

OUTDOOR INSPIRATIONS!



Hello young artists! Welcome to Outdoor Inspirations! An outdoor, ONLINE camp!

This packet outlines the materials that you will need for camp, an outline of this week's projects, and printed versions of the information that I will be presenting to you, as we explore artists, mediums and art concepts inspired by the outdoors!

***All items below are necessary but items that are highlighted are NOT included in the art bag. If you need an item that is not highlighted, please call the Helen Day Art Center at (802) 253-8358. Thank you!**

MATERIALS:

- Access to outside materials like sticks, rocks, leaves, etc.
- Brainstorm sketchbook
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- 1 wood frame and string, with vellum attached
- Watercolor paintbrush
- Markers
- Watercolor paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil
- Watercolor set
- Cup of water
- Camera (can be any device)
- Paper towels
- Round base for mandala
- Sun Art paper (extra activity with attached instructions)

CAMP SCHEDULE

This camp asks students to spend some time outside looking for materials on some days.

DAY	TIME	WHAT	YOU'LL NEED...
MONDAY	12:30-2:00	Andy Goldsworthy Ephemeral Characters	- Access to the outside materials like rocks, sticks, leaves, etc. - Brainstorm Sketchbook - Camera (can be a phone or ipad camera)
TUESDAY	12:30-2:00	Natural Feeling Mandalas	- Brainstorm sketchbook - Construction paper - Scissors - Glue stick
WEDNESDAY	12:30-2:00	Nature's Preservation Suncatchers	- Access to relatively flat leaves, flowers, grass, etc. - Frame and string with clear vellum - Glue stick - Markers
THURSDAY	12:30-2:00	Atmospheric Perspective Monsters	- Watercolors - Watercolor paper - Paper towels - Water cup - Plate
FRIDAY	12:30-2:00	½ + ½ Complimentary Colorsapes	- Access to a window scene or an outdoor scene to draw - Watercolor paper - Pencil - Watercolor set - Cup of water - Paper towels - Brush - Cardboard ruler

MONDAY- ANDY GOLDSWORTHY EPHEMERAL CHARACTERS



Andy Goldsworthy is a British artist and sculptor who creates huge pieces of land art in the environment, using all natural objects such as pebbles, twigs, branches, pine cones, mud, leaves and petals. He often makes his sculptures out of one kind of material. In the images on this page, he has made sculptures with many rocks that are similar in size and color.

He is a **sculptor**. What makes someone a sculptor?

A person who makes sculptures by making objects into works of art.

He is also a **photographer**. What makes someone a photographer?

A person who takes photographs. Some photographers do this as a job.



He makes **ephemeral art**. What is ephemeral art?

Ephemeral Art is made with natural materials that are at hand. The artist constructs the sculpture anonymously, and then walks away to leave the piece to be discovered. Part of the appeal of Ephemeral Art is that the viewer accidentally stumbles upon the art, and is left to wonder who made it, and why. For example, if you've ever made a rock tower near the river, you've made ephemeral art!

What is a pattern? What is repetition? What is contrast?

A pattern is a **repeated decorative design**. Can you see a pattern in the swirl above?

Repetition is used in these sculptures because Andy **repeated the use of similar rocks**.

Does the swirl stand out from the background or does it fade into its surroundings?

Andy used contrast in this sculpture by creating contrast between the light values of his sculpture and the dark value of the surface it is made on.

Today, we are going to be making our own **sculptures** inspired by Andy Goldsworthy's art.

AGENDA

1. Looking at examples of Andy Goldsworthy's artwork on google images.
2. Choose a sculpture that inspires you. Maybe you'd like to recreate it or do something similar!
3. Go outside to determine where you want your sculpture to be made.
4. Notice what is surrounding the location that you've picked. How can you use what is near you to build your sculpture?
5. See if you can create **contrast** with the values of your sculpture compared to its background.
6. Make a shape or a pattern with your materials, using **repetition and pattern**.
7. Photograph your sculpture and make sure to get the whole sculpture in the photo! Your sculpture is meant to stay, but not for long! Eventually, nature will take over your sculpture, and this is what is supposed to happen.

TUESDAY- NATURAL FEELING MANDALAS

Mandala in Sanskrit, means “circle.” For people who follow the buddhist religion of Tibet, a mandala is the sacred symbol of the Universe. In Tibetan Buddhism, it can be created in the form as a painting on a wall or a scroll or with colour sands on a table or platform. It is constructed with **geometric** composition. The purpose of the mandala is to guide individuals to gain wisdom and compassion along the path to enlightenment.



