

Rousseau's paintings are humorous, delightful and always a little mysterious. "The Virgin Forest" is an exotic scene, rather dreamlike and imaginary. The painting is exact, and the colors dazzling. The setting is an imaginative child's dream of a jungle. Realism is created through detail. The dream-like quality is created by contrasting the size of the leopard to the flowers.

Questions:

1. Is this painting realistic? (No, somewhat primitive as Rousseau didn't know all the rules of perspective).
2. What are some of the things the artist did that tell you this isn't a photograph? (Flowers, too large, leaves outline, trees too big).
3. Does this painting remind you of a dream? Have you ever had a jungle dream?
4. How do some things appear close and others farther away? (Overlap, size, light or dark, color softened).
5. Pretend you are above the jungle looking down at the palm trees, vines, leaves, flowers, and animals. How would the scene look differently? Draw a jungle scene from this same perspective.