

Impressionism and Pointillism Technique

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will create an artwork using the pointillist/impressionist technique of building an image from small dots or dabs of color.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- paper or cardstock
- cotton swabs (4-6)
- paint (2-4 colors) or markers
- a small plate or palette for paint
- pencil

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Lightly sketch a simple outline of a subject (a flower, tree, or landscape) in pencil on your paper.
2. Dip a cotton swab into one paint color and fill in one section of your outline using only small dots — do not blend or smear the paint.
3. Repeat with 2-3 more colors, using dots close together in different areas, allowing colors to visually blend from a distance rather than mixing them directly.
4. Step back at least 5 feet from your artwork and observe how the individual dots appear to blend into shapes and colors from farther away.
5. Write one sentence on the back describing what you noticed when viewing your dotted painting from far away versus up close.

QUESTIONS

1. **What technique did you use to apply the paint, and what is this style of painting called?**
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2. **What did you notice about your painting when you viewed it from far away compared to up close?**
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3. **Name one artist associated with Impressionism or Pointillism.**
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4. **How did Impressionist painters' focus on light and color differ from more traditional, realistic painting styles before them?**
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