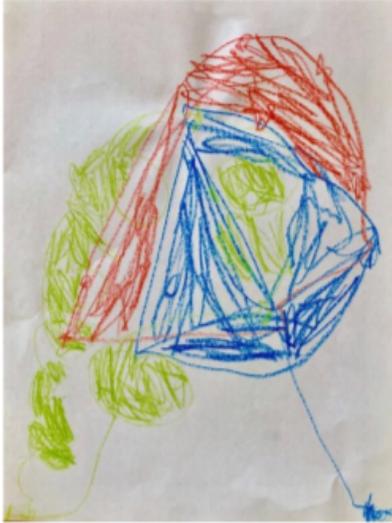


Chance Abstraction



Lesson developed by artist, Lesley Vance

Objective

Students explore line, color, shape, and space by creating an intentionally abstract drawing. In addition to developing creativity, this lesson helps strengthen students' listening and math skills.

Age Kindergarten and up

Time 45 minutes

Focus STEM, Visual Arts (Line, Color Shape, Space)

Material

- Paper
- Crayons

Core Standards

- Common Core: Count to 100 by ones and by tens.
- Visual Arts: Identify the elements of art in objects in nature, in the environment, and in works of art, emphasizing line, color, shape/form, and texture.

(See below for a full list of standards.)

Opening (5 mins)

Distribute paper to each student. Ask students to brainstorm examples of lines.

- *How many ways can you draw a line?*
- *Does a line have to be straight?*
- *Or can it be curved?*

Show students examples of lines: straight, curved, zig-zagged, diagonal, etc. **(See example in the resource page below.)**

Introduce the idea of connecting dots and show an example of connecting randomly drawn dots using different types of lines. **(See example in resource page below.)**

- *Do you know what it means to connect dots?*

Instructions and Guided Practice (10 mins)

Step 1: *Please pick out five different colored crayons, then choose one color to begin.*

Step 2: *Count out the number of letters in your name. You can count with your fingers if you need to. Share the number of letters in your name with the person sitting next to you. (Provide help as needed.)*

Ok, now for each letter of your name draw the corresponding same number of dots.

Show an example on the white board as needed.

- *My name is XXX, which has # letters in it. Now, I will draw # number of dots on my page*

Step 3: *Next, connect the dots using different types of lines. Connect the last dot with the first dot, so that you create a closed shape.*

Draw an example on the white board as needed.

Step 4: *Choose a new color and draw the same number of dots as your age. For example, if you are five years old, then you'd draw five new dots all over the page. Spread out the dots!*

Step 5: *Now, connect these dots to create a new shape. Remember to connect the last dot to the first dot so that your shape is closed.*

Step 6: *Choose a different colored crayon and pick your favorite number between 5-10. Draw this many dots on your page. Spread them out as much as you want, allowing for your new dots to overlap with your other shapes. Connect these dots, as you have done before and make sure to close the shape by connecting the last dot to the first dot.*

Step 7: *Finally, color in your abstract shapes! You should now have three overlapping forms containing many shapes within them. Go ahead and color each of these shapes with different colors and textures. You can use textures like lines, heavy coloring, or light coloring. Have fun with it!*

Work Time (25 mins)

Circulate the room and encourage students to try new coloring techniques.

Closing (5 mins)

Go back into your drawing and the number of shapes you've drawn. Share your drawing with your partner and the number of shapes that are included.

Extension

2nd-5th Grade: Execute the same lesson as explained above, except instead of prompting students to draw dots according to their name and ages, have them draw dots based on mathematical equations.

Prompt 1: *What is 15 divided by 3? Draw that many dots.*

Prompt 2: *What is 16 minus 8? Draw that many dots.*

Prompt 3: *What is 3 multiplied by 3? Draw that many dots.*

Change the math problems according to grade level as appropriate. Continue the activity following the same instructions as above.

Philosophy

Art is an essential tool for early childhood development. Studies have shown that art education helps to increase comprehension of STEM and literacy concepts as well as offering students an outlet to process trauma, develop self-discipline and self-management, and interpersonal relationship skills. Active engagement in the arts can yield positive benefits in social and emotional growth. The art lessons developed by Crayon Collection are meant to support this growth.

Standards

Common Core Standards

Speaking and Listening

6. Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.

Counting

Know number names and the count sequence.

- Count to 100 by ones and by tens.

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.

- Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract within 10, e.g., by using objects or drawings to represent the problem

Social Emotional Competency

Self Management

- Attention control (maintain optimal work performance)

Visual Arts Standards

1.3 Identify the elements of art in objects in nature, in the environment, and in works of art, emphasizing line, color, shape/form, and texture.

2.7 Use visual and actual texture in works of art.

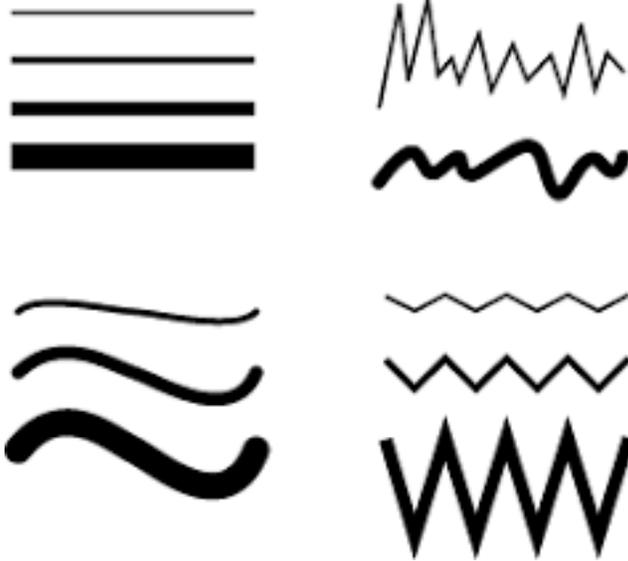
4.1 Discuss works of art created in the classroom, focusing on selected elements of art (e.g., shape/form, texture, line, color).

About the Artist

Lesley Vance is an LA based artist who received a BFA from The University of Wisconsin and a MFA from California Institute of the Arts. Lesley has participated in several notable group exhibitions including *The Campaign for Art*, SFMOMA, San Francisco (2016); *Conversations in and Around Abstract Paintings*, LACMA, Los Angeles (2015); *Don't shoot the Painter*, Milan (2015); *Painter Painter*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2013) and the 2010 Whitney Biennale, Whitney Museum, NY. She is currently partnered with the David Kordansky Gallery in Los Angeles.

Additional Resource

Example of lines



Example of connecting the dots

