



Art Project Plan



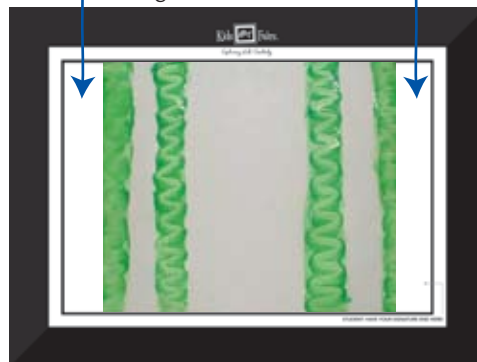
NAVAJO BLANKET

Project Author: Phyllis Johnson • Sponsor: Sargent Art • Grades: 1-2
Time: Three lessons, 45 minutes each

Project:

1. Introduce students to the element of line by discussing the different types of straight lines – vertical, horizontal, and diagonal and how they can be combined to make a variety of different types of lines. Discuss curved lines in the same way. Demonstrate and have the students sketch these types of lines on their own.
2. Show examples of Navajo blankets to students and have them identify the different kinds of lines that were used in the design of the blankets. Have them look at the different ways that the lines, colors, and shapes are repeated in the design to create patterns. Have students discuss how they could use line, color, shape, pattern, and repetition to create a blanket design in the style of the Navajo Indian artists.
3. Have students create two idea drawings in pencil or crayon for blanket designs and patterns. One design should be on the KidsArt Fairs canvas for the main part of the blanket. The other design should be on the extra sheet of paper that will eventually be transformed into the blanket's fringe. It is important that students leave a few blank inches on the left and right edges of the KidsArt Fairs canvas window to paste the fringe design later.
4. Have students begin painting their designs using one color of finger paint at a time. Demonstrate how using the pad of your finger will create a soft line and using your fingernail will create harder lines on the paper.

Leave left and right edges of the paper "blank" so that fringe can be added later.



History of Navajo Textiles

The Navajo people migrated to the Southwest from western Canada sometime between 1300 and 1500 AD. Their rugs and blankets are some of the most popular types of Southwest Native Arts. They're highly valued by collectors for their beauty and durability. Navajo weaving was traditionally performed by the women, while Navajo men built the looms. In the Navajo community, the art of weaving is truly an expression of beauty, harmony and balance, the concepts at the center of Navajo art and life. Weavers began with colors ranging from white to dark brown of natural wool. Through trade and dyes made from native plants, the Navajo also used indigo (deep blue), yellow, and green in their weaving. For pictures of blankets and more information on the history of Navajo weaving, visit <http://www.navajotextiles.com/history.htm>.

Materials:

(see recommendations on next page)

- KidsArt Fairs paper
- Extra sheet of paper
- Crayons
- Finger Paint (yellow, green, blue)
- Scissors
- Glue stick

Objective:

Using finger paint and crayons, students will create a blanket design inspired by the work of Navajo Indians. The Elements of Art – Line, Shape and Color – will be present in the work, as well as the Principles of Art - Repetition and Pattern.

Purpose:

Students will create a blanket design inspired by the work of Navajo Indians.



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Project continued:

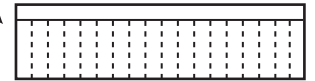
5. Have students use big crayons to enhance their paintings so that the designs and patterns will stand out and be more pleasing to the eye.
6. When paintings are dry, have students cut the fringe paper in half long ways to make fringe for each end of the blanket. On the back of each half of the paper, have students draw a line that is one inch from the top. Direct students to make the cuts for their fringe up to that line.
7. Students then use a glue stick to make a glue line across the backside of the top inch of the fringe pieces and attach them to the right and left edges of their blanket design on the KidsArt Fairs paper.
8. When artwork is complete, have each artist sign their work in the lower right-hand corner. Use the Signature Template as a guide to position the signature where it will be visible when framed.



Teacher-Prepared Sample Artwork in KidsArt Fairs Gallery-Style Frame



On each half of fringe paper, draw a line 1" from the top and cut strips up to that line.



Sargent Art Recommended Materials:

22-0589
Big Crayons



22-9402
Washable
Finger Paint-
Yellow



22-9466
Washable
Finger Paint-
Green



22-9450
Washable
Finger Paint-
Blue



Applicable National Standards for Visual Arts Grades K-4:

- Content Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes
- Content Standard 2: Using knowledge of structures and functions
- Content Standard 3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas
- Content Standard 4: Understanding the visual art in relation to history and culture
- Content Standard 5: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others
- Content Standard 6: Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines

