



Internet

Master Copies

Students can learn a lot about the world's most celebrated artists by reading art history. They can also learn by trying to draw or paint like the great masters. In this lesson, you'll assign students the task of picking a famous drawing or painting and trying to copy it. Don't expect exact reproductions. Actually, that's not even the point. But in having to look carefully at a drawing or painting to reproduce it, students will observe a lot about the artist's style and technique. Based on their observations, students will write brief reports analyzing the style and techniques exhibited in the work and use the reports as a basis for oral presentations.

Learning Goals

- Analyze a drawing or painting to draw conclusions about the colors, materials, and techniques used by the artist in order to recreate it as closely as possible.
- Write and orally present a short analysis of the artist's style and technique.

Materials

- paper
- pencils
- charcoal
- watercolor, oil paints, and brushes
- canvas sheets
- oil pastels
- colored pencils

Warm-Up

1. Show students a photograph, print, or poster of a well-known drawing or painting.
2. Ask students what kinds of things they observe about the drawing or painting, such as:
 - the subject of the work of art
 - the kinds of colors used (dark, bright, bold, muted)
 - the materials used (pencil, charcoal, watercolor)
 - the artist's style (realistic, abstract)
3. Inform students that they'll also look for these characteristics in drawings or paintings they pick.
4. Explain that students will use their observation and analysis skills to try to copy the work of art.
5. Add, "But first you each have to pick a picture and that you'll do on the Internet."

Web Work

1. Explain that students can pick a work from one of these Web sites.

Camille Pissarro

URL: <http://www.pissarro.vi/>

Georgia O'Keeffe

URL: <http://webpages.marshall.edu/~smith82/okeef.html>

Money Gallery

URL: <http://webpages.marshall.edu/~smith82/monet.html>

Museo Picasso Virtual

URL: <http://www.tamu.edu/mocl/picasso/>

WebMuseum: Klee, Paul

URL: <http://www.oir.ucf.edu/wm/paint/auth/klee>

WebMuseum: Gogh, Vincent van

URL: <http://sunsite.unc.edu/wm/paint/auth/gogh/>

2. Add that students who know the name of another artist they want to use can also go online.
 3. Explain that students must search for the artist's Web site or a virtual museum featuring his or her work.
 4. Have them start with a search engine like Yahoo or Alta Vista, then type in the name of the artist and perform a search.
 5. Have students examine and analyze the work they chose to learn about the artist's use of color and materials and his or her techniques.
 6. Ask students to apply the same techniques and use of color and materials to their re-creations of the artist's work.
- Have students choose the materials they need.
 - Let students attempt to copy their drawings or paintings as closely as possible.
 - Remind students you don't expect perfect "forgeries," The purpose of the activity is to give students some insight into an artist's creative process.

Allow students to hang their works of art in a classroom gallery or on a bulletin board.

Wrap-Up

- Direct students to write a short analysis of their artist's technique and style that can be used to narrate a short presentation of their finished artwork.
- Make sure students include the following in their reports:
 1. conclusions they drew about the color, materials, and techniques used by the artist as a result of their initial study and analysis
 2. how well they were able to re-create the drawing or painting
 3. the difficulties involved in the assignment