

# Outdoor Scene Watercolor Project

Inspired by Jonathan Green

## Vocabulary

Landscape: Horizontal; think of a scenic view.

Portrait: Vertical; think of a portrait of a person.

## Supplies:

6x9" Watercolor Paper	Watercolor Pencils
Paint Brushes	Paper Towels
Water Cups	Placemats
Pencils	

## Setup notes

- Cover desks with placemats.
- Fill water cups with ~1" water.

## The Project

- Have students write their name and class code on the back of their watercolor paper.
- Working in landscape perspective, have students decide on the outdoor scene they will create. Students may choose to paint any outdoor scene they'd like - mountains, beach, a favorite park, etc.
- If they are creating a scene similar to Green with sky/water/land + a figure looking out:
  - Horizon line: Using a regular pencil or watercolor pencil, have students lightly draw a straight line across their paper approx 2" from the top; this will create separation between the sky and water. The top section will be the sky.
  - Lightly draw a second line approx 2" below; this line may be curved or flat depending on the scene; this will create separation between land and water.
  - If including a person, lightly draw the outline of the figure; more details will be added later.
- Use watercolor pencils to add color to the scene: sky, water, grass, person, etc. Encourage students to use bright, bold colors and create patterns, in the style of Jonathan Green.

Tips:

- ★ Press lightly and color gently: water makes colors darker, and light pressure keeps paper smooth.
  - ★ Hold the pencil at an angle: use the side for big areas and the tip only for small details.
  - ★ Use slow, smooth strokes: light outlines and lines in one direction blend better with water.
- Once students have added all the color they wish to, give them a brush and water cup. Remind students to start with a small amount of water and to rinse their brush in between colors.

## Clean up & Display

- Move the artwork to drying racks.
- Wipe up any paint/water from the desks/placemats.
- Rinse paintbrushes with cold water and place in a container brush end up to dry.
- Once paint is dry, mount artwork to black construction paper and add student label.
- Hang on classroom Art Lit gallery wall.