Taking credit

He made his first great sculpture before he was even 25 years old. It’s called the Pietà and shows Jesus Christ lying dead in his mother Mary’s lap. Michelangelo carved it from one block of marble using chisels, hammers, and pumice stones. Before Michelangelo, sculpture had been very stiff and without emotion, but here, you can see and feel Mary’s sadness.

The Pietà is the only piece of work Michelangelo ever signed. The story goes that, as he was delivering the sculpture himself, he overheard spectators saying that he was too young to have really created the work. Michelangelo was angry, and that night he returned and chiseled his name on it.

Trapped!

David was Michelangelo’s next important sculpture. It is 17 feet tall (5.18 meters) and carved out of a huge block of marble. It shows the biblical hero David bravely holding his slingshot before his battle with Goliath. Michelangelo once said that the sculpture was trapped inside the block of marble, and it was his job to let it out.

Few people are famous enough to be called only by their first names. Michelangelo is one of them. Born in Florence, Italy, Michelangelo’s full name is Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni. His mother was ill when he was young, and a family of stonecutters took care of him. Growing up during the Renaissance, Michelangelo knew he wanted to be an artist. He apprenticed to both a painter and a sculptor and then moved to Rome. He was a devout Christian, and most of his art was religious.

Upside-Down Art

Experience how Michelangelo felt while painting the Sistine Chapel ceiling!

You Need:
• Large sheet of white paper
• Masking tape
• Watercolor paints
• Paint brush
• Water
• A low table

You Create:
1. Have someone help you tape your paper to the underside of a table. Now lie on your back under the table, looking up at your paper. You can put a pillow under your head.
2. Wet your brush and have an assistant hold your tray of watercolors next to you. Paint whatever you want. How does your arm feel? Is it tired? Michelangelo painted like this for four years!
Michelangelo painted nine Old Testament stories in rectangular panels that run the length of the vaulted ceiling. He placed the story of Adam and Eve at its center, with the famous image of God stretching out his hand to give Adam life.

The enormous ceiling is 66 feet (20 meters) above the ground. He worked high above the floor, lying on his back on scaffolding, which are raised wood platforms.

He used a style called trompe l’oeil, which is French for “fool the eye.” This technique makes things look so real that the artist fools the viewer.

He also painted seven Prophets and five Sibyls along the edges of the ceiling, as well as Christ’s ancestors in the triangular-shaped sections.

The Sistine Chapel is a fresco by Michelangelo. Here is a brief description of what is depicted:

The ceiling fresco of the Sistine Chapel is a masterpiece of Michelangelo’s art. It depicts scenes from the Old Testament, including the story of Adam and Eve, the creation of the world, and the flood. The figures are painted in a trompe l’oeil style, giving the illusion of three-dimensional space.

In addition to making sculptures, Michelangelo trained as a painter in both oil and fresco. Fresco is a technique of painting directly on a wall or ceiling. Colored pigment powder is added to wet plaster, and the color becomes permanent when the plaster dries. Painters have to work very quickly.

In 1508, Pope Julius II ordered Michelangelo to fresco the huge ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican Palace with scenes from the Old Testament. Michelangelo didn’t want to do it. He liked making sculptures more than painting, but since it was the pope who asked, he had no choice but to agree. Early on, Michelangelo became annoyed by his assistants and sent most of them away. He worked for four years on his ceiling masterpiece, painting more than 300 figures. No two of the 300 people look alike.
Katsushika Hokusai was one of the most important early Japanese artists. He was especially famous for his landscapes. Born in Edo, Japan (now called Tokyo), he started as an apprentice to a printmaker. The printmaker threw him out of his workshop because, instead of doing exactly what the man said, Hokusai liked to experiment and try new techniques.

Woodblock prints
Hokusai was most famous for his **woodblock prints**. He would draw a picture on very thin paper and then trace the drawing on a block of wood. Then, he carved away the wood around the lines so that the picture he had drawn was raised from the surface of the block. Next, he coated the raised areas with ink, and a piece of paper was pressed on top. The print came out as a mirror image.