According to the teachings of Buddhism, the mandalas can transmit positive energies to the environment and to people who view them. The sacred mandala painting (whether on a wall or a scroll) can be created by the Tibetan Buddhist monks or practitioners. In creating such a sacred mandala, they would have to be in the state of calm, through chants and meditation. At the same time, they invoke the divine energies of the deities residing inside the mandala.

What are Geometric shapes?

Geometric shapes are shapes made out of points and lines including the triangle, square, and circle. Other shapes are so complex that it takes math in order to create them. These shapes are the opposite of organic shapes. While geometric shapes are more precise, organic shapes are natural.

What are Organic shapes?

Organic shapes are defined as **shapes** that are irregular or asymmetrical in appearance and tend to have a curvy flow to them. Nearly all **shapes** found in nature are **organic** in appearance. Examples are leaves, flowers etc.

AGENDA

Today we are going to be thinking of how nature makes us feel and translate that feeling to a nature-inspired mandala.

1. What is the feeling you get by being outside?
2. Look at the construction paper you have and pick three colors that represent your emotion. Happy emotions could be warm and sunny like red, orange or yellow. Sad emotions could be cool like blue or purple.
3. Draw some **organic shapes that represent nature** onto the colored paper that you choose for the shapes and cut them out.
4. Place your shapes onto your circular mandala template, mirroring your shapes on each quadrant.
5. Glue your shapes down, making sure to glue them down the correct way.

WEDNESDAY- NATURE'S PRESERVATION SUNCATCHERS



Pressed flowers is an art form that can be traced back to ancient Egypt. In the 1500's **Oshibana** (the art of pressing flowers in a way to create a whole picture) was meticulous and skilled.

This art form became popular in the 1800's, in Victorian England. Flower petals and leaves were arranged with ribbons to make visually compelling **compositions**. Flowers and leaves were often pressed between the pages of a book to preserve the memory of a special day.

Samples of plants have often been collected by travellers and botanists and professional field presses were used for these events. This led the way to some important botanical finds that improved our view of nature and the botanical world at large.

Agenda

1. Gather relatively flat flowers, petals, leaves, grass, etc.
2. Arrange your findings into a composition on the back side of the clear frame sheet.
3. Once you are happy with your design, glue each flower down by using the glue stick on the sheet underneath it.
4. If you want to use bigger flowers/natural findings that won't stay flat, you can press them. Press your flowers completely by arranging them on a piece of paper, put a another piece of paper over them, and then put a large book or flat weight over the top of your arrangement. You can also use a light book and press down firmly on it for a couple of minutes. Then peel your flowers off and glue them to the clear part of your frame, on the back side.
5. Decorate your frame with markers.
6. Ask a parent/guardian if you can hang your suncatcher in a window or stand it up in a window sill.

Extra time activity: Press more flowers between two pieces of drawing paper and place them under a couple of books. Leave them there and wait for a couple of days-weeks before opening. See the results of long-term flower pressing!

THURSDAY- ATMOSPHERIC PERSPECTIVE MONSTERS

Have you ever noticed that the mountains in the distance are blue and lighter/more faded than the mountains closer to us?

Why does this happen?

Air is composed of many tiny molecules. When we look through a lot of air, and at things that are far away, we are looking through all of the molecules in the air over the distance between us and the thing we are looking at. This is why it is easy to see things close to us but when we see mountains from far away, they look faded because we are looking at them through a lot more air than the mountain that is closer to us. This effect is also called atmospheric perspective.

