Collaborative Starry Night

Recreating A Classic with an Individual Twist

Art History is an excellent discipline to accompany this lesson plan, as students become familiar with Van Gogh, his style, and one of most famous works of art, Starry Night. Students will collaboratively recreate Starry Night on a large board. Then they will individually trace their hand and design them to incorporate onto the board. These handprints allow them to practice with shape, line weight, and patterns.

Preparation

1. Study Van Gogh and Starry Night

2. Decide how students will share responsibility of designing and recreating Starry Night

Process

1. Paint Starry Night on the large board using acrylic paint.

2. Have each student trace their handprint on cardstock and cut them out. Depending on the size of the class teachers may choose to have every kid do both of their hands.

Materials

1 Large Rigid Board

Acrylic Paints

Cardstock

Black Permanent Markers (with at least three different tip sizes)

Mod Podge

Plastic Wrap

Preparation 1: *Study Van Gogh and his painting Starry Night.*

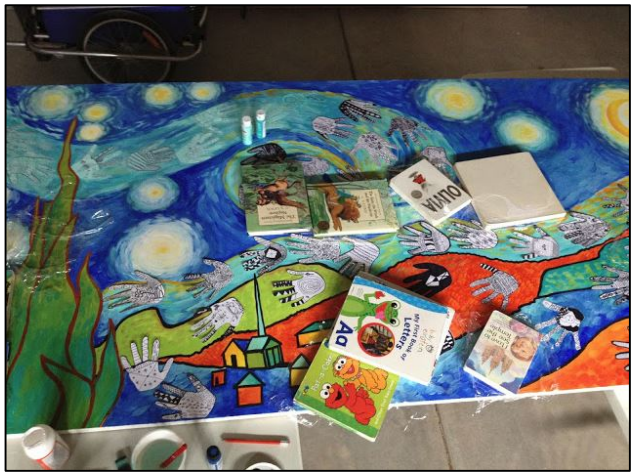
Step 3: *Draw in the hands with different shapes, patterns and lines using different thickness tip black permanent markers.*

Process, continued

3. Each student can explore shapes, patterns, and line weights drawing in their cutout cardstock hands with the various black permanent markers.

4. Once the painted rigid board is dry and the cardstock hands are complete, glue the hands on the board using Mod Podge. Use the plastic wrap and books to help them dry flat.

5. After the glued down hands are dry paint a light wash (water added) of acrylic paint in a similar color on top of the hands. Try to select colors them help them blend into the painting.



Step 4: *Glue down the cardstock hands with Mod Podge, using plastic wrap and books to help them dry flat.*

Step 5: *An example of a partial wash over the hands on the board. Notice how the wash takes to the white cardstock, leaving the black marker lines the most visible.*

Step 5: *Paint a light wash over the hands to help them blend in.*