



eva
ELEMENTARY VISUAL ARTS
Park City Education Foundation • Kimball Art Center

LESSON

5

Paul Klee

Landscapes and Perspective

Verbal Directions

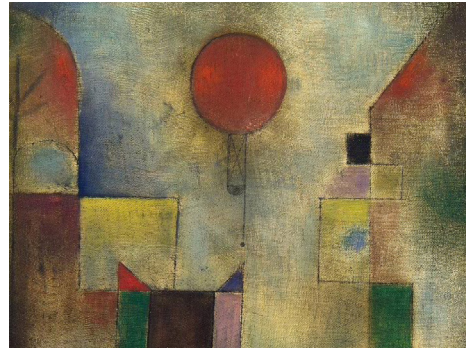
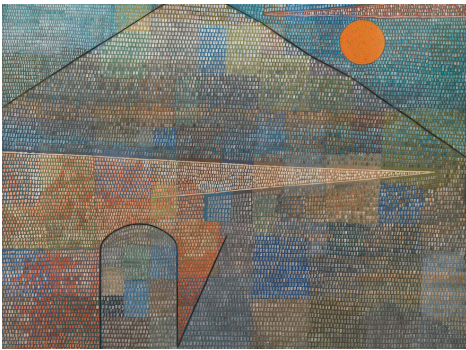
LESSON OVERVIEW

Paul Klee (1879–1940) was a Swiss and German artist best known for his paintings influenced by cubism, expressionism and surrealism. Students will learn about his landscape and perspective to create a watercolor painting.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Learn about the work of Paul Klee.
- Discuss the influences of cubism, expressionism and surrealism.
- Learn about perspective (linear and atmospheric).
- Explore colors and shading.
- Create a landscape.

PAUL KLEE



Paul Klee (1879–1940) was a Swiss and German artist best known for his paintings influenced by cubism, expressionism and surrealism. His father was a music teacher and his mother a singer. He was a talented violin player by age 11 but chose visual art over music because he wanted the freedom to explore new ideas and styles. As a young man, Klee studied art in Munich where he met Wassily Kandinsky. He experimented with artistic techniques breaking traditional rules of painting and also applied paint in unusual ways, such as spraying and stamping. Klee's early works were colorless. During this time he thought that color was just decoration. Then he traveled to Tunisia and saw the color and the light. He fell in love with color and his artistic style changed. Returning to Munich, Klee painted his first pure abstract. So much is known about his life and inspiration because he kept a diary throughout his life [Learn More](#).

SUPPLIES

- Images and art samples of Paul Klee
- Large Watercolor Paper (11X17)
- Watercolor Pencils
- Rulers
- Pencils
- Brushes
- Cups for water
- Paper Towels



LESSON PLAN

1. Introduce students to the life and work of Paul Klee. Share with students his many influences.

- What is unique about his paintings?
- What do you think about the colors he uses?
- What shapes do you see?
- Describe the texture of the paintings. What is the surface like?

2. Now discuss perspective. Point out different elements that create space like: changing color and diminishing lines (objects getting smaller as they are further away in space). Show how Klee uses the techniques to separate the background, middle ground and foreground in his landscapes. Ask students:

- Why is it important to show space in a flat painting?
- What is intensity?
- What is a dull color?

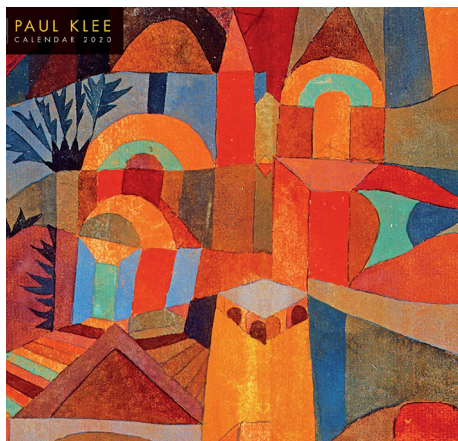
3. Show more examples of atmospheric and linear perspective in photographs of local landscapes.

4. Show basic one-point perspective step-by-step. Pass out paper, rulers and pencils. Create the perspective lines first and then add buildings, trees and other features. Students can find inspiration from their own neighborhood.

4. Now demonstrate how to use the watercolor pencils. Students will test out the watercolor pencils first and then add color to their perspective drawing. Pass out a scrap piece of paper, and watercolor pencils. By pressing hard on the pencils, student can create vibrant colors. To create dull colors, students can lightly color and layer colors with black or blue. Ask students to practice a gradient, pressing hard and then lightly to create a variety of values. Then practice layering colors to affect their intensity. Finally show the effect of adding water to the color pencil.

5. Once students have added color to their drawing, pass out water and brushes. Lay out paintings to dry.

EVA +: Continue learning about Klee and make a night painting! Students can use scratch art paper to experiment with lines, or simply use dark colors.





**KEY IDEAS THAT CONNECT TO NATIONAL CORE ARTS STANDARDS:
Based on National Core Arts Standards visual Arts Requirements
(first grade).**

VA:Cr1.2.1a:

Use observation and investigation in preparation for making a work of art.

VA:Cr3.1.1a:

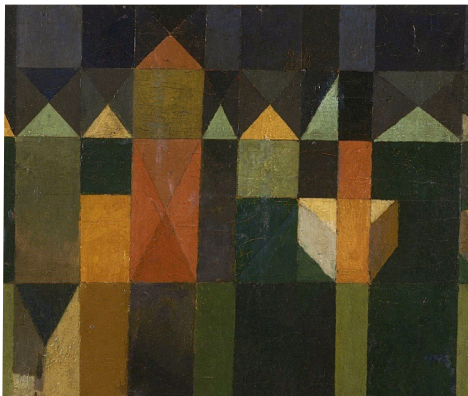
Use art vocabulary to describe choices while creating art.

VA:Cr2.1.1a :

Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art or design

VA:Re.7.2.1a:

Compare images that represent the same subject.



ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Click on links to learn more.

- <http://makingartfun.com/htm/f-maf-art-library/paul-klee-biography.htm>
- <https://artlistr.com/paul-klee-7-interesting-facts/> ▪ <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/klee-paul/life-and-legacy/>
- <https://www.learnodo-newtonic.com/paul-klee-facts>
- https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/klee/hd_klee.htm

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