

CLAUDE MONET

Lesson For Ages 5 - 7



Step 1 - Introducing the Claude Monet Slideshow Guide

MOTIVATION

BEGIN READING HERE


(Hold up a box of crayons with brown and black removed.) I want you to think of colors usually found in a small box of crayons. What colors are missing? **(BROWN AND BLACK)** An artist named Claude Monet started a new way of painting that changed art forever. He didn't use the colors black and brown when he painted. He only liked to use rainbow colors. Do you see brown or black in the rainbow? **(NO)** Let me show you what a painting looked like before Monet changed color in art.

[Click Start Lesson To Begin](#)

1. SLIDE - MONA LISA (Leonardo da Vinci)

Do you recognize this painting? It is one of the most famous paintings in the world? It's the Mona Lisa painted by Leonardo Da Vinci 500 years ago.

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Next 

2. SLIDE – WOMAN WITH A PARASOL

Here is a painting by Monet. Do you see the difference? What changed? **(COLOR, BRIGHTNESS)** This is the artist's wife and oldest son, Jean (John). Can you see the yellow on her dress? What is it from? **(SUNLIGHT)** Can you see where the sunlight and shadows changed the color of the grass? Can you see the brushstrokes of white in the sky? What are those? **(CLOUDS)** He would dab his colors on quickly so you can see the brushstrokes. He did not carefully blend in his paints like in the first painting, *Mona Lisa*.

Before we see more slides of Monet's paintings, let's find out more about his use of color. Have you ever seen a firecracker explode in the sky on the 4th of July? That's how Monet used color, like it exploded into many small separate colors and brushstrokes! Do you think the people of his day liked his new way of painting? **(NO)** People saw his paintings with their blaze of color and thought they were shocking! For 500 years artists had painted in brown and gray tones, so the colors were very dull. Now Monet wasn't using those colors at all! In fact, his work was alive with bright, clear sparkling color. People stared, pointed, and laughed. Do you think Monet felt like quitting when everyone laughed and wouldn't buy his paintings? **(YES)** - [Click Next To Change Slide](#)

3. SLIDE – MONET PORTRAIT BY RENOIR

Monet did not quit, because he was very sure that his new style was the only way to paint. His new way made other artists take notice and question the old ways. Some brave artists tried painting like Monet. They were excited by Monet's enthusiasm and new ideas. This new way of painting with color and short brushstrokes was named IMPRESSIONISM. Can you say that word? Monet was so important to the birth of Impressionism that he is called the "Father of Impressionism."

Can you see what he is holding in his hands? **(PAINT BRUSH AND PAINT PALETTE)** Monet's friend, who painted this portrait, let us know Monet was an artist.

Remember our box of crayons? Have you ever pretended you were a crayon color? Well, today you are going to be crayons! I want you to feel like Monet's rainbow of colors. You are going to be red, yellow, and orange crayons! Try to feel like you're in front of a raging campfire, sitting very close. Try to feel like you're hiking under a bright summer sun. Imagine biting into a red chili pepper. Do you feel warm? The colors you are, red, yellow, and orange, are called WARM COLORS.

What colors are left in the box for you? **(BLUE, GREEN, PURPLE)** That's right, you are blue, green, and purple crayons today. I want you to try very hard to really feel like the colors you are. Think of lying under the shade of a big tree on some dark, green grass. Think of diving into an icy-blue swimming pool. Imagine eating some green grapes from a bowl in the refrigerator. Do you feel cool? **(YES)** The colors blue, green, and purple, are called COOL COLORS.

As we look at the rest of the Monet paintings today, I want you to tell me if he used mostly COOL colors or WARM colors. But this will be a QUIET game. If you see mostly COOL colors, like blue, green, and purple, you will shiver. If you see mostly WARM colors, like red, yellow, and orange, you will fan your face with your hand, because you feel so warm. Some paintings will have both WARM and COOL colors. - **Click Next To Change Slide**

4. SLIDE – HAYSTACKS

Are you fanning your face, because you are WARM colors? Excellent! Do you think you would enjoy painting the same thing over and over again? **(NO, BORING)** Monet, in his later years, liked to study and paint the same things many, many times. Let me tell you a story about the haystacks Monet painted one whole summer.

