

## Contour Cat

**Objective:** Students will explore the color wheel and use color classifications to create a unique painting.

### Topics & Keywords for Discussion:

**Contour drawing-** a way to outline the shape and form of an object.

**Primary colors-** a group of colors that blend or mix to form ALL OTHER COLORS. In paint, the primary colors are Red, Yellow, Blue.

**Secondary colors-** a group of colors that come from the mixing of 2 primary colors. In paint, the secondary colors are Orange, Green, Purple.

**Tertiary colors-** also known as intermediate colors, these are made of one primary color mixed with one secondary color.

**Warm colors-** any color that is vivid or bold in nature.

**Cool colors-** any color that is calm or soothing in nature.



**Materials:** pencils, black & white oil pastels/crayons, watercolor paper, watercolor paint, paint brushes, cups of water, colored pencils (optional)

**Opening Activity:** Opening activity is REVIEWING (AND COLORING/PAINTING) the color wheel! Make copies in advance! As they work, ask them to differentiate the PRIMARY COLORS (Red, Yellow & Blue), SECONDARY COLORS (Orange, Green, Purple), and TERTIARY COLORS (Red Orange, Yellow Orange, Yellow Green, Blue Green, Blue Violet, Red Violet)... also, review the DIFFERENCE between WARM COLORS and COOL COLORS... Ask students: “what is the WARMEST, HOTTEST thing you can think of? What colors come to mind with all that heat and WARMTH? Now, let’s think: what is the COLDEST thing you can think of? What colors come to mind with all that FREEZING COLD?” Enjoy this song about warm & cool colors: [https://youtu.be/N8yuyekP\\_So](https://youtu.be/N8yuyekP_So)

**Core Activity:** Distribute watercolor paper, and pencils. Distribute 1 cat outline per table and invite students to use their eyes, pencils and paper to quickly draw their OWN contour (outline) drawing of a cat on the watercolor paper. NO TRACING! This should take no more than 5 minutes. Then distribute the black and white oil pastels/crayons. Have students retrace their pencil- line contour cats with black, and then create a WHITE outline outside the black line. These outlines do NOT have to be exact! The white and black crayon lines will RESIST the watercolor paint for the cats and the background. Then, have students use black crayon to draw in a face for their cat and then fill the body with a simple pattern. Have students pick a COOL color for their COOL CAT! They will paint with watercolor in green, blue or violet shades to fill in their cat, and then have them choose a WARM background color and paint the background. Set aside to dry!

**Reflection:** As students clean up and reset the classroom space, ask them to list objects (fruits and veggies are GREAT for this) that display WARM and COOL colors.

