

Title: Watercolor Trees

Grade Level: K-5

Objective: Students will create their own watercolor tree painting for spring/summer season.



Lesson Plan

Materials: Watercolor paper (9" x 12" -90 lb), Watercolor Paint Sets, Watercolor Brushes, Water, Cups (for cleaning brushes), Disposable tablecloths (for protecting workspaces and easy cleanup)

Opening Activity: Discuss the current season with the following question prompts: What season is it? What does it look/feel like outside during this season? What kind of trees and plants do you see during this time of year? What colors are they? Do they leaves fall down or stay on the trees?

Core Activity:

Setup- Lay a disposable tablecloth down on each workspace or table. Set out plastic cups about 1/3 filled with water. Lay out paint sets and enough brushes for each student.

Step 1: Wet the watercolor paper on the bottom half of the page (using just plain water).

Step 2: Then, add green watercolor paint, a small amount at a time.



Step 3: On the top half of the paper, begin adding first water, and then blue watercolor paint. BE PREPARED FOR THE PAINT TO RUN.



Step 4: While the blue paint is STILL WET (this is important!), begin adding dabs of yellow watercolor paint. The yellow paint will blend with the wet blue paint to create shades of green.



Step 5: Continue dabbing until you have a row of big, leafy tree shapes.



Step 6: Add some darker green dabs of watercolor paint on top of the blended yellow dabs. As the paint dries on the paper, the dabs will become more formed and will burst out less.



Step 7: When you are happy with the shape of the trees, let the paper dry. Then, add some tree trunks and branches using watercolor paint or marker.



Reflection:

Watercolor painting is a method in painting when the colors or pigments are made in a water-based solution. Watercolor refers to both the paint and the finished painting. Did you enjoy watercolor painting today? How did you like using watercolor paint? Compare it to other ways of creating such as using markers, crayons, or other types of paint. What is your favorite part about your finished artwork?