At his country house near Paris, France, where Monet had gone to live when he became famous, he painted a picture of two haystacks one morning. As he worked in the sun in a broad-brimmed hat, he called out suddenly to his little dark-eyed stepdaughter playing nearby. "*Blanche, my dear Blanche, run to the house just as quickly as you can, and bring me, at once, a fresh canvas for my easel.*" "*But Papa Monet,*" she said when she returned

and handed him the canvas, “what do you want with this one? You already have one on your easel!” He took off the unfinished canvas and replaced it with the new one. “But child, as the light changes, the colors change. And so I have to start a new painting of the haystacks, because I must catch the new colors!” Many times that day he called to her. And many times she brought him a new canvas. Before night came, he had started fifteen different paintings, each one catching a different color as the light changed.

Do you see dark shadows? **(YES)** Remember that Monet did not use brown or black paint on his palette. How do you think he got those dark shadows? **(MIXED COLORS)** Yes, he could mix his rainbow colors in special ways to get his dark shadows.

Here is another of Monet’s haystacks he painted. Will you be COOL or WARM colors? Remember to shiver or fan your face. - **Click Next To Change Slide**

5. SLIDE – GRAINSTACKS IN SNOW

Are you both WARM and COOL colors? **(YES)** This painting has COOL colors in the background and WARM colors in the haystack. What color did he paint the haystack? **(ORANGE)** Yes, it does look like dark orange from far away, but if you look very closely, you can see that Monet dabbed other colors on his haystack. **(POINT OUT COLORS ON SLIDE)** Monet loved to show his rainbow colors! Look carefully and tell me what is different from the last haystack painting you just saw. **(SHADOWS, COLORS, BACKGROUND)** Would you have been as interested in painting haystacks as Monet was? Would you like to see another painting of Claude Monet and his wife, Camille?

Click Next To Change Slide

6. SLIDE - MONET’S FLOATING STUDIO

A friend of Claude Monet painted this. Why do you suppose Monet wanted to paint while floating around in a boat? **(CATCH CHANGING COLORS AND LIGHT)** Monet loved to paint picture after picture of water with all its changing colors and light. Do you think painting on a boat was a clever idea?

When Monet became famous, he moved his family to a big house in the country near a town called Giverny (zhe-ver’-nee). Can you guess what colors he painted his house?

Click Next To Change Slide

7. SLIDE – PHOTO OF ARTIST’S HOME AT GIVERNY

Did you guess pink with green shutters? Do you think Monet had a pet cat like this one? Do you like to garden? Monet loved to garden and designed all his own landscaping. When he first moved to the house, the garden was full of weeds. After a lot of hard work, Monet turned the land into a beautiful garden that he could paint over and over again.

Use your imaginations and picture him at work. He had a long snow-white beard; he wore boots, fashionable trousers, and a frilled shirt every day. He worked outdoors under large umbrellas for protection from the sun. How many of you would like to have been there in the garden watching him paint? Today, the house and gardens are kept as a museum that people can visit. The flowers that you see are the same kinds of flowers that Monet painted when he lived there. Let's see what Monet added to his garden to make it very special. - [Click Next To Change Slide](#)

8. SLIDE - BRIDGE PHOTO - FULL VIEW

Do you see anything that is shaped like a rainbow? **(BRIDGE)** Monet decided that his pond full of water lilies needed a small bridge. He looked and looked for different designs until he found a picture of the perfect bridge in a book of art from Japan. It was shaped like a rainbow, just like the rainbow colors he liked to use. After the bridge was built, he called it the Japanese Bridge and painted it many times.

