

Van Gogh's Starry Night in Oil Pastel



Objectives/Goals: Students will learn the following:

- Landscape
- Creating movement in a drawing

Outcome: Students will create a reproduction of Van Gogh's "Starry Night"

Duration: 2-3hrs

Vocabulary: foreground, background, middleground, depth

Materials: 9x12 in mixed media paper, oil pastel, pencils, erasers, colored pencils, markers

Art History/Featured Artist: Van Gogh, Post Impressionism (characterized by a subjective approach to painting, as artists opted to evoke emotion rather than realism in their work).

Teacher Preparation: Have 2-3 printouts of the starry night and an outline drawing of the starry night on the board/wall.

Activities/Sequence

1. **Review objectives:** Review with students objectives/goals for the project
2. **Input: Make Art History/Cultural Connection**
 - a. Ask students what they see/feel when they look at the painting
 - a. Background on artists or technique:
 - i. He painted over 900 paintings in the space of just 10 years.
 - ii. Unbelievably he only sold one painting in his lifetime, called 'The Red Vineyard'
3. **Provide a quick demonstration of what will be done**



- a. Do a quick step-by-step outline drawing of the starry night explaining it in simple terms. Review with the class where foreground, middleground, and backgrounds are in the painting.

4. Check for understanding

- a. See if any of the students feel doubtful about whether they can do the drawing, if they do remind them to be confident and that you will provide them the secret tools to do the drawing.

5. Guided Practice

- a. Provide students with drawing materials and guide them step-by-step on how to draw the starry night. Refer to the drawing resource provided with this lesson plan to better understand the outline drawing of the painting.
- b. Once more than 3/4 of the students have finished the drawing, review with them how to use the oil pastels, how to blend with them, and how to create the marks in the sky to create a sense of movement.

6. Independent Practice

- a. Assist students as they work on their drawings individually. Once the drawing is done, students may add color.

Ending Project Reflection: See if any students want to volunteer to place their artwork on a wall and have a small group critique based on aesthetics and elements of art used in the drawing. This can be done if there is 5-10 mins left in the class and everyone is finished with their work.

