PABLO PICASSO

Lesson For Ages 8 - 9
Step 1 - Introducing the Master Artist: Slideshow Guide

MOTIVATION

BEGIN READING HERE

Today let’s pretend that you have a father who is a famous artist. He wants to paint your portrait so you pose for him in his studio. He is going to paint you twice. In the first portrait you will be sitting in a chair wearing a clown costume. The second one also has you sitting in a chair, but this time you will be holding an orange, which is your favorite fruit. Do you think the portraits will be similar in style, because the same artist painted them? Let’s see how this famous artist painted his children.

Click Start Lesson To Begin

1. & 2. PAUL AS HARLEQUIN and PALOMA WITH ORANGE

Show slide 1 for 3-4 seconds, then show slide 2

Does this look like the same artist painted both portraits? (NO) Are the styles different from each other? (YES) The same artist painted BOTH pictures. Are you surprised? The first portrait is a realistic painting of the artist’s son, Paul. Does the second portrait look realistic? (NO) He painted his daughter, Paloma, in an ABSTRACT style, which means it does not look real; it does not look like a photograph.

The styles are different because he kept on changing the way he painted. He was never content to stay with what was successful. His painting styles would become popular and other artists would begin to copy him. Then he would be off trying something completely new. That is one reason why he is one of the most famous artists of the 1900’s. Let’s meet today’s master artist and find out how and why his work changed.

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3. SELF-PORTRAIT

Let me introduce Pablo Picasso. This self-portrait was painted when he was twenty-five years old. He was born in Spain but lived in France most of his life. He was introduced to art very early in life because his father was a painter and an art teacher. He learned to draw before he could even walk or talk! He was so good at drawing that he entered an art school at age fourteen. Most of the other students were over twenty years old, but young Picasso was more talented.
Pablo had two sides to him that we can’t see in this self-portrait. One side was fun loving and silly. But he had many unhappy times in his life, too. Which side is he showing us here? (SERIOUS, SAD) After he left art school he had some hard years as an artist. He was unknown, he was hungry, and he was lonely. The paintings he did during this time showed how he felt. He was very unhappy.

Has this ever happened to you? When the sun is shining and you feel happy inside, everyone you meet seems happy, too. But when you’re in a bad mood or sick, everyone around you seems unhappy. When we are feeling sad, we sometimes say we feel "blue." Have you ever heard that expression? - Click Next To Change Slide

### 4. THE BLIND MAN’S MEAL

Have you ever heard the expression, "feeling blue?" Does that mean you’re feeling sad or happy? (SAD) When Picasso painted this he was feeling lonely, poor, and depressed. When Picasso arrived in Paris he spent some unhappy years there as a struggling, young artist. Do those feelings show in this painting? (YES) This time in his life is called his BLUE PERIOD. What colors did he use most? (BLUES, DARK COLORS) Is blue a warm or cool color? (COOL)

Look closely at this man in the painting. Can you tell me what is physically wrong with him? (BLIND) Look how his fingers nervously reach out for the pitcher on the table. Picasso emphasized the sense of touch so important to a blind person. The title of this painting is The Blind Man’s Meal. Picasso had an intense fear of losing his own eyesight, even though there was nothing wrong with him on which to base this fear.

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### 5. OLD GUITARIST

During his Blue Period Picasso always painted in blue colors and all the subjects appeared very sad, to match his own mood. He also showed the people as very tall and thin like the “Old Guitarist”, who is also blind. Picasso changed the way they really looked to make them appear even more pitiful. - Click Next To Change Slide

### 6. FAMILY OF SALTIMBANQUES

Can you determine whether this painting shows Picasso’s colors getting warmer or cooler? (WARMER) That’s correct! Picasso started to use warm colors as his own life became happier. Have you heard the expression, "life is rosy?" Are things good or bad when "life is rosy?" (GOOD) Picasso was beginning to gain notice as an artist, making it possible to sell some of his paintings. Picasso’s Rose Period followed his Blue Period. These paintings have somewhat happier, lighter and warmer colors, like you see here. What warm colors do we find in this painting? (ORANGE, ROSE, PINK, RED, BROWN) Picasso still used blue colors, but he made the painting happier looking by adding warm colors like rose.
Do you like to go to the circus? Picasso loved the circus. He became friends with some of the performers and traveled around with them as they went from town to town doing their shows. Most of the Rose Period paintings were of circus people. This painting shows a circus family wearing their costumes.

