



Roman Mosaics—

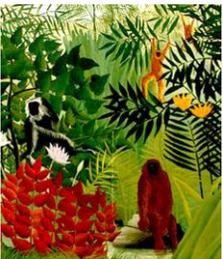
The floors of Roman buildings were often richly decorated with mosaics, many capturing scenes of history and everyday life. Some mosaics were bought 'off the shelf' as a standard design, while the wealthy villa owners could afford more personalized designs.

Students created their mosaics by using paper tiles.



Colonial Shoes—

Colonial times began about 70 years after Columbus discovered America. What was it like to live then? Did boys and girls in colonial times do the same things that they do today? Students found out what it was like to live in colonial times by creating the shoes they wore. People in colonial days walked more than people do today, so they wore out their shoes faster. No one had to worry about left shoes and right shoes. The cobbler made all shoes exactly alike!



Henri Rousseau—

Henri Rousseau (1844-1910) is a strange figure in French 20th century art. He pursued his own simple untutored course throughout all the years when his contemporaries were experimenting with new styles and movements.

Rousseau's simplicity and naivety were notorious and, always gullible, he often found himself the victim of practical jokers. But his own confidence in himself as an artist never wavered, even if others found it difficult to take him seriously. In some ways his paintings are very sophisticated, the design and colors worked out in rare and intricate detail. Their appeal lies at once in their directness and their depth.

Students used watercolors to wash their backgrounds in. Then they used watercolor pencils to draw all their details. They finished their projects with watercolor paints.



Indian Clay Pots—

There is evidence of early human settlement on this continent dating from at least 25,000 B.C., long before recorded history began. Most scholars believe that Indians entered the continental United States from Asia, traveling across the Bering Strait and through Canada, between 25,000 to 8,000 B.C., when the land bridge existed. Others believe that Indians may have come north from Central or South America. (Or did they spring from Earth, as their own legends have it?)

Initially, hand built vessels was made solely for utilitarian purposes, with little consideration for artistry. Most very early containers were unadorned, except for the texture of the coils and pinches, or indented textures from pointed sticks. Not much attention was paid to symmetry.

Later, as decorative designs began to appear, Anglos have long struggled to find meaning in these designs, but Indians are reluctant to verbalize their meanings. If the symbols are important rather than mere embellishments, outsiders are not likely to be rivy to the potter's intent.



Still Lifes—

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.



Abstract Landscapes (Looking at Earth from Space)—

Abstract Landscapes, an unprecedented portrait of our planet as seen from the heavens. Continent by continent, we see Earth, not as shown on maps or globes, but as it looks in images recorded by spacecraft, revealing aspects of this planet previously hidden from our eyes.

Spectacular wonders emerge in great sweeping panoramas and appear as even greater wonders.

Students used crayons to map out their abstract landscapes. Then added glue to create a variety of textures. We then added oil pastels to get those beautiful colors seen from space. And lastly, we added some glitter glue to accent details.



Famous Composers—

A composer is a person who writes music. The term refers particularly to someone who writes music in some type of musical notation; thus, allowing others to perform the music. This distinguishes the composer from a musician who improvises or plays an instrument. Over time, the written notation of the composer has come to be treated as strict instructions, from which performers should not deviate without good reason.

Students chose to do portraits of famous composers, which they did using oil pastels.



Religious Icons

Religious images painted during the Byzantine Empire which lasted from the 5th century to the fall of its capital, Constantinople, in the year 1453. This rich tradition continues to this day, over 1,500 years after the first images were created! This enduring heritage is a testament to the powerful religious experience that these images evoke.

The purpose of icons is first to create reverence in worship and second to serve as an existential link between the worshipper and God. Icons have been called prayers, hymns, sermons in form and color. They are the visual Gospel. As St. Basil said, "What the word transmits through the ear, the painting silently shows through the image, and by these two means, mutually accompanying one another...we receive knowledge of one and the same thing."



Inuit Art-

Art was an integral part of everyday life for Alaska Native peoples for thousands of years. All Inuits believed that a group of spirits controlled their relationship with the natural world, and that these spirits must be celebrated and respected. Images range from scenes of daily life and regional animals depictions to fantastical and mythological depictions. Family life and camp preparation are also frequently represented. Many artworks depict the hunt, the hunted animal, and transformation of humans to animals and vice versa.

Students created their Inuit art by drawing with glue. When the glue dried—they could then print with their blocks. Next, they covered their blocks with aluminum foil and embossed the background. We finished the project by antiquing it with shoe polish.