Vincent Van Gogh
K – 5 Lesson Plan

Classroom Lesson Time Line:  Presentation 15 min, project 45 min, clean up 5 min

Art Lesson Objective: The main ideas will focus on Vincent Van Gogh’s style of color, texture, and form. Students will create a landscape or still-life of their own, using each of these concepts.

- Complementary colors: colors placed opposite one another on the color wheel
- Texture: the visual and especially tactile quality of a surface
- Outline: to show the edge of something, or draw around its edge, so that its shape is clear:

Theme of Power Point: Recognizing Van Gogh’s use of color, and texture to create mood, and movement in his art.

Artist Quote: “I often think the night is more alive and more richly colored than the day.”

Concerns: Vincent Van Gough struggled with a mental illness, which can often take the forefront in the story of his life. It’s okay to mention this, but be sure that the main focus of his personal story is focused on his art.

Vocabulary Highlights
- Color Wheel: A color wheel is a circular arrangement of hues, close to the order of how colors are represented in the light color spectrum. Artists use them for: mixing colors, for determining colors and for selecting colors
- Complementary Colors: Colors placed opposite one another on the color wheel
- Outline: To show the edge of something, or draw around its edge, so that its shape is clear:
- Texture: The visual feeling of a painting, smooth, rough, in motion.

Materials:
- Classroom Supplies: Pencil with pink eraser.
- CPL Supplies in box: Black construction paper, oil pastels

Prep Classroom:

Make sure the computers are ready to go and the PowerPoint is loaded. (PowerPoint Presentation can be found on provided zip drive, or the CPL website at www.carnegiepicturelab.com.)
Classroom Lesson Outline:

Step 1: Classroom Presentation - 15 minutes

Please utilize the posters. They will be especially important during the project portion of the lesson plan.

Step 2: Discussion of project to have before beginning - 5 minutes

Review Van Gogh’s use of line, texture and color. (See slides for details)

Step 3: Art Material Distribution - 5 minutes

- Black construction paper – with CPL information sheet taped to one side
- Box of oil pastels
  Note: Tell students that they can peel down the paper on the oil pastel marker in order to use ALL of the pastel.

Step 4: Art Project – 30 minutes

1. Write your name on the back of the paper in pencil.

2. Instruct students to choose a landscape or still life that they’d like to create.
   - **What time of day is it?**
   - **What temperature is it? Will you use warm or cool colors?**
   - **What is the weather like? How does the weather move?**

3. Use pink eraser to sketch your basic design, if you don’t like any part of it, just wipe it away with your fingers.

4. Use white oil pastel to *lightly* trace over you eraser lines.

5. Fill in you painting with at least two colors everywhere. Use “motion” in your “brush strokes” as Van Gogh did.

6. Make sure your entire paper is covered with at least two layers of color, then outline each separate shape with black, or other dark oil pastel.

Step 5: CLEAN-UP - 5 minutes

- Have students put oil pastels back in boxes
- Clean table surfaces.

Please be considerate of the next group.

Support Materials:

- Posters: *Wheatfield with Cypresses, c. 1889; Sunflowers, c. 1888; Starry Night*
- Books: TBD