



Floral Watercolour and Wax Paintings

Visual Arts
Grade 10

Investigation

- Students will use the [Alberta Foundation for the Arts](#) website to locate and view artworks by:
 - Medium: **Watercolor**
and then
 - Subject: **Flowers**
- Next, students will use the website tool, “My Collection” to create their own exhibit of flower and watercolour paintings by choosing six of their favorite artworks.
- Last, students will work in pairs and use the vocabulary of art (Elements and Principles of Design) to discuss the components of composition in the artworks they have selected.

Watercolour Techniques

- Teach students the following watercolour techniques:
- Graduated wash
- Dry brush
- Wet-in-wet
- Scoring
- Salt
- Water spray
- Wax Resist



Example of Watercolour Techniques Worksheet

Drawing

- Set-up a still-life of flowers
 - Remind students that both the positive space (flowers and leaves) and negative space (area around flowers and leaves) should be interesting
 - Apply masking tape to create a border on your watercolour paper (it will be removed when the painting is finished)
 - Lightly draw the floral arrangement on the watercolour paper
 - Remind students to draw what they see (wrinkles, folds and angles of flowers and leaves)
 - Focus on the outlines of each plant's structure

Wax Resist

- Use four wax crayons to draw over your pencil lines
 - Choose two medium
 - Choose two light



Painting the Background

- Choose either a warm colour (red, orange, yellow) or a cool colour (blue, green purple) scheme for the background
- Use the wet-on-wet technique to paint the background
- As you paint the background, use the end of your paintbrush to score in more shapes behind your main flowers
- As soon as you're finished scoring, add a sprinkle of salt in that area
- Let the background dry
- Use similar colours to the background, and the wet on dry technique to paint the scored shapes in the background (blend the hard edges)

Painting the Foreground

- Choose the opposite colour scheme of the background to paint the foreground flowers
- Use shading and highlighting to create 3-dimensionally
- When the painting has dried, use the wet on dry technique to paint in veins and details
- Once the entire painting has dried, use dark and medium crayons to add texture and details

Final Details

- Carefully remove the masking tape
- Give your painting a title in the centre of the bottom white border
- Write your name in the bottom right-hand corner

Example: Bloom Where You are Planted



Goals/Concepts/Assessment

- Goals and concepts are from the Senior High Alberta Education Art Curriculum.
- **Goals and Concepts** are listed for two major components of the curriculum - Drawings and Compositions.
- **Assessment:** **I can** statements follow the goals and concepts as an assessment tool to determine what students have learned.

Goals/Concepts/**I can** statements

Drawings

- **Goal:** Students will combine description, expression and cognition in the drawing process.
- **Concept:** Subject matter and expressive intention can be depicted with a variety of notational marks.
- **Student - **I can** draw plant contours accurately and realistically.**

Goals/Concepts/**I can** statements

Compositions

- **Goal:** Students extend their knowledge of and familiarity with the elements and principles of design through composing 2-D images.
- **Concept:** Colour and value concepts are important components of an artist's compositional skill.
- **Student - I can** create 3-D effects on my foreground flowers by highlighting and shading.
- **Student - I can** use warm and cool colours to create contrast.

Goals/Concepts/**I can** statements

Compositions

- **Goal:** Students extend their knowledge of and familiarity with the elements and principles of design through composing 2-D images.
- **Concept:** Positive and negative space are essential to the description of two and three dimensional forms.
- **Student - **I can** create depth in my painting by using the watercolour techniques of scoring, layering and shading.**

Goals/Concepts/**I can** statements

Compositions

- **Goal:** Students will use the vocabulary of art criticism to develop and accept their own work.
- **Concept:** Describing and discussing media and techniques used in one's own works will develop vocabulary.
- **Student – I can** discuss my work by describing water colour techniques and using the elements and principles of design.

Required Materials

- Floral arrangements
- Watercolour paint
- Watercolour brushes
- 12 x 18” watercolour paper
- Coarse salt
- Wax crayons
- Masking tape
- Spray bottle