[Click Next To Change Slide](#)

9. SLIDE – JAPANESE BRIDGE AT GIVERNY, 1900

Remember our quiet game with color? **(SHIVER)** Good, you were COOL colors, because there is so much green. Do you see each water lily in detail? **(NO)** He used dabs of colors to show flowers, but didn't paint each petal in detail. Would you like to spend time here? Why or why not? How does this painting make you feel? **(RELAXED, COOL, SHADY, QUIET)**

As Monet got older, he started to have serious problems with his eyesight. It became very hard for him to paint, because he could not see very well. Let's see if you recognize what he painted in the next slide. - [Click Next To Change Slide](#)

10. SLIDE – JAPANESE BRIDGE 1918-1924

Let me give you a clue: rainbow-shaped. What was he trying to paint? **(JAPANESE BRIDGE)** You can barely see the bridge shape. Let's play our quiet color game. **(FAN FACE)** He could see only WARM colors on his PALETTE. His eyesight became so bad that he had an operation on his eyes, and he was able to see well enough again to paint like this next painting. - [Click Next To Change Slide](#)

11. SLIDE - WATER LILIES

After painting the pond many times, he stopped including the bridge and only painted the water where water lilies floated like flowering rafts. Do you see the shoreline? **(NO)** Do you see any sky? **(NO)** Does the water look deep or shallow? **(DEEP)** Why? **(COLOR, SHADOWS)**

Let's play our quiet game with color. **(SHIVER)** He used beautiful COOL colors. He wanted to make you feel calm and peaceful when you look at his water lily paintings. Do you feel that way? Good, then Monet would be glad. **(DO NOT advance to next slide yet).**

Are you ready to play an art game about color? I will say a word, and if it reminds you of COOL colors, what will you do? **(SHIVER)** If I say a word that reminds you of WARM colors, what will you do? **(FAN YOUR FACE)** Are you ready?

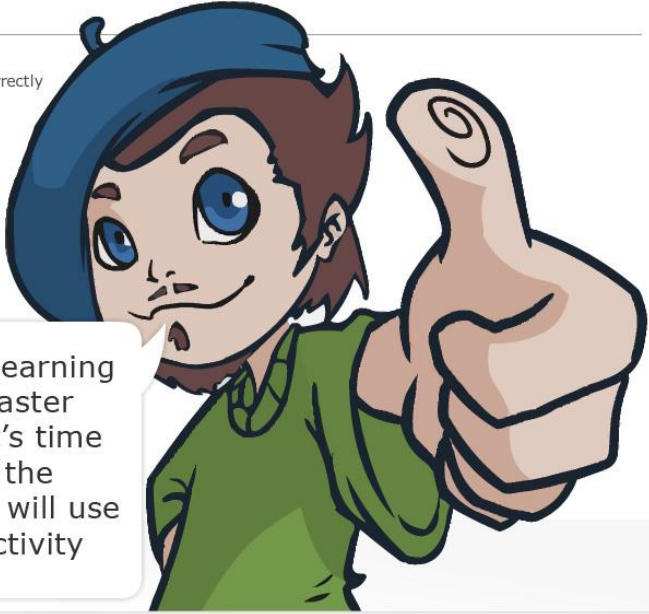
[Click Next To Begin Quiz](#)

Quiz Questions And Answers:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Sunshine | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 2. Haystacks by Monet | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 3. Blue | Cool (Shiver) |
| 4. Water Lilies by Monet | Cool (Shiver) |
| 5. Yellow | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 6. Purple | Cool (Shiver) |
| 7. Orange | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 8. Fire | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 9. Water | Cool (Shiver) |
| 10. Red | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 11. Green | Cool (Shiver) |
| 12. Summer | Warm (Fan your face) |
| 13. Winter | Cool (Shiver) |

Lesson Finished

You have answered
10 out of 10 questions correctly



Did you enjoy learning about our Master Artist? Now it's time to practice the techniques you will use in your art activity

