

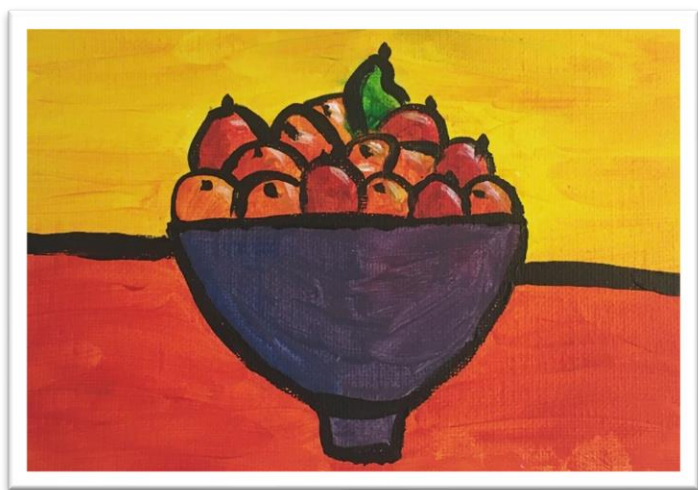
Cezanne-Inspired Still Life

Description: Learn about color theory and form as you create a still life painting inspired by Paul Cezanne.

Recommended Ages: Grades 3rd-8th

Materials:

- Pencil
- Mixed media paper or canvas
- Tempera paints (primary colors, white and black)
- Paint brush
- Water
- Palette (or plate)
- Large bowl
- Fruit



Procedure:

1. Paul Cezanne was a Post-Impressionist French painter who is said to have bridged late 19th century Impressionism with early 20th century artistic styles. Cezanne's work would have a great influence on artists such as Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso. Cezanne is best known for his use of tone, composition and color.
2. Take a look at Cezanne's painting, *The Basket of Apples*. What do you notice about this work? What colors do you see? Does the painting appear to be very life-like? What does the table look like? Does it appear a bit strange? In Cezanne's still life paintings, he played with perspective (or how the world appears from a particular point of view) and played with flattening surfaces. Some arrangements seem to be a collage of different angles. In these paintings, Cezanne focused on individual objects instead of the whole scene.
3. Now, it's your turn to play with perspective and the flattening of surfaces.
4. Arrange a few pieces of fruit into a bowl and place them on a table. You may also choose to add additional objects from around your house to add to your still life. A still life is an artwork that features an arrangement of different objects.

5. Once you have your arrangement, it is time to get to work! Begin by sketching your still life on your paper. Get creative with the scale (or size) of objects and play with simple shapes like squares, rectangles and circles.
6. Once your sketch is to your liking, you can begin to paint. Start with your three primary colors and practice mixing them on your palette. Red and yellow will make orange tones, yellow and blue will make green tones, and red and blue will make purple tones. Once you have created your palette of colors, you can begin to paint.
7. After you have added color to your scene, set your painting aside for 15 minutes to dry.
8. Once it has had time to dry, use white paint to add highlights to your painting (this is where light is the strongest and creates a reflection or shine on your objects). You can also trace the objects you have painted with a black outline to make them pop.
9. Once finished, let your masterpiece dry and then make sure to display it!

Images:



Paul Cezanne, *The Basket of Apples*, 1890-1894