A different block was used for each color. Sometimes as many as 12 blocks were used for one picture. Hokusai’s prints were so popular, the blocks used to make them wore out. In his lifetime, he completed over 30,000 works of art.

Celebrate nature
Hokusai was a master of **ukiyo-e**, which in Japanese means “pictures of the floating world.” Ukiyo-e painters hoped to celebrate the fragile beauty of the natural world.

Woodblock Print Card

**You Need:**
- Styrofoam meat tray (ask butcher for clean ones) or a Styrofoam plate
- Acrylic paint (any color)
- Foam brush
- Ballpoint pen
- Scissors
- 8 ½ x 11 white paper, folded in half to make a card

**You Create:**
1. Cut your Styrofoam into a square or rectangle.
2. Use the tip of a ballpoint pen to etch a picture or a design with swirls, dots, and lines into the Styrofoam. Remember, your picture will print as a mirror image.
3. Using your foam brush, gently cover the entire square of Styrofoam with a layer of paint. Do not press the paint into the indents your pen made—you want these areas to print white.
4. Flip the Styrofoam over and press it firmly to the outside of your folded white paper. Quickly pull it up and see your print. You may have to try a few times to get the amount of paint just right.

Hokusai never cleaned his studio. When the place became too dirty to work, he’d move instead of clean up!
My name is . . .
Back in Hokusai's day, it was not unusual in Japan to change one's name, sometimes more than once. Hokusai changed his name more than 30 times! Hokusai, the name he kept the longest, means “Star of the Northern Constellation.”

Show time
Hokusai liked an audience. He'd do public performances where he would paint hanging upside down or with the brush between his toes or in his mouth. Once, he painted two sparrows on one small grain of rice. Another time, he made a painting so enormous, people had to stand on their roofs to see it!
Édouard Manet was one of the most important painters of the 1800s. He was born in Paris, France, into a wealthy and well-educated family. His father wanted him to become a lawyer, but Manet refused. So his father made him join the navy. Manet was a horrible sailor and spent most of his time on the ship drawing pictures of his fellow shipmates. When he came back after a year at sea, he begged his father to let him be an artist. He studied for six years with a famous painter in Paris and also traveled to Italy, Germany, and the Netherlands to see great paintings. He spent his days in museums, copying the paintings of the Old Masters over and over, which was a popular teaching method at that time.

**Keeping it real**

He returned to Paris and made Realism the focus of his art. In the 1800s, the world was becoming more industrialized. Cities grew. Artists wanted to paint scenes of ordinary life. Manet often took his models from the streets, painting them in their everyday clothing, doing the things they normally did.

People were shocked by the realism in his paintings. They thought his colors were too harsh and that some of his models were ugly. Manet tried to exhibit his works with the Parisian masters, but they rejected him and criticized his modern way of painting.

**Great too late**

Manet was upset that no one appreciated his art, but he kept on painting. He is now credited with helping make way for a new style of painting, called Impressionism, by bridging the ways of the past with those of the modern day. (We’ll learn more about Impressionism later.) Toward the end of his life, he was included in exhibitions and people finally realized his talent. At his funeral, artist Edgar Degas said of Manet: “He was greater than we thought.”

There’s a story that, when Manet was in the navy, the boat’s captain knew he was a good artist and had him “touch up” the food so it wouldn’t look so rotten and spoiled.
Paint with Five Senses

Artists use all five senses—sight, sound, taste, touch, and smell—to tell a story or show emotions. Why don’t you try it, too?

TASTE: Sit at a table with a piece of paper and a pencil. Tie a blindfold over your eyes. Have someone place a plate of different foods in front of you (try a slice of lemon, a cookie, or a piece of cheese). As you bite into each food, try to draw what you taste.

SMELL: Now do the same thing, but this time, bring the food up to your nose and inhale. Draw what you smell.

TOUCH: Set up the same way again, but this time, touch the foods. Draw what you feel.

SIGHT: Take off the blindfold, and draw what you see on the plate in front of you.

SOUND: Keep your blindfold on. Listen to the sounds around you and draw what you hear.