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When complete,
click Back To
Units

Step 2 - Learning From: Monet's Colors

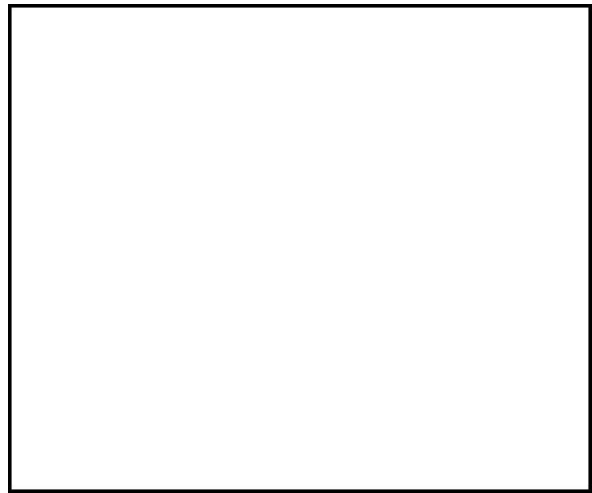
Using Colors to Show Feelings

Claude Monet gave special feelings to his paintings with colors.

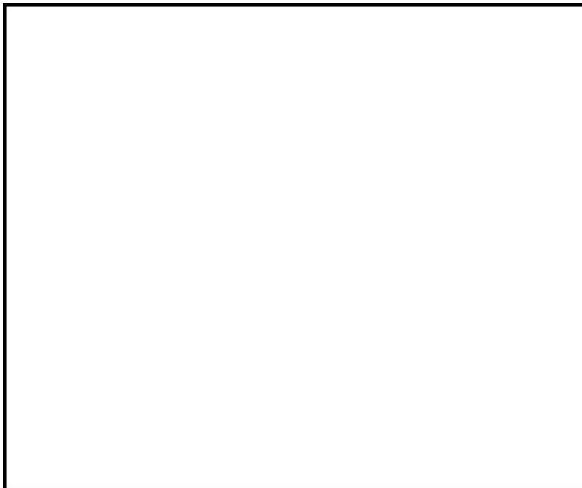
Use colors instead of pictures to show the feeling of the word below each frame. Fill each frame with stripes of colors that remind you of the word below it.



