# Shapes and Colors

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS | Classroom Connections Grade Level: PreK-1st



#### **WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION**

Hunt for shapes and colors in the galleries, then integrate the art of color mixing with the math of geometric shapes to create a mixed-media work of art!

## **WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES**

#### Students will:

- Create a collage integrating shapes, colors and lines.
- Identify primary and secondary colors.
- Demonstrate mixing primary colors to create secondary colors.

#### **COLLECTION FOCUS**

A variety of works of art relating to color, shapes and lines will be explored within the Museum.

Certain collections or galleries may be unavailable due to rotations or construction. We apologize for the inconvenience.

# CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

## National Visual Arts Standards

- Engage in Explorations and Imaginative Play with Materials (VA:Cr1.1.Ka/1a)
- Explore Uses of Materials and Tools to Create Works of Art (VA:Cr1.2.1a)
- Explain what an Art Museum is and Identify the Roles and Responsibilities of People Who Work in and Visit Museums (VA:Pr6.1.Ka/1a)
- Interpret Art by Identifying Subject Matter, Describing Relevant Details, and Characteristics of Form (VA:Re8.1)

#### KS & MO Learning Standards: Math

- Describe Objects in the Environment Using Names of Shapes, and Describe the Relative Positions of these Objects Using Terms Such as Above, Below, Beside, in Front of, Behind, and Next to. (K.GM.C.6)
- Recognize 2 and 3-D Shapes from Different Perspectives and Orientations (1.GM.A.3)



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School Workshop Scheduler StudioWorkshops@nelson-atkins.org

## **BEFORE YOUR VISIT**

- Read a book to your class about colors and shapes. Some suggestions include: Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni, Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh, White Rabbit's Color Book by Alan Baker, A Book About Color by Mark Gonyea, Round is a Mooncake by Roseanne Thong and Shapes, Shapes, Shapes by Tana Hoban.
- Practice using "location words" included in the vocabulary/concepts list to prepare the students for exploring artwork in the galleries.

# **VOCABULARY/CONCEPTS**

**Primary Colors:** Red, yellow and blue are pure hues that are mixed to create all other hues

**Secondary Colors:** Orange, green and purple are secondary colors that are produced by mixing two primary colors **Shape:** An element of art that is two-dimensional and encloses space

Organic - An irregular shape or one that derives characteristics from nature

*Geometric* - Any shape having more mathematical than organic design such as; circle, square, triangle or rectangle

**Line:** An element of art; the path of a dot through space Line Variety: Zigzag, straight

**Location words:** Middle, bottom, top, left side, right side, next to, on top of, beside, behind,

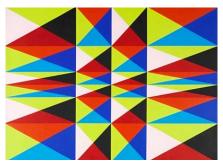
**Art Museum:** A place where art works are kept, preserved, studied and put on display

## **AFTER YOUR VISIT**

- Organize a "gallery walk" to look at the student work created at the museum. How many students used circles? Squares? How many used orange? Green? Create a chart to count shapes and colors.
- Play the game "I Spy" or do color/shape matching with a handmade deck of color cards. Paint chips at hardware stores can make easy color matching cards.



Marsden Hartley, American, 1877-1943 Himmel, ca. 1914-1915



Dean Fleming, b. 1933 Lime Line, 1965



Wassily Kandinsky, Russian, 1866-1944,b. Russia Rose with Gray, 1924



underneath

# **EDUCATOR RESOURCE CENTER**

The ERC can help you expand your before and after visit activities to fully connect your museum experience with your classroom curriculum. The ERC provides:

- Curriculum consultations
- Circulating Resources including Art Connection Kits
- Professional Development Workshops

nelson-atkins.org/educators/