When you go to a circus, how does it make you feel? (EXCITED, HAPPY) Did Picasso show the circus family that way? (NO) Did he show them performing? (NO) Maybe he wanted to show that circus life was not always happy and exciting behind the scenes when they weren’t performing.

If you saw this original painting in a museum, you would be surprised at how large it is! It measures 7 feet tall and 7 feet wide.

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7. MOTHER AND SON

Is this a Rose Period painting? (YES) How can you tell? (USED WARM COLORS, CIRCUS COSTUME) This mother and son are looking a little bit tired after their acrobatic performance in the circus. They have sat down for a meal and the boy is still wearing his costume.

I think you will be surprised at how Picasso changes in this next painting. Create a picture of three musicians in your mind. Ready?

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8. THREE MUSICIANS

Was this a surprise? Did Picasso change his style of art completely in this painting? (YES) Picasso didn’t paint his musicians in regular clothes. He painted them in circus clown outfits. Look closely at the painting for answers to my questions. How many musical instruments can you find? (THREE) How many music books are there? (ONE) How many violins can you find? (ONE)

That’s very good! Can you identify the three instruments? (VIOLIN, KEYBOARD, HORN) But why does this painting look so strange? He emphasized different shapes and forms and then mixed up all those views to make it like a puzzle we have to put together. This style of painting is called CUBISM, named after the cube.

Let’s solve the puzzle with one more search: Can you find the side view of the clown’s face somewhere other than on his face? (ON THE CLOWN’S CHEST, PART OF THE INSTRUMENT)

Point It Out On The Screen Click Next
9. MANDOLIN AND GUITAR

Tell me, do you think this is a Cubist painting? (YES) What do you see that is similar to Three Musicians? (MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS) Picasso loved music, and musical instruments can be found in many of his paintings. The musical instruments you see here are a guitar and mandolin. What color is the guitar? (WHITE)

Another feature of Cubism is showing all sides of objects. If you look carefully at the yellow mandolin you will be able to see what I mean. Can you find the top, side, and bottom view of the instrument?

Let’s turn our attention to the bright colors Picasso used. He keeps our eyes exploring the painting by repeating the designs and colors. Let’s go on a color search! Notice the blues in the sky. Can you find where Picasso repeated that same blue? (WALL, UNDER TABLE, WITH INSTRUMENTS) That’s good color searching.

Are you ready for PATTERN search? How would you define PATTERN? (LINE, SHAPE OR COLOR THAT REPEATS) Find where he repeated the checkered design above the window. (FLOOR, UNDER TABLE) Picasso was talented at making our eyes explore every detail! - Click Next To Change Slide

10. PORTRAIT OF DORA MAAR

Even though they helped make Picasso very famous, his cubist style portraits sometimes look a little strange! He used solid colors, angles and shapes rather than realistic details. Let’s see how he was able to show more than one view of a face in the same painting.

Hold up your hand in front of your eyes (you can use a piece of paper placed over the monitor, if desired) so that it blocks the right side of the woman’s face. You should only be able to see the left side of the woman’s face, the side that shows her hand. (POINT OUT ON SCREEN) Is that a front or side view of her face? (FRONT) That eye is looking forward. Now move your hand so that it blocks the side we were just looking at. You are now looking at the right side of her face. (POINT OUT ON SCREEN) Is that a front or side view of her face? (SIDE VIEW) Another word for sideview is PROFILE. Notice that the eye, nose, and mouth are turned sideways.

Picasso did not paint hair on the PROFILE side, because her face is turned. Notice we can see hair on the front view side. In this portrait he combined a front view and a profile view all in one face! - Click Next To Change Slide

11. PHOTO OF MARBLE HEAD

Picasso took a trip to Italy and saw many beautiful museum sculptures that were made long ago. These sculptures were made of marble, which is a very hard stone. It comes in many colors but the sculptures Picasso saw were mostly in white marble. Some of these
sculptures are so old that only parts of them remain. This head is all that is left of a sculpture that was made more than 2,000 years ago. This kind of art made by the ancient Greeks and Romans is called CLASSICAL.