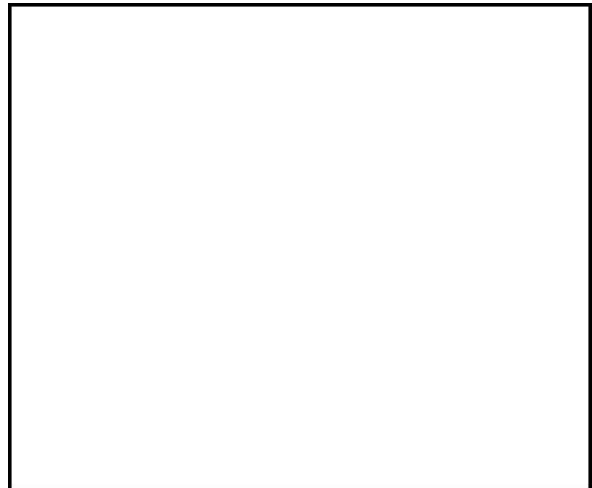
Hot



Soft



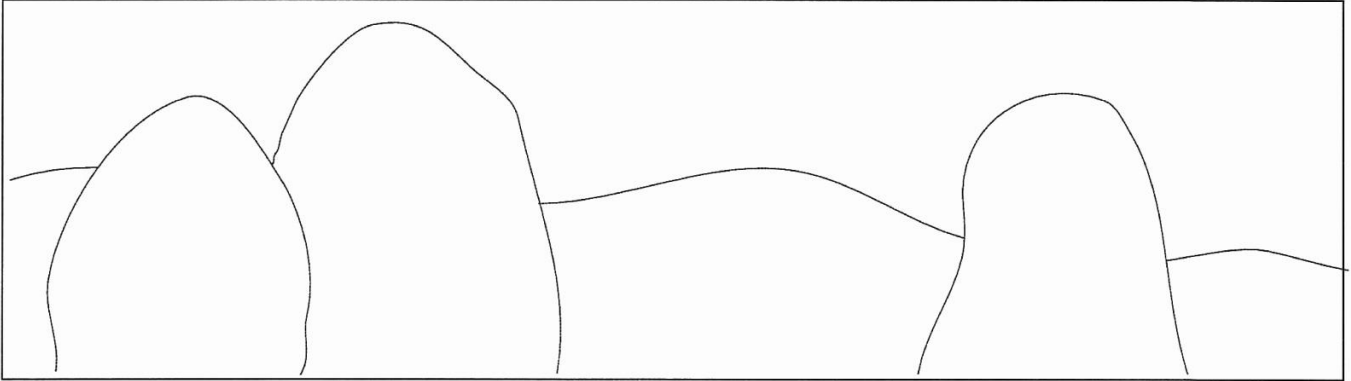
Bright



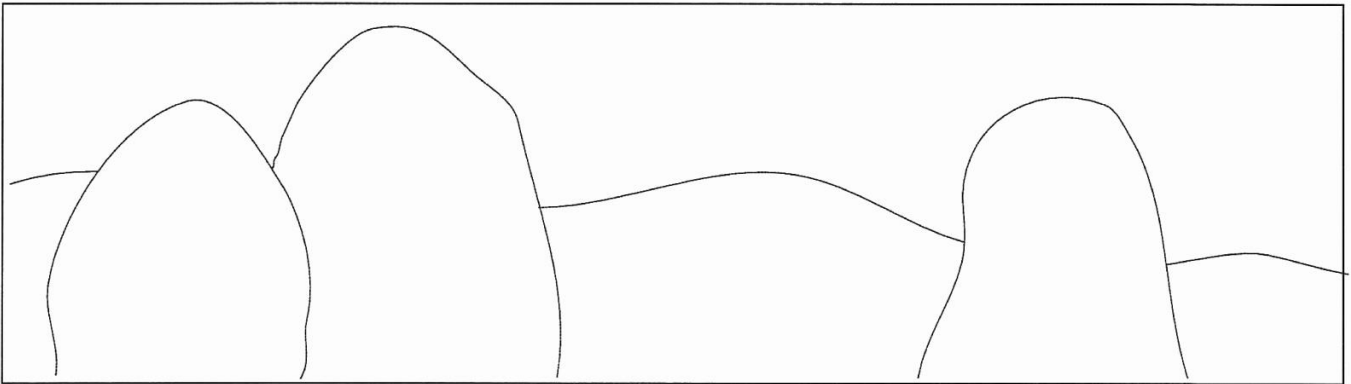
Strong

Warm and Cool Colors

Colors most like the sun are called warm colors.
Claude Monet used warm colors to paint sunny places.
Color the haystacks below using warm colors.
Warm colors are yellow, orange and red.



