

**Lesson Plan: Explore Materials Used By
Artists Students Should Know
Georgia O’Keeffe
November 15, 1887- March 6, 1986**

Lesson Title / Project:	Grade Level:
Georgia O’ Keeffe’s Mountain/ Learning to Paint a Landscape Lesson Plan by Kathy Simons	K-5
Art Media Used:	
Watercolor, with paper cutouts added	
Lesson Objectives:	
Georgia O’Keeffe was a Great American Artist who painted landscapes of the desert she loved in New Mexico. Watercolor is transparent and can be applied in a variety of ways. Students will explore using 3 watercolor techniques: Wet brush, Dry, Layering	
Art Standards:	Vocabulary:
<p>CREATING: (<i>Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas & work.</i>)</p> <p>Students will create their own landscape watercolor based on the work of Georgia O’Keeffe (They will copy to learn). They will also add their portrait and something to the landscape to show they understand the concept of creating the illusion of space by using overlap and size change.</p> <p>PRESENTING: (<i>visual arts</i>): (<i>Interpreting and sharing artistic work.</i>)</p> <p>As they paint, they will identify the horizon line, the use of overlap, and the foreground, the middle ground, and the background in Georgia O’Keeffe’s landscape: <u>Red Hills with the Pedernal</u>.</p> <p>RESPONDING: (<i>Understanding and evaluating how art conveys meaning.</i>)</p> <p>Students will understand how some artist’s learn, by copying a Master work of Art. As they create a watercolor landscape drawing after Georgia O’Keeffe’s pastel drawing, <u>Red Hills with the Pedernal</u>, they will identify 3 artistic devices she uses to create the illusion of space and their own landscape paintings will show, foreground, middle ground, background.</p> <p>CONNECTING: (<i>Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.</i>)</p> <p>Students will use construction paper to create a vehicle that can drive across the desert (A Model A Automobile or one of their own invention). They will create a head and shoulders portrait of themselves to paste on to their finished watercolor landscape when it is dry.</p>	Landscape Background Foreground Under painting Overlap Size Change Horizon line Watercolor Dry Brush Wet Brush Layering Colors

Recommended Materials:

(1 per student) 80lb drawing paper 9x12'	Elmer's glue or stick
(1 per student) 80lb drawing paper 6x9"	(1 per 2 students)
Watercolor paint box 2 / paint brushes (1 per partner)	Black Construction paper
Water cups 1 per 2 students	2.5" x 1.5" cut rectangle
Small printed image of Master Artwork	Colored pencil (optional)
Yellow or orange chalk pastel or chalk (1 per 2 students)	(pink or white or grey)
2 Paper towels per partners	

Instructional Sequence:

1. Take 3 minutes to introduce Georgia O'Keeffe using the Book My Name is Georgia: A Portrait* by Jeanette Winter.
2. Use Pencil to WRITE NAME ON BACK OF PAPER.
3. GET SUPPLIES: Work with a partner...one partner gets water; the other partner gets 1 paint box & 2 paint brushes.
4. Pass out 2 yellow or orange pieces of chalk per partners.
5. Sometimes ARTISTS COPY TO LEARN, today we will copy Georgia O'Keeffe's painting Red Hills with the Pedernal. We will copy to learn about how she made her landscape have THE ILLUSION OF SPACE, as we see in the foreground, the background and what's in-between.
6. START WITH YOUR PAPER IN LANDSCAPE POSIITON: which way is landscape, door or window?
7. ABOUT THE SUBJECT: Cerro Pedernal could be seen from Georgia's patio. She loved this mountain and was known to say if she painted it enough times God would give her the mountain. (If you want to include learning about landforms, you could tell them that Pedernal is really a mesa that is a flat-topped hill with steep sides like a table. FUN FACT: PEDERNAL means flint hill and the Native Americans went there to get flint for their arrows).
8. DRAW THE HORIZON LINE WITH CHALK. First we will use our chalk to draw the horizon line. A line a landscape artist uses to tell the viewer where eye level is or where the sky meets the earth. (Place it 1/3 of the way down in the picture.)
9. Make room for Mt. Pedernal by USING 2 fingers then DRAW THE FLAT TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN.
10. DRAW THREE OVERLAPING HILLS in the middle ground.

LEARNING TO USE WATERCOLOR

*Younger students should be taught to put a drop of water on each of the colors in their water pan & wait a minute for it to soften. Then swish swish, swish your brush, tap, tap, tap, on (water cup's edge), then scrape, scrape, scrape to get excess moisture out of brush hairs. Use your brush and pet the color pan in one direction softly just like petting a kitty. **Nice and gentle.***

1. DRY BRUSH: draw the outside edge of your Mt. Pedernal by making a line kind of like a fence for a horse corral. Next, fill in the mountain with the color you want it to be. Using blue will make it look far away.
2. **Allow the Mountain** to dry while we make OUR PORTRAIT.
3. (optional for older children) The recipe for flesh color: orange, red, small bit of green.

4. **LAYERING:** Watercolor is transparent so we create by under painting where we want things darkest, like layering for cold weather when we put on long underwear. Leave the top of your red hills the white of the paper then clean your brush and apply red on the lower side of the mountain. Let it dry
5. **WET BRUSH:** load your brush with water and swish, swish, swish then make a puddle in the top of your paint box lid, add a little more red, then to make it brown add a tiny bit of green. Layer the red hills with this wet wash.
6. If you want to add more color, make another water puddle and add purple. Then layer it over your red hills.
7. **CUT OUT THE PORTRAIT. ADD NAME TO BACK.**
8. Now we can add a few green trees peeking over the top of the hill.
9. Make the Model A with black construction paper. Use pencil or colored pencil to color windows.
10. Wet wash the sky by first painting it with water only. Then add a drop of blue in a few spaces. Use your paper towel to blot a few white clouds.
11. Glue your portrait at the bottom of your painting and place your model A driving some where near the red hills.

Helpful Resources:

WEBSITES

Where to find & download the Image of Red Hills with the Pedernal,
<https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/opencollection/objects/115217>.

STORY BOOKS ABOUT O'KEEFFE

(excerpted from) *My Name is Georgia: A Portrait by Jeanette Winter

Page 2: When she was 12 years old she knew she wanted to be an artist. I did things other people didn't do.

Page 9: At school in New York, I painted one still life painting a day—everyday. I painted my teachers ideas. **But when I went out into the world I painted my own ideas.**

Page 20: In the city I painted flowers.

Page 29: I moved to the Desert in New Mexico and painted landscapes.

Page 31: I painted the Pedernal Mountain. I painted it over and over and over again.

Page 33 & 34: I drove my Model A across the desert and back. I painted in my black car.

Other resources:

Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters by Barack Obama

Georgia Rises: A Day in the Life of Georgia O'Keeffe by Kathryn Lasky

Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls by Francesca Cavallo and Elena Favilli



Red Hills with Pedernal



Student work After O'Keeffe