

eva

ELEMENTARY VISUAL ARTS

Park City Education Foundation • Kimball Art Center

LESSON

8

Salvador Dali

Surrealism

Verbal Directions

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Salvador Dali (1904-1989) was a Spanish painter who created one of the most well-known surrealist paintings titled *The Persistence of Memory*. Students will learn about how Surrealist artists create fantastical scenes by putting together unexpected objects and then they will use their imagination and take an ordinary object and make it extraordinary.

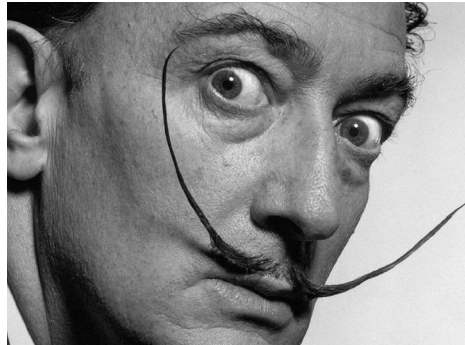
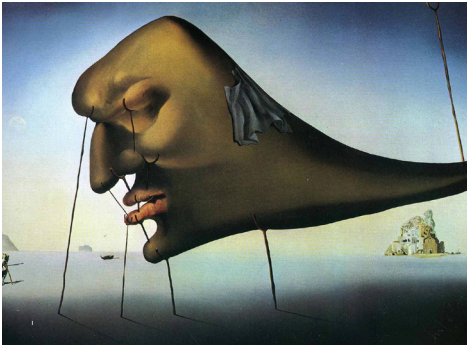
### INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Learn about Salvador Dali and his artwork.
- Discuss Surrealism.
- Practice drawing skills
- Imagine an object transformed

### SUPPLIES

- Images of the work of Salvador Dali
- Drawing paper x2
- Pencils (HB-2B)
- pencils
- Objects

### JASPER JOHNS



Salvador Dali (1904-1989) was born in Figueres, Spain near the Pyrenees Mountains. He used the Spanish landscape of his childhood in his later paintings. Even as a child he was highly imaginative and very eccentric. He attended drawing school and grew a bold moustache, influenced by 17th-century Spanish master painter Diego Velázquez. In art school, he became a very good realistic painter and decided to travel to Paris to meet other artists. In 1931 Salvador Dali painted what would become his most famous painting and the most famous painting of the Surrealist movement. It is titled *The Persistence of Memory*. The scene is a normal looking desert landscape covered with melting watches. He created more than 1500 paintings in his lifetime and also created drawings, illustrations, sculptures, short films and books. [Learn More.](#)



# LESSON PLAN

1. Introduce students to the life and work of Salvador Dali. Start by taking a closer look at his paintings.

- What stands out to you about Salvador Dali's style?
- Where do these paintings take place?
- What objects do you see?
- How are they painted? Can you recognize them?
- What colors does he use?

2. Discuss surrealism and the influences of Salvador Dali. Dali was interested in dreams, fantasy and the thoughts in our mind that we don't even know we are having. He was not interested in showing reality - the world that he lived in. He often showed things that you wouldn't expect to see together like in a dream or your imagination. Ask students to think of dreams they have had, share a few and talk about the qualities of dreams.

There are many references to time in Dali's artwork. Ask Students:

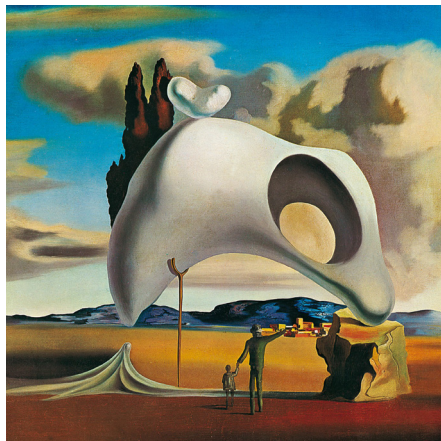
- Where do you see symbols for time? What are other symbols for time?
- Why do you think that is important to surrealism?

3. Brainstorm different ways you can alter an object to make it seem like in a dream (melting, falling apart skewing proportions, upside down etc). Choose simple everyday objects that are recognizable symbols (clock, chair, bone, plant, phone...)

4. Pass out 2 sheets of paper. On one, students can practice drawing the object realistically. Demonstrate shading techniques in pencil that can help with making drawings look realistic. On the other students can alter their objects to make them seem from a dream.

5. Remind students that detail is important to the surrealist effects in Dali's work. If students have additional time they can consider adding background.

EVA +: Students can create a surrealist landscape and think about a familiar place turning it into a landscape from a dream . Or students can draw a place from a dream.





### KEY IDEAS THAT CONNECT TO NATIONAL CORE ARTS STANDARDS: Based on National Core Arts Standards visual Arts Requirements (3rd Grade).

#### VA:Cr1.1.3a :

Elaborate on an imaginative idea.

#### VA:Re.7.2.3a:

Determine messages communicated by an image.

#### VA:Cr3.1.3a :

Elaborate visual information by adding details in an artwork to enhance emerging meaning.

#### VA:Cn11.1.3a:

Develop a work of art based on observations of surroundings.



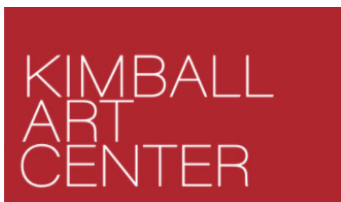
### STUDIO HABITS OF THE MIND:

#### ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Click on links to learn more.

- <https://www.dalipaintings.com/>
- <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/dali-salvador/>
- <https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-salvador-dali>
- <https://www.ducksters.com/history/art/surrealism.php>
- <https://thedali.org/timeline/>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YE\\_Zas-A5A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YE_Zas-A5A)

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