

Third Grade

Title: "The Scarecrow"

Artist: Andrew Wyeth (1917) American

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: Andrew Wyeth was born and raised in Pennsylvania and still lives there. His father was an artist, (W.C. Wyeth), and so is his son, Jamie. His father was his teacher. Wyeth exhibits excellent accuracy in his drawing. He is an American Realist Painter. Colors are usually soft, muted, and often monochromatic as in this picture. Wyeth aims at what he sees as the "truth" of his subject. His dry brush water color is very tedious. It takes many months to complete a painting. Wyeth views composition as simple and exact. The vertical division of canvas in "The Scarecrow" looms up out of the flat horizontal plane of the corn field. Contrasts of textures are extremely important to enhancing the mood.

Questions:

1. How many different colors do you see in this painting? It is predominantly one color in varying shades, (light to dark). This use of color is called monochromatic.
2. How has the artist created different textures? (Different types of brushes used, different brush strokes, paint put on thick and heavy, areas without any paint).
3. Knowing that Wyeth grew up in New England, it is possible to imagine that on this crisp fall morning, the inspiration for this painting might have come from the story of Ichabod Crane, (The Headless Horseman).
4. If you had painted this picture yourself, would you have painted the coat a different color? If yes, what kind of mood would that add to the painting?
5. How do you think this artist felt about this time of year? (End of summer, lonesome, sad, melancholy, isolated).
6. If you had walked out across this cornfield on this bright and early morning what kinds of sounds might you have heard? (Birds, dry grass crunch under feet, crows calling, a train, the wind).