



Title: Garden Painting

Designed by: Jennifer Hamilton

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Recommended Grade Level(s): 3rd grade

Topic(s) (Tags):

Garden, composition, painting, realistic, detail, inspired, light/shadow

Objective:

Students will use the inspiration of contemporary artist John Dyer to paint a realistic garden or nature painting showing many different brushstrokes, mixing of paint colors, and showing areas of light and shadow.

Standard/Concept

Anchor Standard #1:
Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard #3:
Refine and complete artistic work.

Anchor Standard #5:
Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.

Anchor Standard #7:
Perceive and analyze artistic work.



Materials

- High-quality, 8X10 white paper (Free from Art to Remember)
- Examples of John Dyer's garden and nature paintings
- Pencils and erasers
- Tempera paint in all colors (red, orange, yellow, green, turquoise, blue, purple, white, brown, and black)
- Paint trays or mixing pallets
- Water cups
- Paintbrushes
- Paper towel
- Aprons
- Construction paper in many colors, scraps of leftover paper will also work
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers

Breakdown

Day	Direction
1	 <p>John Dyer is a contemporary artist from Cornwall in England. He paints bright, colorful paintings of gardens and nature. Currently he is the official artist for the Earth for earthday.org</p>



	<p>The students and teacher will look at garden and nature paintings by John Dyer and we will discuss the following topics as a whole group, small group, or with a partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss John Dyer's artistic style (e.g., vibrant colors, bold shapes) • Explore the techniques he uses (e.g., brushwork, detail, Analyze the use of color in John Dyer's paintings). • How does color contribute to the mood or feeling of his artworks? • Identify common themes in John Dyer's artwork (e.g., nature, landscapes) • How does his work inspire creativity and imagination? • Compare John Dyer's style and themes with other artists studied in class.
2	<p>Students will sketch garden and nature scenes after looking and discussing John Dyer's paintings. Students should create 1 large sketch or several smaller sketches to help with their final drawing and painting happening during the next art class.</p>
3	<p>The students will gather all their painting supplies and white drawing paper and begin to paint their garden or nature scene. Encourage the students while painting to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paint realistically and to add lots of detail • Paint their entire paper • Use different brush strokes for different flora and fauna • Mix their paint colors to make new colors (adding white to make a tint or black to add a shade) • Focus on adding areas of light (colors mixed with white) and areas of shade (colors mixed with black) for a more realistic and representational painting of nature
4	<p>After the first class period of painting, have each student place their unfinished painting at their seat. Students will walk around the classroom looking, but not touching, all of the paintings. Once everyone has had a chance to look at the painting the class will hold a critique and discussion. Possible discussion topics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did you see today that you liked? • Compliments to individual artists • What could we do to improve our paintings? • What techniques did you see today that you would like to try on your own paper? • Did you discuss with another artist in the room something they did that you liked?



5	<p>After the classroom critique, students will be given more time to paint. This can be done after the critique or you can wait on the next class period, depending on how much time you have left.</p> <p>During the second class of painting the students should focus on painting their entire paper, adding realistic details, and painting their flowers with representational brushstrokes.</p> <p>Students who finish in 1 class period, encourage these students to add extra details and more flowers during the second class period.</p> <p>Some students may finish in 2 class periods, encourage these students to add more realistic detail or to help out a friend finish their paintings.</p> <p>Other students may take 3 class periods to finish their paintings, allow them extra time to do their best work, but also allow them to skip the next step if they run out of time.</p>
6	<p>When the paintings are complete and dried students will use construction paper to add figures to their garden and nature paintings. The figures should be interacting with the nature in the paintings. Figures cut out should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head (hat optional)• Body• Arms• Legs <p>The figure pieces should be cut out individually and the students will be encouraged to use many different colors of paper.</p> <p>Ideas for how figures can interact with nature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reaching out to touch• Weeding• Sitting• Admiring• Planting

Steps for the Lesson

Step	Directions	Image



1	The teacher and students will look at and discuss the garden and nature paintings by the artist John Dyer.	
2	Students will create sketches of gardens or nature inspired by the artwork they saw of John Dyer.	
3	Students will use high quality Art to Remember paper to draw their final garden or nature scene with pencil. <i>*this step is optional you can skip drawing and have students paint their picture directly on their paper *</i>	
4	Students will paint their garden or nature scene using tempera paints. Encourage students to mix their own new colors while they create their painting. Students should also add many realistic details to their painting and experiment with various brushstrokes while creating their nature and garden paintings. <i>*this step will take 2 class periods with a critique in between*</i>	
5	Students will have a classroom gallery walk and group critique of the unfinished garden paintings.	
6	After the classroom critique, students will be given more time to paint. This can be done after the critique or you can wait on the next class period, depending on how much time you have left.	
7	On the last class period, students will add people to their painting using construction paper. The students will cut and glue simple shapes out of the construction paper. The figures in the painting should be interacting with the nature in the painting some way.	

