



Quarrybrook

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CENTER

Program Title: **Textured Art**

Theme: The natural world provides an abundant variety of textures, which can be conveyed artistically through the creative use of color and shape.

Audience: 1st grade students

Next Generation Standard: 1-PS4-3 Plan and conduct an investigation to determine the effect of placing objects made with different materials in the path of a beam of light.

Goals: Students will be introduced to classic works of art and the artists who created them, such as Monet and van Gogh. We will focus on how texture can be conveyed through the use of color and shape. Students will be led on a forest journey to explore the myriad textures found in the woods. Along the way, they will collect rubbings from tree bark, rocks, and other natural objects, and then use them to create their own work of art. Students will explore the same subject using two different media—they will create an image in crayon and then create the same image using watercolors.

Objectives:

- **What are the objectives?** Students will learn about great artists inspired by Nature. They will artistically explore forest textures, finding at least four different textures and four different shapes. Students will have the opportunity to create their own drawing and painting of a natural object or landscape.
- **How will they be measured?** Students will complete a sensory touch activity, and will be able to describe the textures they are feeling. Students will then be able to identify similar textures along the trail. Students will make rubbings from at least three different natural objects. Students will create a crayon drawing that depicts one or more of the natural features they observed on their hike, and then they will recreate the same image using watercolors.

Program Outline:

Activity 1: TALKING ABOUT TEXTURES (20 min.) – We will begin with a group discussion about some of the great artists in history who have been inspired by Nature. We will show pictures of the artists and their work, and focus on how they used color and shape to convey texture. Students will then be led through a sensory activity in which they close their eyes and touch different mystery objects with their fingers. They are to come up with words to describe the sensation or the texture they are feeling. During our trail hike, we'll search for examples of similar textures in Nature.



Teachers will be helpful in ensuring that students keep their eyes closed! Teachers are welcome to help students think of great adjectives to describe the textures they are exploring. It is fun for the teachers to first experience the textures with their eyes closed too.

Activity 2: “TEXTURES OF THE TRAIL” HIKE (30 min.) – Students will be led on a hike through the woods and encouraged to take note of all the colors, shapes, and textures around them. At three points along the hike, the students will take rubbings of an object in the area (tree bark, rock, lichen, etc.). These will serve as inspiration and reference material for the pictures they will be drawing and painting. As we go, we will encourage the students to begin thinking about what they would like to draw and paint at the end of the hike.



Teachers and chaperones will be helpful in assisting with the rubbings, by passing out the materials, helping to hold the papers on the objects, and keeping track of the loose crayons and papers as we walk.

Activity 3: FOREST ART STUDIO (30 min.) – The students will be led to a designated area with tarps for sitting on the ground. We will review what we saw along the trail and remember how different objects can be broken down into shapes. They will be shown artwork of trees and other natural objects to help give ideas on how they can draw their three-dimensional ideas onto two-dimensional paper. We will also discuss a few ways to use light and dark colors together to help create the look of tree bark or the roughness of a rock, and how to use dark colors to create shadows. Students will create the same image twice—once with crayon and once with watercolor paints.



Teachers and chaperones will be helpful in organizing student groups and passing out art supplies. Grown-ups are always welcome to draw and paint with the students! You are also encouraged to connect any part of the lesson to what the students are learning back in class.

Conclusion/Wrap-up: We will discuss the successes and challenges of working with each media. We will finish with a standing art gallery. Students will be given the opportunity to stand with their paintings and share what they have created with the entire group.