


# Art Lesson Plan – 3rd Grade

<p><b>Grade Level:</b> 3rd Grade</p>	
<p><b>Instructional Focus/Project Title:</b> Abstract Expressionism - Paul Klee</p>	<p><b>Art Element/Principle:</b> Color, Shape, Form</p>
<p><b>Guiding Questions:</b> How can we create artwork in the style of Abstract Expressionist artists? How can we use line to create artwork like Abstract Expressionists? How can we use movement to create artwork like Abstract Expressionists?</p>	
<p><b>Medium:</b> Watercolor &amp; Color Pencils</p>	
<p><b>Standards:</b> 9.1.3.A, 9.1.3.B, 9.1.3.C, 9.1.3.D, 9.1.3.E, 9.1.3.F, 9.1.3.H, 9.1.3.J, 9.2.A, 9.2.B, 9.2.C., 9.2.D, 9.2.E, 9.2.F, 9.2.G, 9.2.I, 9.2.K, 9.2.L, 9.3.A, 9.3.B, 9.3.D., 9.4.A, 9.4.B, 9.4.C, 9.4.D</p>	<p><b>Goals and Learning Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know about Abstract Expressionist Art</li> <li>• Understand How Abstract Expressionist artists communicated ideas through art</li> <li>• Create a work of art that is inspired by Abstract Expressionist artists</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vocabulary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bauhaus style</b> – features simple geometric shapes like rectangles and spheres without elaborate decoration or emotion</li> <li>• <b>Surrealism</b> – a 20th-century avant-garde movement in art and literature which sought to release creative potential of the unconscious mind, for example by the irrational juxtaposition of images</li> <li>• <b>Expressionism</b> – Art in which the image of reality is distorted to make it expressive of the artist’s feelings or ideas</li> <li>• <b>Abstract Expressionism</b> – a development of abstract art that originated in the 1940s and 1950s and aimed at subjective emotional expression with emphasis on the creative spontaneous act.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Resources:</b> <a href="https://www.paulklee.net">https://www.paulklee.net</a></p> <p>The rise of Abstract Expressionism has been attributed to the influence of European movements like <a href="#">Cubism</a> and <a href="#">Surrealism</a>, which reached New York in the 1930s and '40s via museum exhibitions, academic institutions, and the stateside relocation of many major European artists due to World War II.</p> <p>Paul Klee was a prolific Swiss and German artist best known for his large body of work, influenced by cubism, expressionism, and surrealism. Paul Klee is quite different from most famous artists. While other artists were often single-minded about their art from the start, Klee grew up learning music. This enduring connection to his earliest craft manifests as paintings that directly reference music. In In the Style of Bach (1919), for example, Klee reimagines a musical score as an arrangement of graphic symbols like foliage, a crescent moon, and stars</p> <p><b>Videos:</b> Art with Mati and Dada – Paul Klee   Kids Animated Short Stories in English (7:46 mins)</p>

<https://youtu.be/eqHJ9gDLkL8>

Website about Paul Klee

<https://www.paulklee.net>

**Activity/Procedures:**

**Lesson 1:** Show the Paul Klee presentation and start off with the video art with Mati and Dada about Paul Klee. Show the students the artwork Castle in the Sun by Paul Klee. Ask the students to describe what they can see in the artwork. This painting is considered expressionism. Next slides tell the students about some facts about Paul Klee on slide four. Introduce the project. Ask for volunteers to hand out the paper. Demonstrate to the students how to first draw a large circle. Step 2 show the students how to draw two intersecting lines. Step 3 show the students how to add some cats to the composition. Then demonstrate how to paint with watercolor a different color into each of the sections.

**Lesson 2:** Step 5 - demonstrate to the students how to go back into some sections and paint a second color over the first color they painted. Step 6 - Then demonstrate how to create small swatches of colors all over the image.

**Lesson 3:** Students finish up with Step 6. Demonstrate how to use colored pencils to go back into the areas where there are cats and add details and other colors.

**Materials/Supplies:** 9X12 paper, watercolors, bowls for water, brushes, paper towels, palettes for mixing, and colored pencil

**Examples of Artwork by Paul Klee:**



**Assessment:**

- ( ) Teacher Observation
- ( ) Student Self-Reflection (2 Stars and a Wish)

**Technology:**

document camera to demonstrate color mixing, laptop hooked to projector