



Japanese Origami Butterflies—

Origami is the art of paper folding. The goal of this art is to create a given result using geometric folds and crease patterns. Origami only uses a small number of different folds, but they can be combined in a variety of ways to make intricate designs, without cutting or fastening the paper.

Students chose beautiful butterflies with their brightly colored wings and symmetrical designs to create their origami.



Audubon Birds—

John James Audubon was a daring and colorful character renowned for his adventurous nature, his artistic genius, and his obsessive interest in birds. He explored the natural history of much of the central and eastern United States, painted almost 500 species of the 700 or so regularly occurring North American species, worked tirelessly to promote his project, and set a new standard for artistry and printing. Perhaps above all else, Audubon was a lover and observer of birds and nature.

Audubon drew birds from life. He took note of the bird's food and habitat. And, he watched them move, interact, and behave. He strove for action and reality; this was a new approach to the painting of birds.

Students used colored pencils in their renditions of Audubon birds.



Grant Wood—

Grant Wood was a famous American artist, born on a farm in Iowa. As a child, he taught himself how to draw. As an adult, he painted the things he knew and liked from his childhood....backyards and barnyards, houses and sheds, chickens, trees and flowers. And windmills—he really liked windmills! By painting simple scenes of the land and people he knew best, he helped create an important all American style of art.

Grant was very clever and was an excellent craftsman. He not only painted, but also made prints, drawings, sculptures, and book illustrations. Grant also started an art colony, and designed one of the largest stained-glass windows ever made.

Students used chalk pastels for their own paintings to achieve the bright colors and simple lines of Grant Wood.



Nativity—

The story of Christmas is about the birth of a baby. The name of the mother was Mary. The father was called Joseph. The baby, of course, was Jesus. He was born in a stable and his mother had to use straw to fill his cradle. The atmosphere was mysterious. It was holy. It was infinitely comforting and unforgettable. It was a time for prayer, not for talking or trying to reason...it was peace.



Self Portraits

Students observed portraits and self portraits of famous artists, for instance, Vincent Van Gogh's 'Self Portrait'. We discussed the face and their proportions. We wanted our portraits to look as much like ourselves as possible, so we used mirrors to observe ourself while using crayons to create our on self portraits.



Still Lives—

A still life is a work of art depicting inanimate subject matter, typically commonplace objects which may be either natural (flowers, game, sea shells, and the like) or man-made (vases, bowls, baskets, foodstuffs, books, and so on). Still Life paintings give the artist more leeway in the arrangement of design elements within a composition than do paintings of other types such as landscape or portraiture.



Animal Habitats—

Animals live everywhere on earth—in every kind of terrain and every kind of climate. An animal's living space is called its habitat. Animals look to their habitats to provide food, shelter, and protection from predators. As humans, it's important that we protect these natural environments to help prevent animal extinction.

Students used printmaking for their animal and then markers for the animal's home.



Cowboys and Indians—



The cowboy.....horses.....cattle.....wide open spaces.....the howl of a coyote in the night.....songs and stories around a campfire...times when a handshake means your word. It was a time for homesteading and pioneering. It was a rugged country back then with little

amenities and much danger. It represented the growth of our nation from independent states and scattered people to a united country.

Much of what is known about Indians has been passed down from word of mouth from generation to generation. Stories that originated around campfires of days long gone are still told today, and without that effort the past would be lost. They were simple, sincere, and gravely thoughtful people living as part and in harmony with the great world around them.

Students created Cowboys and Indians by making puppets.

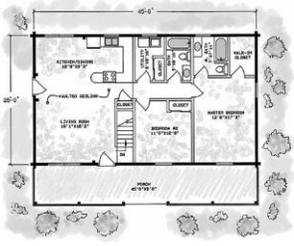


Japanese Kimono—

The Japanese have strong traditions because the vast majority of the people come from one common background and share the same values, beliefs, and customs. There is a particular way of doing things, and only the Japanese fully understand its rules and rituals.

Students explored Japan's traditions and celebrations by creating a Kimono, a garment worn by the Japanese.

Kimono literally means "something worn", "clothing". Originally kimono was used for all types of clothing, but it came to refer specifically to the full-length garment that is still worn by the Japanese. Kimono are T-shaped straight-lined robes that fall to the ankle, with collars and full length sleeves. The sleeves are commonly very wide at the wrist. The robe is wrapped around the body, always with the left side over the right, and secured by a wide obi (belt) tied in back.



Paper Bag Houses—

Architecture can be a building, a house, a bridge, a church, or a whole city. Architects use shape, form, color, and other art elements and principles to design buildings. An architect's plans (or blueprints) show builders how to build it.

Students became architects creating their own blueprints for their houses. Then they became builders and built their houses with brick, stucco, or siding. Students designed doors, windows, roofs, and landscapes for their houses.



Vincent Van Gogh's "Starry Night"—

There is the night sky filled with swirling clouds, stars ablaze with their own luminescence, and a bright crescent moon. Although Van Gogh sold only one painting in his life, the aftermath of his work is enormous.

"Starry Night" is one of the most well-known images in modern culture as well as being one of the most replicated. It is nearly impossible to shy away from this amazing painting.

Students created their own "Starry Night" with construction paper crayons, which are made specifically for dark papers.