

O’Keeffe Flowers

Lower elementary level
2 one hour class sessions

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Resources:

Books about Georgia O’Keeffe, (Getting to know the Worlds Greatest Artists)
Visuals of Georgia O’Keeffe’s flower paintings
Flower image handouts (coloring book, outline style)

Materials:

9”x9” (or larger) paper (suitable for painting on)
Pencils
Glue
Watercolors and painting supplies

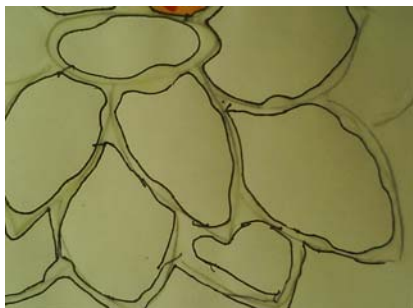
Procedure:

Day 1: Introduction

- Read book about Georgia O’Keeffe (or other info about the artist that is age appropriate).
- Demonstrate on whiteboard drawing a simple flower that touches ALL 4 sides of the paper. Explain that the image should only be the flower, no stem or leaves. We want the flower to be the most important part of the painting.
- Demonstrate again, this time on project paper. I purposefully make my flower too small so that kids can see the difference and brainstorm how to fix it (add more petals). I also explain that the petals need to be WIDE so that the next step works. I demonstrate petals that are “finger-thin” as a what-not-to-do.
- Demonstrate how to use a glue bottle to go over all of the pencil lines on the picture. I also show them what happens on the “finger-thin” petals (glue spreads out and fills in the petal, leaving no room to paint later). I also demonstrate how to carry to the drying rack by using our thumbs to “pinch” the paper as we carry it (no pizza delivery). AND I stress that the projects cannot touch each other on the drying rack or they have to be ripped apart.
- Students proceed to work. I have them show me when done drawing to check for size. They then get a glue bottle and start tracing.

Day 2: Tracing and Painting

- I start with a demonstration on tracing the edge of the glue lines with a super fine sharpie pen. This creates a double line around the glue.
- Demonstrate painting technique (per your preferences). I stress that all white space be filled in before it is considered done.
- Students work on their projects.



Glue lines traced with ultra fine Sharpie.



Finished, painted with watercolors.