

John Constable-2nd(weather station)

Value Lesson Plan

Supplies:

blue construction paper
oil pastels

Biography:

John Constable was born in Suffolk. His father was a wealthy corn merchant. His older brother was mentally handicapped so he was expected to take over his fathers corn mill but John was more interested in sketching and eventually his younger brother took over the mill. Most artists of the time romanticized scenes for their artwork but John wanted his paintings to be realistic. He said, "the sound of water escaping from mill dams, willows, old rotten planks, slimy posts, and brickwork, I love such things."

Discussion:

- Is this artwork dark or light?
- What part of the artwork is the darkest or lightest?
- How has the artist used dramatic lighting?
- How does the light make you feel? What does it remind you of?
- What different types of clouds are there?
- What colors do you see in the clouds?
- What colors do you see in a rainbow?
- Show the students the correct way to use oil pastels. Oil pastels may look like crayons but they are used very differently. Crayons are held in your hand like a pencil using the tip to color. Oil pastels are best when rubbed against the paper on their sides. To do this you need to remove the paper if it hasn't already been removed. Broken pastels are often the best ones to use. The best part about oil pastels is that it is very easy to blend colors and add shadows.

Art Project:

- Have the students use the oil pastels to draw a cloudy sky. They can use their imaginations and add a rainbow if they would like .
- If it is alright with your teacher you may take the students outside and do a cloud study of your own. If you go outside for a cloud study discuss the clouds that you see in the sky and ask them to draw what they see.