The Fifer

1866, oil on canvas, Orsay Museum in Paris, France

Manet painted this portrait after seeing portraits by Velázquez hanging in the Prado Museum on a visit to Spain. Plucking a nameless fife player from a military band, Manet painted this normal little boy as if he were royalty. He used bold brushstrokes and flat areas of color. This honest and straightforward image is one of the first works of modern art.

A fife is a flute-like instrument.

What’s in the background?
Nothing—and at that time, this was very shocking.

Because there’s no background, the vivid red and solid black of the boy’s uniform jump out.

This painting was criticized for being too simple and was rejected for Paris exhibitions.

There are no shadows, which gives the painting the same flatness found in photographs.
Later in life, Renoir came down with serious arthritis, which deformed his hands. He couldn’t hold a brush. The only way he could paint was to tie the paintbrush to his arm.

Like many artists, Renoir did not become famous until after he died—and then he became super-famous! Renoir was born in Limoges, France, but he grew up in Paris, not far from the famous art museum the Louvre. He would visit often to look at the paintings and sculptures. At 13, he took a job painting flowers on porcelain to help his father, who was a poor tailor, make money. He learned how to paint with a steady but delicate hand.

He began to study art when he was 17. His teacher taught in the old-fashioned style, emphasizing historical or religious scenes painted with dark colors. One day, another student named Claude Monet invited Renoir to join him in painting outside. Renoir was surprised by how much he loved it. Renoir and Monet had similar ways of painting, and they often painted side by side “en plein air.” They became good friends and often shared food when they had no money.

Happy faces, happy places
Renoir is known as “the painter of happiness.” He painted beautiful people relaxing and having fun. He thought paintings should make the viewer happy, and he felt that the people on his canvas should look happy as well. Renoir was an Impressionist. He painted with bright colors in wide strokes to give the appearance of light when seen from a distance.

Renoir used his friends as models. The man with the straw hat on the left was the son of the owner of the restaurant. The woman cooing at her little dog was Renoir’s girlfriend, whom he later married.
The Luncheon of the Boating Party at Bougival

(1880-1881, oil on canvas, Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.)

This famous, joyful scene shows a summer boating party finishing their meal on a terrace overlooking the Seine River in Paris. Renoir captures their friendship through their relaxed poses and the way they gather and gossip together. Renoir also captures their happiness. The people glow, and the glasses, dishes, and fruit on the table sparkle. There is no symbolism in this painting. Renoir purely meant to show a "slice of life," and the painting looks like a just-snapped photograph.

Study the people in the painting. Only two are actually looking at one another. Who are they?

Renoir used a palette of rainbow colors. He painted shadows bright blue and lavender instead of black.

Sunlight Scratch Art

You Need:
- Heavy paper
- Oil pastels or crayons (yellow, orange, red, pink)
- Black tempera paint
- Liquid dish soap
- Foam brush
- Pointed wooden stick or toothpick

You Create:
1. Cover the entire paper with a thick layer of pastel or crayon in different "sunny" colors. Do not leave any white space.
2. Mix some black paint with a drop of dish soap. Using a foam brush, paint the entire paper with an even layer. Let dry completely (1 or 2 hours).
3. With the tip of your pointy object, scrape a simple picture. The bright color from underneath will shine through, giving the effect of shimmering sunlight.
Henri Rousseau is famous today for his enchanting and mysterious paintings, but while he was alive, his art was constantly rejected and mocked. Born in Laval, France, Rousseau didn’t do well in school and often got into trouble. Years later, he said he wished someone had noticed that he was good at art and sent him to art school. No one ever did. Everything Rousseau learned about art, he taught himself.

Sticks and stones
Rousseau’s nickname was “Le Douanier,” which means “customs officer” in French. He collected tolls at one of the gates in Paris and painted only in his free time. An outsider from the start, he joined the “Salon of the Independents,” a group of artists who exhibited their work without the approval of the official Salon. Critics laughed at his self-taught style. They said it was too simple looking. They said a lot of other very mean things. But other artists thought his paintings had a strange, dream-like quality. They told him to keep on painting.

Wide world
In 1889, the World’s Fair came to Paris with exhibits from all over the world. At that time, you couldn’t turn on the TV or surf the Internet to see pictures and videos from far-off places. Rousseau first realized how exotic and large the world was at the World’s Fair. He wanted to travel, but instead, he began to paint his imagined adventures in faraway lands.

