

Digital Painting & Blending Techniques

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will practice digital painting techniques including blending and layering brush strokes to create depth.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- A tablet, phone, or computer with a free drawing app that has a soft/blending brush
- Paper for a quick reference sketch

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Choose a simple subject with rounded, blendable forms (example: an apple, a sunset sky, or a simple face) and quickly sketch it on paper for reference.
2. In your digital app, block in the basic large shapes/colors of your subject first using a solid brush (like an underpainting).
3. Select a soft or blending brush tool and use it to blend the edges between two neighboring colors, creating a smooth gradient instead of a hard line.
4. Add one small highlight (a lighter color dot or stroke) and one shadow area (a darker color stroke) to give your subject a sense of 3D depth.
5. Save your finished digital painting and compare it to your original flat, blocked-in colors.

QUESTIONS

1. What subject did you paint, and what colors did you blend together?
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2. What is the purpose of adding a highlight and a shadow to a digital painting?
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3. How did blending change the look of your painting compared to the flat blocked-in colors you started with?
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4. What digital tool did you use to blend colors, and how is it different from a regular hard-edged brush?
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