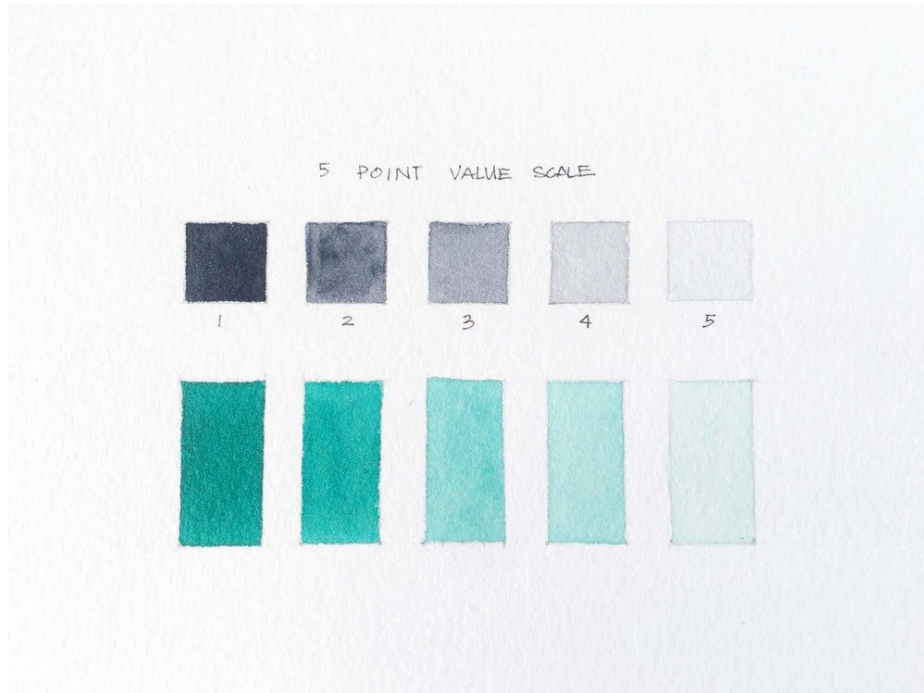


What is **atmospheric perspective** in art?

In art “Atmospheric perspective is a technique of rendering depth or distance in paintings. We are going to do this today by using different **values** of color!

AGENDA

1. Pull out one sheet of watercolor paper. You should have two but you only need one for now.
2. Value scale: Make a tiny puddle of color on your plate by dipping your brush **briefly** in your water, trying not to get it too wet, and putting it in the color you want. Make a small puddle of color on your plate. Wash and dry your brush Now just put your brush in your puddle on the plate and paint a streak on your paper.
3. Add more water to the puddle on your plate and sample it on the paper next to your last streak. Keep doing this, adding more water each time until you have five streaks.



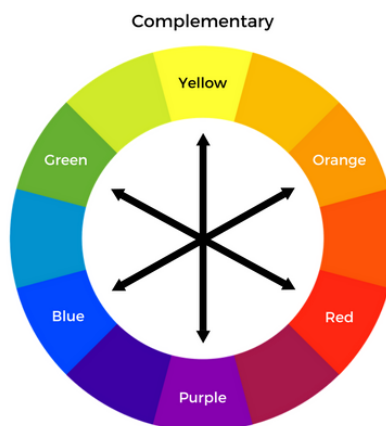
4. On your second piece of watercolor paper, draw (in pencil) a mountain landscape with five layers, like the one shown above.
5. Fill in your shapes starting with the darkest value or color on the bottom shape. Work your way up, adding more water to dilute your color as you go up.
6. When we get to the lightest value, our darkest value on the bottom should be almost dry.
7. Draw with dark marker or paint, your favorite kind of monster in its mountainous habitat!

***For tomorrow:** Find the watercolor paper in the bundle for Friday and fold it in half. Draw your favorite tree or plant in the middle, in pencil. If you want to draw a whole landscape instead of a single tree or plant, make sure that your landscape takes up the whole paper space. Leave the background white, for tomorrow. Do not add any color to your drawing. We will be adding color tomorrow.

FRIDAY - 1/2 AND 1/2 COMPLEMENTARY COLORSCAPES

Today, we are going to be looking at the **color wheel** and we will paint a landscape with a pair of complementary colors! What are the **complementary** colors?

Complimentary colors can also be called “opposite colors,” because they are on opposite side of the color wheel! Complimentary colors are often used together because our eyes tend to like the way they look together.



Yesterday, you drew your favorite tree or plant in the middle of your watercolor paper. We will paint the background today!

AGENDA

1. Look at the color wheel on the next page. Where are the complementary colors?
2. Fold your landscape in half, vertically and use a straightedge to make a line down the middle where the fold is, in pencil.
3. Choose a pair of complementary colors, like green and red or yellow and purple.
4. Dip your brush in one complimentary color and paint one side of your background using only that color and crying amounts of values for that side. Think about atmospheric perspective, which we talked about yesterday.
5. Change the water in your cup, clean your brush and dip it in the second complimentary color in your complimentary color pair. Paint the remaining side of your drawing with this color.
6. When you're done painting, you can leave your painting out to dry.

Complementary