Even though he’d never been to a jungle, Rousseau loved making tropical pictures. He’d sketch in local parks and zoos. He used pictures from magazines. People laughed at his paintings because they looked unreal. Rousseau kept on painting them.

Primitive painter
Rousseau is grouped with the Post-Impressionist artists, who broke free from the naturalism of Impressionism, but he is also called a primitive or naïve painter. His style was child-like, often resembling illustrations in a storybook. Rousseau worked on his canvases slowly, inch by inch. During his life he had only one solo exhibition, but even then, he wasn’t very successful. Today, his paintings hang in major museums worldwide.
In the Jungle

Just like Rousseau, you don't need to visit a jungle to make great jungle art.

You Need:
- Green construction paper
- White drawing paper
- Markers or paint/brushes
- Scissors
- Glue stick

You Create:

1. Using either colored markers or paint, draw a jungle animal on the white paper. How about a tiger, snake, hippo, monkey, parrot, or gorilla?
2. Now cut leaves from the green construction paper. Make your leaves all different shapes and sizes.
3. Using your glue stick, attach the leaves to the white paper to create your jungle. Be sure your leaves overlap. Have the leaves cover up parts of your jungle animal.
4. You can add flowers and tall grass with markers.

Tiger in a Tropical Storm
also known as
Surprised!

(1891, oil on canvas, National Gallery in London, England)

This was the first of Rousseau's many jungle paintings. Lit up by a flash of lightening, a tiger is ready to pounce on its unseen prey—maybe even a human explorer! Rousseau first exhibited it under the title Surprised! The slanting rain and the wind whipping through the tall grass show the intensity of the storm.

Rousseau used glowing colors, strong shadows, and dramatic shading. How many different greens can you find?

Some of these plants aren't really jungle plants but houseplants that he used as "models."

Rousseau used glowing colors, strong shadows, and dramatic shading.
Paul Gauguin traveled the world, searching for adventure and beauty, then painted what he experienced. Born in Paris, he spent much of his childhood in Peru. Never one to stay still, Gauguin joined the merchant marines as a teenager and sailed around the world. When he returned, he became a successful stockbroker in Paris. He spent a lot of money buying paintings by Monet and other artists who were showing their work at that time. Gauguin took up painting as a weekend hobby. Soon, he realized that all he wanted to do was paint.

Far, far away
Gauguin gave up his job to paint full-time. He also gave up his wife and five children. He turned his back on everything and everyone. He was convinced that he needed to live a simpler life to create his best work. He traveled to the Caribbean island of Martinique and even worked on building the Panama Canal. Then, he moved in with painter Vincent Van Gogh in the south of France. That didn’t go well. They had a major fight, and Gauguin left. He still couldn’t find the perfect place to paint.

Island paradise
In 1891, Gauguin moved by himself to the island of Tahiti. Tahiti is in the middle of the Pacific Ocean between South America and Australia. Gauguin was convinced that people in Europe were mean and sneaky. He liked the directness and spirit in Tahiti. He wanted to live in harmony with nature.

Color my world
In Tahiti, a tropical island covered in rainforest, Gauguin’s art changed. He painted the world around him but he added his imagination to the mix. He wanted to combine dream with reality to create an enchanted
world. He found inspiration in the bold colors and flat shapes of Tahitian tribal art. He developed a new style with strong outlines filled with bright, flat colors—much more intense than those found in nature. For example, he painted a dog red, the sky yellow, or a tree blue.

Gauguin’s art was very much influenced by his surroundings. He painted this soon after he arrived in Tahiti, capturing the primitive beauty of the people and the island.

The title of this painting means “Sacred Spring, Sweet Dreams” in the Tahitian language.

His people look child-like to show the uncomplicated lives of the natives.

He used flat areas of color instead of dabs and streaks.

He chose loud colors, with shocking color contrasts.

All his figures have clear outlines.

