

Stuart Davis Project

Watercolor Letter: Kindergartners need to learn about Watercolors

Supplies:

Watercolors (sets are in the GSWA closet)

Kleenex – if you need

Ice Cube Trays filled with Water – they are underneath the file cabinets with the prints.

Watercolor Paper with the student's first letter very big (Bubble Letter). There is plenty of Watercolor paper in the closet. Get a list of the students from the teacher to make the letter. *Make sure you make it big and use a colored pencil or marker to brighten it up.*

We did our presentation with the children sitting on the floor. Their watercolors were already open and ready for them. The boxes are sometimes hard for a kindergartener to open. The ice cube trays are shared 1 to each table for 4 to share. I also gave them each a Kleenex.


We discussed why an artist would use letters and words in their artwork and where this inspiration might have come from. We talked about our names and how important they are to us.

I gave the students their papers with a big bubble letter on their paper. They took a seat wherever there was a watercolor set. Have them sit down and feel their paper. Watercolor paper feels different. It has little dips so the paint can pool and it absorbs like a sponge.

We then talked about Watercolors. Everyone has a brush and if they are creating a picture they should know to use the lightest color first. Show them if they paint a brown circle and decide they want a yellow dot in the middle – they need to draw the yellow first because otherwise, it will mix.

So what color are we starting with first? Yellow

Explain this is a lesson in listening so they need to listen to the commands. Ready Set Go!

1. Draw 5 **yellow** circles inside your letter
2. Clean brush with water
3. Draw 3 **orange** triangles 
4. Clean brush with water
5. Draw 6 **green** straight lines (like blades of grass)-----
6. Clean brush with water
7. Draw 3 **blue** snowflakes, stars or flowers ****
8. Clean brush with water
9. Draw 2 **purple** squares 
10. Clean brush with water
11. Draw 2 **red** hearts 
12. Clean brush with water
13. Draw 4 **brown** squiggle lines 
14. Clean brush with water
15. Draw 8 **black** dots

Now I tell them they can paint on the outside of the letter. How about a frame for your letter? Or more designs? Remember – No mixing colors and clean brush with water before you go to the next color.

What's the Kleenex for?

Before they close the box of watercolors, look at the paints. Do any have pools of water? Does the yellow look yellow? Make sure the brush is cleaned with water before they close the box –then the next time they use it, it will be nice and clean and soft.

Since Stuart Davis loves Jazz music – I played it for them!