
ART MASTERPIECE: "Four Ice Cream Cones" - Wayne Thiebaud

Keywords:

- Elements of Art: Shape, Collection and Texture

Grade:

- Kindergarten

Activity:

- Ice Cream Cone Paint Stamping



About the Artist:

Do you think the man that painted this picture liked ice cream?

His name was Wayne Thiebaud and he was born right here in AZ in 1920, _____ years ago.

When he was a boy he would sometimes go to work with his sister who was a waitress in a restaurant. While he was there he would draw lots of pictures of cakes, pies and ice cream sundaes to pass the time. When he was older he worked for Disney and then became a teacher and taught others how to draw and paint.

Q & A:

Let the students have a moment to take a long look at this painting.

- What do you see? What do you think the name of this painting is? Who here likes ice cream? What shapes do you see? Can you name them? Where are the circles/triangles? Which shape is on the bottom and which is on the top? How many cones do you see? Who can count them?
- It's like Mr. Thiebaud had a collection of ice cream-Do you know what a collection is? A collection is a group of the same thing. (Give examples i.e. stamps, stuffed animals, dolls, cars, etc.) If you had a collection of something what would it be?
- What colors did Mr. Thiebaud use to paint the cones? What flavors do you think they are?
- If you could touch the ice cream how would it feel? The way it feels is called texture. What other words could we use? (soft, creamy, squishy, etc.)

Today we are going to make our own Ice Cream Cones....

Activity: Ice Cream Cone Paint Stamping

Materials:

- Tempera paint-red, yellow, green, brown and white
- (8) Sponges cut into same sized circles and (2) triangles per worktable
- White construction paper (9 X 12)
- (5) Trays and (5) stir sticks to mix and pour paint per work table.
- Paper towels for blotting and clean-up

Process:

1. Pour white paint into the trays. Add small amounts of color to create separate trays of light pastel colors (pink, peach, mint and lemon) to be used for the ice cream. Use one tray for the brown cones.
2. Be sure to have all the students put their names on the paper before starting.
3. Have children come to the worktable or tables 4 or 5 at a time. Show them how to dip the sponge in the paint then blot off the excess on the paper towel before stamping their sponge on the paper.
4. Before they start, ask the students to think how they are going to place the shapes on the paper. How will they make them look like ice cream cones? (Do the circles go on top of the triangles or underneath?). Lay the artwork flat to dry.
5. Be sure to wash off the sponges and trays well. The sponges will mold if they do not dry flat.

Variation:

- Walk around the classroom with brown "fabric or puffy paint" and create a diagonal crisscross pattern on the cone area of their paper. Also, add something like sand, glitter or shaving cream to the "ice cream" paint to add texture. When the artwork dries, it will have a definite texture that the students can feel. :)