

Art Project Plan

Miró's Organic Shapes

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

Project:

1. Introduce organic shapes which are shapes found in nature – like leaves, clouds, and fruit. Organic shapes that artists draw are usually rounded and/or wavy. The Spanish artist, Joan Miró, was very imaginative, and he created many artworks based on simple organic shapes. Sometimes these shapes are symbolic of people, animals, and images in nature.
2. Show paintings by Joan Miró and discuss the artist's style. What colors does he use? What shapes did he use? What are organic shapes? Can you identify organic shapes in nature? How do his paintings make you feel? Do you think the artist could also draw realistic images? Why do you think he liked to paint in this style? Do you think these shapes are meant to symbolize real images?
3. Within the window of KidsArt Paper, draw a balanced composition with organic shapes using a black crayon. Be sure to draw up to the outline of the window. Have students draw a balanced composition with organic shapes.
4. Demonstrate drawing with glue on top of black crayon lines. Students carefully outline their line designs. Let dry overnight.
(End of lesson one.)
5. Demonstrate painting with fluorescent water colors. Students carefully paint the sections of their designs. The glue lines will prevent the paint from spreading into other sections. Let dry overnight.
(End of lesson two.)



Artist Bio:

Joan Miró (1893 – 1983) was a Spanish painter whose paintings often contain images of playfully distorted animal forms and twisted organic shapes. He used flat neutral backgrounds and a limited number of bright colors – red, yellow, green, and black. He alternated organic shapes with sharply drawn lines, spots, and circles. He is one of the most original painters of the 20th century. See www.abcgallery.com.

Materials:

(see recommendations on next page)

- KidsArt Fairs paper
- Paint brushes
- White glue
- Crayons
- Watercolors, fluorescent
- Palettes
- Brayers
- Black printing ink

Objective:

Students will be able to recognize organic shapes in artworks and in nature. They will learn about Joan Miró and be able to distinguish his style of painting.

Purpose:

Students will be introduced to organic shapes. They will look for organic shapes around them. Important works of art by Joan Miró will be introduced. They will connect organic shapes in art to organic shapes found in nature. Students will be able to design and paint original compositions based on organic shapes. They will use non-traditional art tools to draw, including glue, and brayers.

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Project continued:

6. Demonstrate applying printing ink on palette and rolling in ink on a brayer and quickly/lightly rolling over the entire painting. The glue lines will now be black and the painted sections will have black highlights. Have students apply printing ink to their paintings.
7. When paintings are complete and dry, have each artist sign their work in the lower right-hand corner. Use the Signature Template as a guide to position the signature so it will be visible when framed.
8. Have students show their paintings to the class and tell what they learned about Miró and imaginative organic shapes. Discuss how organic shapes can sometimes symbolize people, animals, and images in nature. (End of art project.)



Teacher-created example in KidsArt Fairs gallery-style frame

Applicable National Standards for Visual Arts Grades K-4:

- Content Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes
- Content Standard 3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas
- 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 – science cross curriculum connection

Sargent Art Recommended Materials:

56-6012
Paint brushes



22-1103
White Glue



22-0561
Large Crayons



22-9803
Palette



66-8222
Fluorescent Watercolors