The people of Tahiti didn’t much like Gauguin.
Edvard Munch had a sad childhood, and that sadness lived on in his art. He was born in Loten, Norway, but moved with his family to the city of Oslo. When he was a child, his mother and sister died of tuberculosis, and another sister was sent away to a mental institution. His father was an intensely religious man who would shut himself away to pray for the entire day. Often sick, Edvard spent his days drawing inside the family’s apartment.

Munch went to art school in Oslo, then moved to Paris to paint. His first major work, *Sick Child*, dealt with his sister’s death. It captured his sadness and guilt over watching her die.

**Let it out**
Munch displayed his feelings on his canvases. His style is called *Expressionism*, because the focus is not on how an object looks but on the artist’s pure emotion. He wanted the viewer to feel his anger, fear, or sickness.

**A tough life**
Munch suffered from depression, often complained of hearing voices in his head, and was addicted to alcohol. During an especially dark time in his life, he painted a series of 22 paintings called *The Frieze of Life*. The paintings had titles such as *Melancholy, Jealousy, Despair, Anxiety*, and *The Scream*. The exhibition had to be pulled down after only one week because people found his art upsetting.

“I will paint living people who breathe and feel and suffer and love.”
Make a Face!

Do you often stick a smile on the faces you draw? Even if your people are always happy, drawing different expressions is a great way to show emotion in your art.

You Need:
- A mirror
- Paper
- Colored pencils

You Create:

1. Look in the mirror. Try making different expressions with your face. What do you look like when you're surprised? Angry? Scared? Sleepy? If you have a friend or parent nearby, have them try to guess which emotion your face is showing.

2. Now pick one emotion and make that face. On your paper, draw a large oval for your head. Add in your eyes, nose, and mouth. Look in the mirror. Is your mouth open or closed? Are your eyes wide or small?

3. Add details. Draw your eyebrows raised if you are surprised. Slant your eyebrows down if you are angry. Add tears if you are crying. Make your cheeks pink if you are embarrassed.

The Scream

(1893, oil, tempera, and pastel on cardboard, National Gallery of Norway and the Munch Museum in Oslo, Norway)

*The Scream* is the ultimate in Expressionist art. We see a lonely man with a skull-like head. His mouth is open, and he's clutching his face in fear. The screaming man is Munch. He wrote in his diary that the image came from a time when he was walking with two friends at sunset, and he leaned against a rail to rest. Suddenly, he felt anxious. A scream exploded out of him that seemed to pass through all of nature. You can see the shockwaves of his terror rippling through the water and sky.

Munch showed emotion through intense colors. The orange sky clashes with the blue water.

The swirling landscape shows his turmoil.

A pastel version of *The Scream* sold in 2012 for over $119 million.
Called the “King of Color,” Henri Matisse was known for his bold use of bright color. Matisse was born in a small town in northern France, and his parents owned a general store. He planned on becoming a lawyer, but he got very sick at age 20. While he was in bed getting better, his mother bought him a box of paints. He discovered that he loved painting. He gave up law, moved to Paris, and trained to become an artist.

**Color my world**
Matisse was intrigued by the power of color. Seeing different colors makes us feel different emotions, such as calmness, anger, or happiness. That’s why hospital walls are painted soothing colors. When Matisse started painting, new colors and pigments were being created. The paint was premixed and not too expensive, allowing Matisse to experiment with color. He painted with few lines and only a few colors. Matisse felt that the simpler the color, the stronger it becomes.

**Wild and crazy**
When Matisse and several other painters exhibited their work in 1905, a critic said they were like *fauves*, which means “wild beasts.” The name *Fauves* stuck for artists who used a lot of bright, bold colors to express their emotions. Matisse was the leader of the Fauves. He wanted to get rid of everything on the canvas that was not color.

**Making the cut**
Matisse painted until the end of his life, even when he was in a wheelchair and very sick. When he was too weak to paint at an easel, he created “paper cuts” by cutting out shapes from colored paper with scissors. He then collaged them into pictures. **Collage** comes from the French word *coller*, which means “to paste or glue.” Matisse called his technique of making collages “drawing with scissors.”

In 1961, Matisse’s painting *Le Bateau* (The Sailboat) was displayed at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Forty-seven days later, someone realized it had been mistakenly hung upside down!