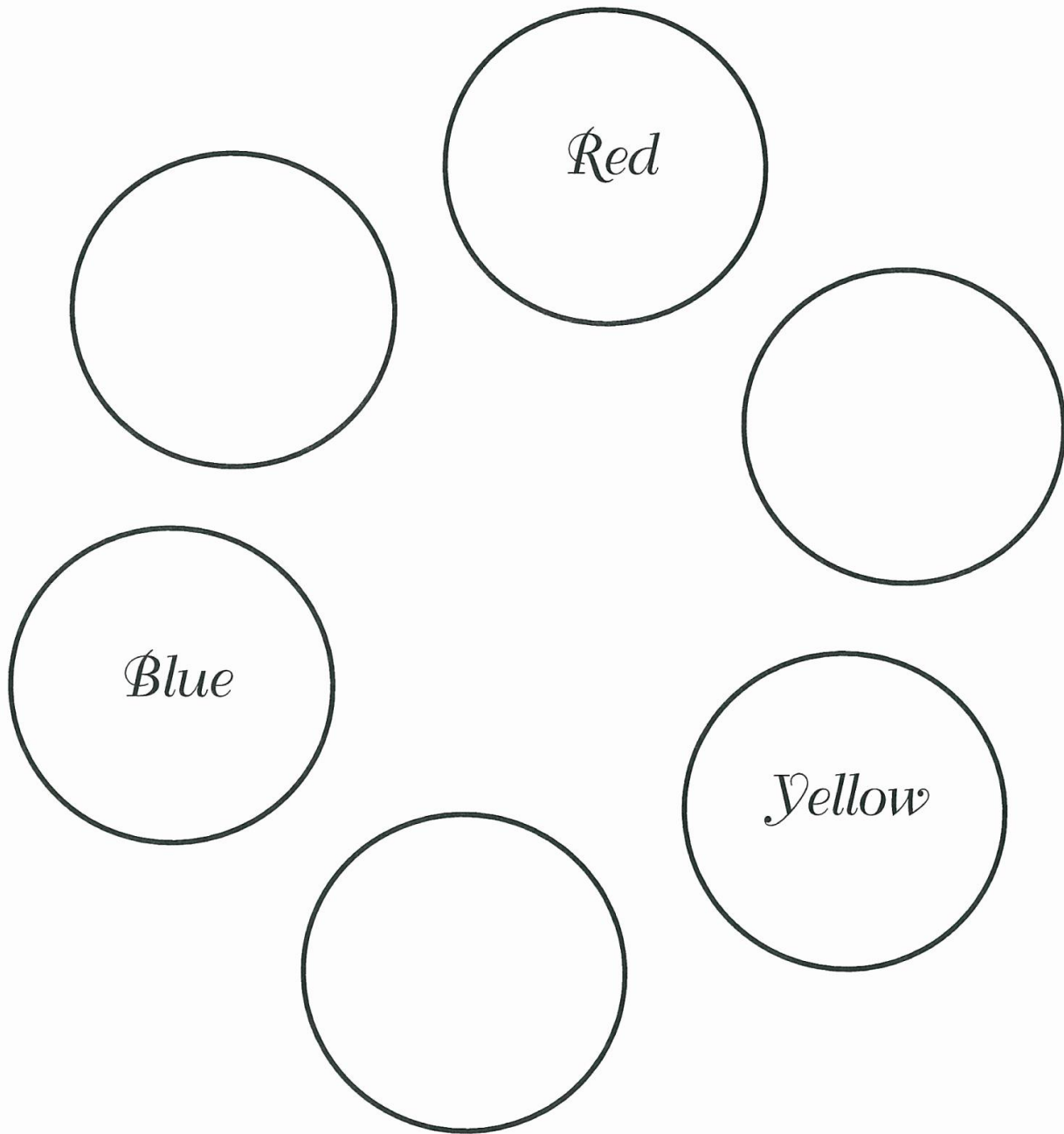
Monet used cool colors to paint shady places.
Color the haystacks below using cool colors.
Cool colors are blue, purple and green



- Use a warm color to circle the best word:
- 1.The (warm, cool) picture makes me feel quiet.
 - 2.The (warm, cool) picture seems closer to me.
 - 3.I like the (warm, cool) picture the best

Save this page for the Color Wheel Project.

The Impressionist's Color Wheel



ARTIST PROFILE SLIPS

The last few pages of this section contain the Art Activity for Claude Monet. This step-by-step outline will be a guide for instructing your child(ren) through the activity. The parent/teacher should review all steps necessary to complete this project before beginning any work.

Cut out the Artist Profile Slip below and attach it to the back of your completed art project.

Claude Monet

(moe-NAY) - French (1840-1926)

Monet earned the title, “Father of Impressionism” by leading innovative artists to break with tradition and see the world with a fresh eye where light and color reigned. The techniques of Impressionism were discovered through viewing the masterpieces created by Monet.

Art Activity Emphasis: Color, Theory, Color Wheels

Media: Tempera Paint, Q-tips

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Step 3 - Working With: Art Activity Instructions

ARTIST

CLAUDE MONET (moe-NAY)
(1840-1926) French

TECHNIQUE

Q-tip painting

ART ELEMENT

Color

EMPHASIS

Impressionistic painting

MEDIA

Tempera

VISUAL

Print: *The River*

VOCABULARY

Impressionism, primary, secondary,
color wheel, palette, vertically

SUGGESTED MUSIC

Impressionistic Music

MATERIALS FOR INSTRUCTOR AND CHILDREN

One paper plate
One 9" x 12" sheet of light blue construction
paper
One 12" x 18" sheet of newsprint
(placemat)
Four Q-tips
Paper towel
Artist Profile Slip

Extra Q-tips
Tempera paint in red, yellow and blue
(add about two teaspoons of each color
onto the paper plate "palette")
One blank color wheel from Learning
Packet
Crayons (red, yellow and blue)

PREPARATION

Place a blank color wheel and the Monet print in front of you on the workspace. Arrange materials for instructor nearby.

SET-UP [5 minutes]

Distribute the following materials to each child:

SUPPLIES: Four Q-tips

PAPER: One 12" x 18" sheet of newsprint, one 9" x 12" sheet of light blue construction paper, paper towel, and the artist profile slip.

PAINTS: one paper plate palette with red, yellow and blue paint.

ORIENTATION [5 minutes]

Can you name the artist of this painting? (MONET) Correct! How did he apply his paint, did he use broad sweeping strokes or little dabs? (LITTLE DABS) Good! His way of painting was called IMPRESSIONISM. Today you are going to paint a COLOR WHEEL. A color wheel has colors arranged in a special way. It shows how they can be mixed. If Monet painted a color wheel, how do you think it would look? (DABS OF LIGHT AND COLOR) Good! You will paint your color wheel like Monet did, with dots and dabs. When we have completed the color wheel and practiced dabbing, we will paint a tree in the same impressionistic style. Let's get organized so we can begin!

DEMONSTRATION AND ACTIVITY [20 minutes]

ORGANIZING YOUR MATERIALS AND WORK AREA

Your paper plate will be your palette and your Q-tips will be your brushes. Move your blank color wheel to the center of your work area on top of your newsprint. Arrange your paper plate palette to one side. Keep your Q-tip brushes on your paper towel. Set your construction paper and artist profile slip out of the way.

PAINTING THE COLOR WHEEL

PAINT THE PRIMARY COLORS

Today we will paint together. How would Monet have painted the circle marked "yellow?" (DABS OF PAINT) Let's do this together. Dip one Q-tip into your yellow paint and dab the color into the circle marked "yellow." Press gently and use the **side** of the Q-tip. You may leave some white showing through, as Monet would have. You may cover the line if you wish. When you have filled your circle, rest your yellow Q-tip on your scrap paper. **Follow this same technique with the children for the red and blue circles.** Use a clean Q-tip for each.

PAINT THE SECONDARY COLORS

When mixing color, always begin with the lightest color.

ORANGE:

What two colors mixed together will make orange? (RED AND YELLOW) When you mix two primary colors you get a SECONDARY color. To make the secondary color orange:

1. Pick up your yellow Q-tip, scoop up some yellow paint with it, then dab it into the circle between the yellow and red circles. Put your yellow Q-tip down and pick up your red one.
2. Scoop up some red paint and add it to the yellow in the "orange" circle.
3. Dab it just until it looks orange (**Warning: stirring will work the paint through the paper**).

