

"The Scarecrow"

SPOOKY TREES

(Grade 3 Print: "The Scarecrow" by Wyeth)

This is a fun way to make some trees with twisted and gnarled branches, great for October.

CURRICULUM CONNECTION: Science, seasons, history

ART CONCEPT: Complex pattern networks and exploration of painting techniques with controlled but accidental design (EALR grade 3 # 1.1.1, 1.1.2)

MEDIUM: Cut paper and paint

TIME: 1 hour or less if painting portion is done at an activity center.

GRADE LEVEL: 3

MATERIALS: 9x12 orange construction paper
3x3" yellow construction paper
4 ½" black construction paper
Paste or glue
Scissors
Black tempera paint thin with water
Drinking straw one per student

PROCEDURES:

1. Draw and cut some black silhouette figures from the black paper. Halloween figures, old house, tombstones, fences etc.

2. Cut a circle from yellow paper.
3. Arrange the cut pieces on the black construction paper and paste in place.
4. Dribble the black paint across lower edge of picture.
5. From a low position, blow side ways on the paint to make it spread in little rivulets to create tree trunks and branches.
TEACHER TEST THE PAINT TO SEE IF IT IS THE RIGHT CONSISTENCY. It should be runny enough to flow but thick enough to give a strong black color.
6. Blowing at different angles or using stronger blowing will create a variety of effects. Use a strong winded student to try it out.
7. Warn the students about becoming light headed. Take a break from blowing.
8. Also watch that they don't over do it until you can't see their cutouts. Encourage others to grow more branches higher and wider.