---

Creativity takes courage.
Painting with Scissors

Cutout collages look easy to make, but it's hard work to arrange the shapes and colors to create the most interesting picture.

You Need:
- Colored construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick

You Create:

1. Choose three or four colors of construction paper that you feel go together. Like Matisse, use your scissors to cut shapes directly into the paper. Try some spirals, zigzags, and curves, too. Save both your positive and negative shapes.

2. Wait until you have a pile of cutout shapes, then begin to arrange them on a large sheet of paper. Don’t glue any down now, or you won’t be able to move them around. Use only the shapes that you feel work best together, and put the extras in a pile on the side. Try overlapping and layering some shapes.

3. When you are happy with your design, glue down the shapes.

Pierrot’s Funeral

(Stencil print, Plate 10 of the illustrated book “Jazz” by H. Matisse, 1947, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, in Ithaca, New York, or Stanford University Library in Palo Alto, California*)

Jazz is the title of an illustrated book by Henri Matisse which includes 20 reproductions of his cutouts. Pierrot’s Funeral is number ten. The portfolio is not about jazz music. It is about Matisse’s emotions about art. He felt that both jazz and art allowed a person to improvise and create. To make his collages, Matisse first had his assistants paint white paper with bright colors. Then he cut out shapes without sketching them first. Next he pinned the shapes to his walls and examined them. He moved them around to find the best composition. Finally, when he was happy with the arrangement—and this could take years—he glued them to a canvas or board.

Cutout shapes are called positive shapes. The holes left in the paper after the shapes have been cut are called negative shapes. Matisse used both in his collages.

A Pierrot is a sad clown with a white face. Pierrots appeared in shows called pantomimes. Matisse often said the artist was like a Pierrot.

Matisse used only a few colors at a time in his collages.

* There were 370 original copies of Jazz. These are only two of the many places to view it.
Strange, weird, wacky, and bizarre are all words used to describe Salvador Dali—and Dali was often the one using them! He was happiest when he was shocking people with both his art and his behavior. Born in Figueras, Spain, Dali experimented with many different art styles as a child. He painted landscapes. He painted portraits. He tried Impressionism and Cubism. In art school in Madrid, Dali hung out with troublemakers. He told the teachers that he was a better artist than they were and refused to listen to them. They kicked him out, but he kept on painting and experimenting.

Dreamlike and absurd

Soon Dali discovered a style of art called **Surrealism**. Surrealism means “above realism.” Surrealism is a wacky, sideways view of life that often pokes fun at the world. Surrealists feel that dreams, not rational thoughts, show what’s truly hidden in our minds. Dali described his work as “hand-painted dream photographs.” Surreal art places ordinary people and everyday objects in bizarre surroundings. For example, Dali once attached a lobster to a telephone!

Wacky guy

Dali was quite weird. He refused to let anyone see his bare feet. He wouldn't walk on grass because he had an intense fear of grasshoppers. He would jump up and down in public to get attention.

---

**Surreal Collage**

Let your imagination run wild as you make your own surreal art!

**You Need:**

- Paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Magazines
- Glue stick

**You Create:**

1. Cut out random objects from magazines. Find images that are strange. Also find everyday objects, such as toothpaste, a bicycle, a dog, or a roll of toilet paper. Take your time cutting out the pictures so the edges are clean and precise.

2. Next, cut out a landscape background and glue it to the paper. Or draw your own landscape with markers.

3. Choose images from your pile that work in **juxtaposition**, which means they don't normally go together but are now placed next to each other. For example, using a country lane background, glue a picture of a fish riding a bicycle and balancing a pear on the handlebars. Now you are making surreal art!
The Persistence of Memory
(1931, oil on canvas, Museum of Modern Art in New York, New York)

This desert landscape covered with melting watches is the most famous Surrealist painting. Dalí said part of the idea came to him in a dream. Why do you think he shows time melting? Many people feel Dalí is telling us that time is meaningless.

The landscape is of northeastern Spain, where Dalí spent his childhood.

Three melting watches are all stopped at different times.

The fly on the watch and the ants symbolize decay, as if time is losing its meaning.

In all of his paintings, you can find Dalí’s self-portrait. Here he is!

