

Picasso Flowers of Peace

Pre-K - 3rd Grade



Materials Needed:

Display My Art drawing paper, pencil, craft/acrylic paint, magic markers, paint brushes, sample picture of Picasso's "Flowers of Peace" painting.

Instructions:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Pablo Picasso was born in 1881 in Malaga, Spain. All the paintings by Pablo Picasso are usually classified into various 'periods' based on the moods and styles of the works. These, in turn, were largely affected by his personal life. This painting was created by Picasso for a peace demonstration held in Stockholm, Germany in 1958. Picasso painted flowers as a peace symbol instead of a dove (a more common symbol of peace), and tried to symbolize that brotherhood was necessary for peace by having two hands holding the stems together.

1. Discuss how Picasso makes use of "lines" and "shapes" to create his art. He uses simple lines to draw his hands and stems of the flowers, and simple circular shapes for the flowers. His colors are very BRIGHT and VIBRANT and really "pop" from the page. The students too, will be using lines and circles to create their "Flowers of Peace".
2. Different age group students can create their art in different ways. Pre-K and younger children may do well using their own handprints for the hands and fingerprints for the flower petals. Older students might try tracing their hands (or trying to draw them freehand) and adding their own fingernails, rings, bracelets etc to further personalize, while using a paintbrush to paint the flowers.
3. For the younger groups: Have the students paint some bright, vibrantly colored circles on the top half portion of the art paper. Supervise the children to dip their fingertips in some different, but also very vibrantly colored, craft paint. Have them put their fingerprints around the circles they had painted to make flowers. Then with a green marker, or paint, have them draw simple lines from the flowers to the bottom of their art paper to create the flower stems. Give paint a few minutes to dry. Finally, brush some vibrantly colored paint on the palm of the child's hand and then carefully place the hand over the stems of the flowers that they created.
4. For the older groups: Have the students paint some bright, vibrantly colored circles on the top half portion of the art paper. The circles can be simple, or they can add their own touches to them with spiral patterns or whatever they choose. They can then add flower petals with other vibrant paint colors, but HAVE THEM WAIT TO PAINT the flower stems until after they draw their hands. Have them either trace (using a pencil to lightly draw around their fingers) or draw their hands facing each other in the center of the page. They can personalize their hands by adding fingernails, or rings and bracelets if they wish. Have them trace along the outline with black magic marker. Lastly, have them draw or paint lines from the flowers to their hands to create the flower stems.
6. DON'T FORGET TO PUT STUDENT NAME AND YEAR ON THE DRAWING, at least one inch away from outside border.