Picasso loved the smooth, rounded shapes of these sculptures. When he went back to France he was inspired to recreate what he saw. - Click Next To Change Slide

12. CLASSICAL HEAD

Instead of sculpting marble as the artists of long ago had done, he did paintings of very smooth, rounded people that look like they had been carved out of marble. He used warm, rich colors and sometimes dressed the people in the same clothing and hairstyles that he saw on the marble statues in the museums. Picasso’s new way of painting was called the CLASSICAL PERIOD just like the ancient art he had seen.

Now we know Picasso through paintings. Let’s review his life through what we’ve learned about his painting styles. When he was a young, struggling artist he painted sad things - his Blue Period. We know he began to gain attention as an artist and his paintings began to sell. He was happier, got married, and his style changed to the Rose Period. Remember what came next? He broke things up into many views, showed shapes, and used his imagination. What was this period called? (CUBISM) Then he became interested in the art of long ago on a visit to Italy and changed again to his Classical Period. Are all the styles quite different from each other? (YES) Let’s use all this knowledge of Picasso’s styles by playing a game!

Click Next Finish Pierre’s Game.

When complete, click Back To Units
Step 2 - Learning From: Picasso’s Composition

Shape and Lines

In each empty box below, draw the shape from the left box. The 1/8 note has been completed as an example.

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Cubism

This is part of the drawing that you will use for your project.

Do you know what musical instrument this is?

The four pieces of the “puzzle” have been moved around.

This is what Picasso did in Cubism.

Color the puzzle pieces with a variety of colors.
Save this page for your Art Activity.
Artist Profile Slip

The last few pages of this section contain the Art Activity for Pablo Picasso. 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.

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Pablo Picasso

(pee-KAH soe) - Spanish (1881-1973)

The genius of Picasso allowed a review of the art elements previously introduced - *line, shape, balance, and texture*. The children investigated Picasso’s varied styles and were able to trace the transformation of this artist during his different periods of art.

**Art Activity Emphasis:** Cubist Compositions
**Media:** Cut Paper, Chalk

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Step 3 - Working With: Art Activity Instructions

PICASSO’S COMPOSITION  Ages 8-9

ARTIST
Pablo Picasso (pee-KAH-soe)
(1881 - 1973)
Spanish

VOABULARY
Cubism, right brain, abstract, composition, technique, line, color, stain

ART ELEMENTS
Composition

VISUAL
Print: Three Musicians

MEDIA
Black marker and chalk stain

SUGGESTED MUSIC
Music of the 1900’s or Spanish Flamenco Guitar

EMPHASIS
Cubist composition with line, shape and color

MATERIALS FOR INSTRUCTOR AND CHILDREN

One 11" x 11" white construction paper
One 12" x 12" colored construction paper (variety of bright colors: blue, green, orange, violet, etc.)
One 8.5" x 11" sheet of scrap paper
Tissue
Artist profile slip (page 9)
One black marker
Bright colored chalk
Guitar Line Drawing from Learning Packet (page 8)
Glue Stick (not white glue!)
Scissors
Pencil

PREPARATION
Display the Picasso art print, the 11" x 11" white paper, and the Guitar Line Drawing where they can be easily seen. Have black marker, colored chalk, tissue, glue stick and 12" x 12" colored construction paper close by.

SET-UP [ 5 minutes ]

Distribute the following materials to each child:
SUPPLIES: Black markers, chalk, and tissue
PAPER: One 11" x 11" white, one 12" x 12" colored construction paper, one scrap paper, and the artist profile slip.

ORIENTATION [ 5 minutes ]

Do you remember which country Pablo Picasso was from? (SPAIN) What is the name of
Picasso’s style of art that looks like a puzzle? (CUBISM) Picasso tried to show more than one view or side of an object with his Cubism. He also made objects into simple, basic shapes. What do we mean when we say Picasso’s cubism is abstract? (IT DOES NOT LOOK REAL) What things do you remember seeing in Picasso’s cubist paintings? (MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, PEOPLE, AND STILL-LIFE OBJECTS) Do you think puzzles are fun? (YES!) Picasso’s cubist style is fun too. Let’s get ready to create a cubist composition!