The True Cheese Story
Dalí spent the day painting in his studio. His picture showed a beach and the rocky coastline by the sea. He had painted an olive tree with most of the branches missing. The rest of the painting was empty. He didn’t know how to fill it. That evening, he was tired and had a headache. He told his friends and wife to go the movies without him. He sat at his dinner table for a long time, staring at the leftover Camembert cheese. Camembert is a soft, round, gooey cheese. Then he had an idea! He went to his studio and filled the painting with clocks that looked like melting Camembert cheeses. When his wife returned from the movies, he showed her the painting and asked if she thought she’d forget it in three years’ time. She felt that once someone had seen the image there was no way he or she would ever forget it.
Let's Talk Color

You stand in front of a blank piece of paper, just as a famous artist stands before his or her canvas. You know what you want to paint. But what colors should you use? This is a very important choice. Color gives a painting a mood. Color changes how we view different objects and scenes.

**Color Recipes**

Red, blue, and yellow are the **three primary colors**. Primary colors cannot be created from other colors. They can be mixed to make all the other colors of the rainbow.

**Secondary colors** are the three colors you get when you mix one primary color with another primary color.

**Tertiary Colors**, or the third group of colors, are the six colors formed by mixing one primary and one secondary color.

**Spin the Color Wheel**

A **color wheel** shows the relationship between colors. **Complementary colors** are opposite one another on the color wheel.

- Red and Green
- Blue and Orange
- Yellow and Purple

What happens if you mix complementary colors together? You get brown.
Analogous colors are colors side-by-side on the color wheel, such as blue-green and blue.

Tints are colors with white added to make them lighter. Add white to purple and you get lavender. Add white to red and you get pink.

Shades are colors mixed with black. Black makes a color darker. Add black to green, and you get forest green. Add black to blue and you get navy.

Monochromatic colors are all the colors from one family, just with white or black added. For example, pink, red, and burgundy are monochromatic.

Color Temperature
Red, yellow, and orange are called warm colors. These sunny colors give a painting a feeling of warmth. Warm colors make objects appear closer in a picture.

Colors with blue added to them are called cool colors. Blue, green, and purple are cool colors. Cool colors make objects appear farther away in a picture.

Did you know that black, white, and gray are not considered true colors? They are called neutral colors. Colors that resemble the soil—browns, tans, warms grays, and yellows—are called earth colors.
How do artists make objects painted on a flat piece of paper look real and 3-D? They use perspective. Perspective tricks your eyes.

The basic idea of perspective is:
If an object is close to you, draw it bigger.
If an object is far from you, draw it smaller.

Here is a road with three trees. Which tree looks biggest? The one closest to you. In real life, the trees would be the about same size. Two are drawn smaller in the picture, so you know they are far away.

Artists use a **horizon line**. This is an imaginary line across the page where the sky and earth meet.

The road in this picture goes back and seems to disappear at a single point. This imaginary point on the horizon line is called the **vanishing point**.

Objects become smaller and smaller the closer they are to the horizon line. And then they completely disappear at the vanishing point.
Let's draw a house in perspective!
If you look at a house from the front it looks like this:
   But you don't live in a flat house, do you?

If you look at a house from an angle, it looks like this:

Let's start with a piece of paper, a pencil with an eraser, and a ruler. Use your ruler to draw every line!

As explorer Christopher Columbus discovered centuries ago, our world is not flat. Using these perspective hints will help make your art appear real. Some viewers may be so tricked that they'll reach out to touch the 3-D objects in your drawing!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size objects appear</th>
<th>Amount of detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreground</td>
<td>Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle ground</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background</td>
<td>Small</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very little</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 1: Lightly draw a horizontal line across the center of your paper. This is the horizon line. Draw an x on the line towards the right side. The X is the vanishing point.

Step 2: On the left side, draw a square over the horizon line. Draw a triangle on top.

Step 3: Using your ruler, draw lines connecting the two right-side corners of the square and the top point of the triangle to the x.

Step 4: Halfway along the new triangle you've created, draw a vertical line. This is the backside of your house.

Step 5: Erase all the lines you don’t need and color in your house.