Talented Squid
Grade - 1

Ohio Academic Content Standards addressed in this lesson:
Historical, Cultural, & Social Contexts – C
Creative Expression & Communication – A, C
Analyzing & Responding – C
Connections, Relationships & Applications – A, B

Description of essential educational content contained in this lesson:
Through this lesson, students will use inspiration from the book *I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean* by Kevin Sherry. Each student will learn how to draw the squid from the book and illustrate it doing something that they are best at. Students will relate the book to real life experiences and explore various art media through the creation of their own artwork.

Performance-Based Objectives:
- Students will draw a squid doing something they are best at.
- Students will create an abstract watercolor background.
- Students will use colored pencils to color neatly.
- Students will practice cutting and gluing skills.

Vocabulary:
Watercolor – A water-based paint that is easy to use.
Illustration – In this case, pictures made for children's books.
Squid – An underwater creature with many tentacles that can squirt ink.

Preparations:
- Get book *I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean* from the library.
- Prepare bulletin board – squid drawing and vocab.

Procedures for the Teaching/Learning Structure:
Day 1:
1. Introduce the project and read the book.
2. Demonstrate how to draw the squid on the chalkboard.
3. Show how to change what the squid is holding to be able to show what each individual student is best at.
4. Kids draw their own squid on 9x12 white paper. Go over pencil lines with black marker.

Day 2:
1. Demonstrate watercolor background. Compare it do the illustrations from the book.
2. Each student does a blue and purple watercolor background on 18x12 paper.
    a. Kids will sprinkle salt over the finished painting to create additional effects.
3. After finishing the painting, each student will draw two additional underwater animals.

Day 3:
1. Demonstrate coloring nicely with colored pencils.
2. Each student will neatly color their squid and other underwater animals.

Day 4:
1. Students will neatly cut out all of the animals they colored the previous class.
2. These will be glued down to the watercolor background with the squid being the focus of the picture.
3. If there is extra time, students can create additional elements for their pictures or work on free drawing.

Project Guidelines:

- Each student will create an illustration of a squid.
- Each squid will be doing something that the artist is great at doing.
- The squid will be drawn on 9x12 white paper and traced with Sharpie.
- The background will be on 12x18 white paper. It will be a mix of blue and purple liquid watercolor with salt sprinkled over to create interesting visual texture.
- Additional underwater animals can be drawn and outlined with Sharpie.
- All animals will be colored neatly with colored pencil.
- Animals will be cut out and glued onto background.
- Seaweed can be cut out of green construction paper If there is time.