

Painting from the Inside Out

Creating emotion with paint colors

KidsArt Fairs Art Project Plan for Grades K-8

(modify for each grade level)

Overview:

Henri Matisse is one of the best-known artists of the twentieth century and a leading figure in modern art. He lived in France from 1869 to 1954. Matisse studied art in Paris and was an illustrator, sculptor, and painter.

Matisse used strong brushstrokes with flat, vibrant colors to show emotion in his paintings. He studied patterns from many cultures and included them in his paintings. Some of Matisse's favorite subjects to paint were still lifes, women, and interiors.

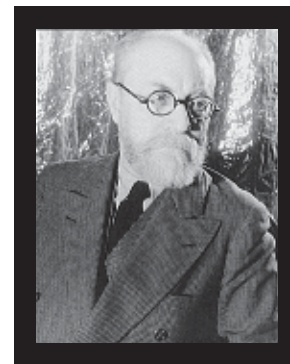
Project:

Share a little about Matisse and an example of one of his vibrant interior paintings with students. Discuss how he used bright colors and patterns.

For upper grade level students, review complementary colors on a color wheel and display in front of the class. (Complementary colors are located directly across from each other on a color wheel. These colors work well together. For example, blue and orange.)

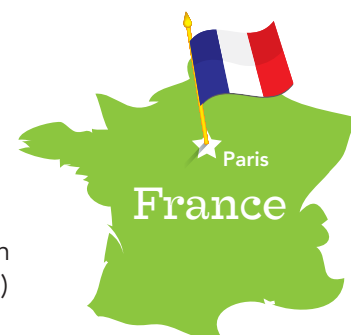
1. Tell students they will be painting a room in a house.
2. Encourage them to use strong colors to give the room an emotion.
Review some colors and ask students what emotion they think of when they see red, blue, etc.
3. Tell students to think of their blank canvases as a room in a house.
4. Allow students some time to choose a room they would like to paint.
5. Explain that the room does not need to be perfect or "real". It's more important to show emotion in the painting.
6. Students draw their rooms with pencils, making sure to include at least 1 wall, a floor, and 1 window. (They can fill the rest of the room with furniture, a pet, self-portrait, etc. and use patterns on any rugs, curtains, or other material in the room.)
7. Ask students to choose a season to paint within their window frames (as if the viewer is in the room, looking out the window). Share season ideas with younger students – bright flowers for spring, trees without leaves for winter.
8. Students paint the rooms and include outdoor seasonal scenes within the window frames. Remind them of how colors create emotions and encourage them to use complementary colors.

Ask students to share their artwork with one another, noting the use of color and how it makes them feel.



Henri Matisse

Photograph courtesy of the Library of Congress



Objective:

- Express an emotion by choice of color
- Understand and use complementary colors
- Learn to use patterns in art

Materials:

- Color wheel (available at art stores or Google "color wheel")
- Pencils
- Tempera paint (or choice of paint for more mature, skilled students)
- KidsArt Fairs Paper Canvases
- Brushes



Capturing Kids' Creativity

www.kidsartfairs.com