



Grade: 1st

Artist: Georgia O’Keeffe

Preparation by Awesome Art Coordinator:

- There is a blue box labeled “1st Grade” in the supply closet on the 1st floor near the 4th & 5th grade classrooms with all the supplies needed for the presentation and project. The Awesome Art coordinator will go through the box to make sure that all materials are replenished.

- Each classroom needs a bag/box that contains:

- ✓ cardstock for children to paint on
- ✓ palettes to pour paint into
- ✓ fine tip paint brushes
- ✓ paper towels
- ✓ copies of viewfinders
- ✓ paint
- ✓ baby wipes (to clean paint)
- ✓ clothespins (to pin artwork to garden fence for it to dry)

What do parent volunteers need to do to prepare?

- Students will paint, inspired by nature just as Georgia O’Keeffe did. Please email your classroom teacher a few days ahead of the lesson, letting them know that children will be painting outside for part of this project. Also, inform the teacher that you will need to place the paintings somewhere in the classroom to dry. Children will convene on the blacktop by the playground for the **second part** of the lesson. (The lesson will start inside).

- **A few days before the lesson**, stop by the main office to pick up a folder of viewfinders for your class. You will cut out the marked lens on each one. Please cut out enough for each child to get one. When you email your teacher, ask how many children there are in the class.

- On the day of your lesson, make sure that you sign into the office and get there early so that you give yourself time to set up the materials, particularly pouring paint into the palettes.
- Before you see the students: Make sure that you have filled at least 10 pallets with different colored paints. Children will share pallets with a buddy. You can keep them outside (on the blacktop by the playground) since children will be painting outside.

Presentation Instructions:

Part 1: Part 1 of the lesson will be done inside.

(Note: The Powerpoint has these steps outlined. Pull up the Powerpoint to guide you through them and for visual references for the children.)

Step 1: Provide the students with the first objective of the lesson (Slide 2)

- You will inform the children that they will learn about Georgia O’Keeffe, who contributed to modern art. Modern art gives the artist choice as to what to draw or paint or photograph. Modern art is expressive and free. Artwork does not have to look exactly like the objects that are being drawn or painted or photographed.

Step 2: Analyze Georgia O’Keeffe’s works and discuss why they are classified as modern (Slides 3 -5)

- Remind the students that modern art gives the artist choice and expression. The art does not have to look like the object that the artist is drawing/photographing/painting.
- As students look at Petunia, Sky Above Clouds, and Evening Star, they will discuss what they see and how O’Keeffe is using choice and expression to depict flowers and the sky.

Step 3: Provide the students with the second objective of the lesson (Slide 6)

- Explain that Georgia O’Keeffe often made her artwork as if she was using a viewfinder. A viewfinder helps an artist focus by looking at something closely and blocking off other details that may be distracting.

Step 4: Analyze Georgia O’Keeffe’s works with and without a viewfinder. Determine how a viewfinder helps artists (Slides 7-14)

- Examine Cow’s Skull, White Shell, New York Night, and Grey Hills without a viewfinder first. Discuss what students notice about this artwork.
- Next, pass out the viewfinders and examine the artwork through the viewfinder. Discuss what students are now noticing.
- Discuss why viewfinders are helpful in looking at things closely.

Step 5: Synthesize (Slide 15)

- Synthesize by asking students who they studied about and what the artist is known for.

- Discuss that Georgia O’Keeffe made modern art and she often made her work by looking at her surroundings closely. She often painted buildings and natural treasures, such as flowers, rocks, bones, feathers, and shells.

Step 6: Introduce the project (Slide 16)

- Explain to the students that just like Georgia O’Keeffe, they will find inspiration from their surroundings! They will go outside and choose either a building to paint or a natural treasure, like a tree, rock, grass, clouds, flower, etc.
- Explain that just like Georgia O’Keeffe, students will bring viewfinders to help them zoom in on the details.
- Explain that just like Georgia O’Keeffe, students will first outline their creation using pastels and then fill in using paint.

Step 7: Show sample

- Show students your sample. Make sure that you point out that you first outlined your creation and then filled it in with paint.

Part 2: Part 2 of the Lesson will be done outside.

Step 1: Write your name and class (e.g. 1 DM) on the back of your artwork.

Step 2: Remind students to focus on what is meaningful to them

- Walk to the blacktop. Remind students to choose to focus on what they are inspired by. They can outline and paint the school building, a blade of grass, the clouds in the sky, the trees, the swing, a woodchip. Ask them to focus on one thing that they see, just as Georgia O’Keeffe often focused on an item at a time. They may use their viewfinders to help them focus.

Step 2: Outline, paint, and name the painting

- Students will outline their creations with pastels first and then fill them in with paint.
- Encourage the students to write a name for their painting in the right hand, bottom corner.

Step 3: Closure/Reflection

- Ask students what they learned today.
- Ask students what they learned about Georgia O’Keeffe.
- Ask students what they learned about modern art and viewfinders.

Step 4: Drying

- You can either move the artwork indoors and lay it out to dry OR clip (using clothespins) the art on the garden fencing. If you clip the paintings on the garden fence, make sure you let the Awesome Art chair know so that she can collect accordingly.

IMPORTANT:

- Please be sure to have the students write their name and grade/class on the back of their artwork.
- Please clean up the palettes at the school and place them back into your class' box in the main office once the palettes and paint brushes have been rinsed clean.
- Clip the paintings to dry using clothespins along the garden fence. The Awesome Art coordinator will pick them up and place paintings on the bulletin board in the next few days.

Thank you for being awesome and volunteering for Awesome Art!