

Kindergarten

Title: "I and My Village" (1911)

Artist: Marc Chagall (Shah-Gahl) (1889-1985) Born in Russia lived in France.

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: The artist organized his composition here by drawing a large circle in the middle of the picture, and making a large x over the top. He then filled the geometric shapes that were formed with little picture to tell a "dream like" story about the village in Russia where he grew up.

Questions:

1. What shapes do you see? (Circle, triangle, etc.).
2. What is the story in this picture about?
3. What kinds of lines do you see? (Curved, straight, diagonal, thick, thin).
4. What colors did Chagall use?
5. What feelings do these colors remind us of? (Happy, warm, exciting, silly, funny). These happy colors make the picture more fun, even if the man has a green face, and the cow is red, white, and blue.

As a project: This is a fun project to do with a class after they have shared a story or movie as a group. Have them draw a circle and cross over the top. Then fill in each space with a little picture from the story. Discuss what the story was about, who the most important characters were, what happened to them, etc. The concept of filling your entire paper with your composition is worth having students experience at a very early stage, and it is easily done in this way. It's easier to fill smaller geometric shapes within the whole paper. A large blank paper can be very intimidating. This is an easy way to teach this technique and overcome that feeling.