



## Winter Lesson Review 2015 - Diego Rivera

1. What worked especially well for you with this lesson/project?

Water colors area pretty easy medium and the kids generally responded well to this project.

Having them sketch on paper first.

*Diego* by Jonah Winter (which has been donated to each school library by CPL – plan ahead and check it out) works well with the K-2 classes instead of the PowerPoint.

Three people worked well to keep the project moving.

We had to shorten the Diego presentation (used “Diego” instead of PowerPoint) in order to have time for the art project.

2. Any student responses/interactions that surprised motivated or inspired you?

Our Spanish class responded particularly positively to the paintings and life of Diego Rivera. Some had been to visit his birthplace in Mexico.

Really intricate pre-drawings.

The children loved doing the painting – so colorful.

Project took longer than we expected.

3. What are your suggestions for improvement for this lesson/project?

When you are the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> student to use the watercolors, it is not a very nice experience. The paints are messy\*, sometimes a color is missing, the colors are always mixed. I taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, which was the very last class to be taught, and it was hard. The plaster sucked up the paint so this was a difficult project to get them to “cover” the entire board. Often, they would use an entire paint cup just to color in the sky, etc.

\* A teachable moment! Instruct kids to wash out their brush **between** colors!