PURPLE:

To make the secondary color purple, which two primary colors should you use? (RED AND BLUE)

1. Use your blue Q-tip to dab the blue and the red to mix purple.
2. Which circle do you think will be filled with purple? (BETWEEN RED AND BLUE)

GREEN:

Which two primary colors will make green? (YELLOW AND BLUE) Use your yellow Q-tip to mix

the yellow and blue. The green will be in the circle between the blue and yellow.

GUIDANCE

Remind the children: Be gentle with the Q-tips when dabbing. Use the sides and not the very tips of the Q-tips. Leave some white paper showing through, as the Impressionists did.

PAINTING THE TREE

Now that we have completed the color wheel and practiced dabbing, let's continue and paint a tree in the impressionist style.

GUIDANCE

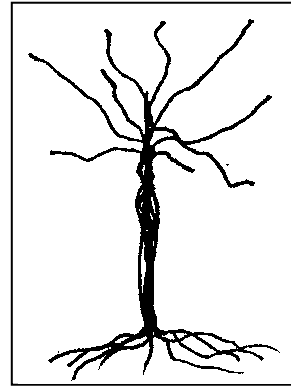
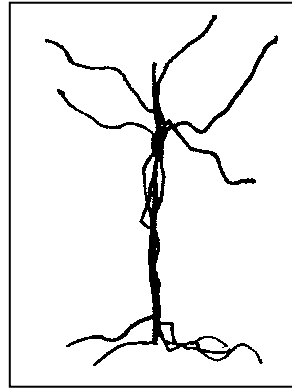
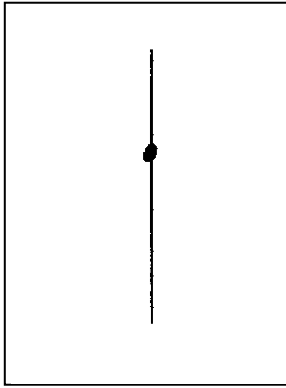
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PAINTING THE TREE

Now that we have completed the color wheel and practiced dabbing, let's continue and paint a tree in the impressionist style.

DRAWING THE TREE TRUNK [5 minutes]

Place your blue paper vertically (**Demonstrate**) on your work area on top of your newsprint. You will make a tree trunk with your red, yellow and blue crayons. Using your pencil, lightly draw a straight up and down line in the middle of your paper to serve as a guide for the tree trunk. The line will begin one hand's width from the bottom of the paper and end one hand's width from the top of the paper. Place a dot about halfway up the line. Imagine that your tree roots grow up from the ground to this dot. After they reach this dot, they branch outward in different directions toward the sky. Now make the trunk with your crayons. Starting at the root, make a curvy line that goes over the straight line and up to create the branches of the tree. Repeat 9-11 times using your red, yellow and blue crayons.



PAINTING THE LEAVES AND THE FOREGROUND [12 minutes]

Now you will paint the leaves using the dabbing and blending methods you practiced on the color wheel. Remember to use the side of the Q-tip – **not the tip!**

Your colors will mix on your "canvas." Remember to begin with lighter colors, dabbing darker colors on top of the lighter colors. Use the same colors that you used to make the leaves to create the foreground. The foreground is made up of leaves that have fallen.

MOUNTING THE ARTIST PROFILE SLIP [2 minutes]

(Profile slips for each artist are provided. They give a brief description of the artist, the technique, and the media used in the art activity. They should be mounted on the back of each art project after it is completed.)

1. Write your name on the front of the artist profile slip.
2. Using glue, mount the profile slip on the back of your artwork.
3. Encourage children to discuss their artwork with others using this artist slip of information.

CONCLUSION

Let's have an Impressionist Art Exhibit to show your magnificent color and light-filled trees!
(Hold up artwork) Monet hung his landscape paintings, like yours, in a gallery. Our home is our gallery! **(Point out: Impressionist brush-strokes, colors, shape of trees)**

THIS CONCLUDES THE CLAUDE MONET UNIT.