DEMONSTRATION AND ACTIVITY

ORGANIZING YOUR MATERIALS AND WORK AREA [ 5 minutes ]

1. Put your chalk, black marker, tissue and artist profile slip in a corner of your work space.
2. Put your 11" x 11" white construction paper on top of your colored 12" x 12" construction paper, and carefully center it. Trace around the white square carefully with your pencil.
3. Print your name on the back of colored 12" x 12" paper, and set it aside.
4. Put your Guitar Line Drawing (from Learning Packet) on top of your white construction paper in the middle of your desk.

FOLDING PAPERS FOR DRAWING AND CUTTING GUIDELINES [ 5 minutes ]

1. Following the dotted lines, cut the top and bottom off of the Guitar Line Drawing.
2. Carefully fold the Guitar Line Drawing in half matching corners. Open it up, and fold it in half again, matching corners in the other direction.
3. Now we will do the same with our 11" x 11" white construction paper by first carefully folding it in half matching corners. Open it up, and then fold it in half again, matching corners to form four equal sections.
4. Open both up and lay flat. These fold lines will act as guidelines.

RIGHT BRAIN DRAWING [ 15 minutes ]

Do this with me - Put your finger on your nose and draw an imaginary line (Demonstrate) up to the top of your head and down to your neck, dividing your brain in two pieces. Did you know that each side of your brain is good at different things? Today we will use the right side (point) to do our drawings. We will be drawing upside down to fool the left side of our brain. We will look at just a few lines at a time. This method forces our eyes to look hard at the lines we are drawing, and not just draw what "we think" we see. Our drawing will improve immensely as we learn that drawing well with our hand is truly learning to see with our eyes. In order to draw using the right brain method, it is important to turn off as many left brain jobs
as possible. Therefore let’s draw quietly without talking, as talking uses which side of our brain? (THE LEFT)

1. Now put the white construction paper in the middle of your work area and the Guitar Line Drawing upside down on your left (reverse for left-handed children).

2. Using pencils, give the 5 suggested guide dots to the children to mark on their white paper. These can help the students with placing their lines. (See Figure 1)

3. Now copy the lines from the drawing to your paper. It may help to cover most of your Line Drawing with your scrap paper, so that we look and draw just a few lines at a time. Your drawing will be larger, and it will also be upside down! Slide the scrap paper down as you go. (See Figure 2)

4. Try to picture the lines filling the paper. Point out how the folded lines, squares and dots can help to place the lines where they belong, and enlarge the drawing.

**USING THE BLACK MARKERS** [5 minutes]

When you finish, turn your drawing right side up. Draw over all your "best" pencil lines with the black marker. Any pencil showing can be erased lightly.

**CUTTING, MOUNTING & CREATING YOUR CUBIST COMPOSITION** [7 minutes]

* Use glue sticks, as white glue is too wet!!

1. Carefully cut along the two fold lines to form four squares.

2. Set the four squares on top of your colored 12" x 12" construction paper. Turn and arrange them like a puzzle in a new, interesting way. They need to fit within the square, penciled outline.

3. When happy with your composition, glue down with a glue stick leaving no colored paper showing within your design. Overlap slightly, if necessary, to avoid colored paper showing.

4. Now additional lines can be added with the black marker to break up the space or complete a shape.
THE PASTEL STAIN [5 minutes]

To finish our Picasso Cubist Composition we will add a colorful stain. A stain is color that is lightly rubbed onto a picture. We will now create a chalk palette on our scrap paper by firmly rubbing a spot of each color. Using your tissue, wrap it around your finger and rub it on a color spot on your palette. Then apply the color to your composition. (Demonstrate) The colors will stay soft enough to let your wonderful, black lines show through. Very small shapes such as the pegs on the guitar, or the heads of the drumsticks, can be colored with the chalk sticks. Let's make it very colorful, as Picasso loved to do with his Cubist work.

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

Do your Cubist compositions look like mixed-up puzzles? Let’s take a look as you exhibit your creations. I see great colors and shapes! Did you enjoy Cubism?

THIS CONCLUDES THE PABLO PICASSO UNIT.