



ART BRIDGES: Lesson Plans for Enrichment, Growth and Healing

Abstract Scratch Art

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Cheryl Trowbridge
www.teachkidsart.net**



This project was inspired by Swiss artist Paul Klee. Paul Klee (1879–1940) was an abstract artist known for his highly individual style, which was influenced by many different art movements, including Expressionism, Cubism and Surrealism. Ran-

dom colors in the background appear as your design is scratched out, offering a fun surprise whether you create a partial or total abstraction with your drawing!

Objectives:

The participants will:

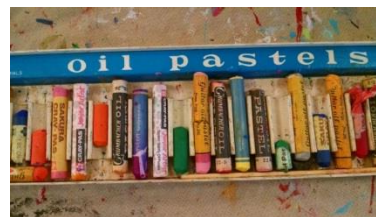
1. Demonstrate the use of a variety of lines in scratch art design
2. Demonstrate the use of pattern in their designs
3. Use positive and negatives spaces to define their designs

Audience:

This lesson was originally designed for school children but could easily be adapted to any age or ability.

Supplies/Materials:

- White construction paper (can be very small — my example here is 4 1/2" x 6")
- Blue painter's tape or drafting tape
- Oil pastels



- Nail for scratching
- Baby wipes for clean-up

Class Instructions:

1. Tape the edges of your paper using a low-tack tape that won't tear your paper when you remove it. This will give a crisp, white border around your finished work.
2. Cover your paper with bright colors (no black), pressing hard and not leaving any white paper showing (no need to layer colors as only the color touching the paper will show).
3. Cover this with a thick layer of solid black.
4. Gently scratch out your design using a nail. Use as many different types of lines as you can think of.

5. Wash your hands before removing the tape for a nice, clean edge!



Please visit <http://www.teachkidsart.net/abstract-scratch-art/> to see this lesson in its entirety.

Plan in Action:

Staci Kratzer, Lead Recreation Therapist at CHI Health Good Samaritan Richard Young Behavioral Health of Kearney, NE used this activity with her patients. The mission of Catholic Health Initiatives is “to nurture the healing ministry of the Church, supported by education and research” (<http://www.chihealthgoodsamaritan.org>). From Staci: “We have been using “Scratch Art” from Oriental Trading and mandalas for coloring—both are very therapeutic and relaxing for our patients. Thanks for the resources to add something new and fun to our weekly activities!”

*Special thanks to **Cheryl Trowbridge** for sharing a wealth of information and resources and ideas on her excellent website www.teachkidsart.net ! Cheryl has her art education credentials and has been teaching art to kids for over 20 years. She is inspired by watching children of all ages discover their ability to be creative. Her passion is to make successful art lessons accessible to help share the joy of art with all the kids in our lives. Visit Cheryl’s on-line store <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Teach-Kids-Art> to purchase a variety of resources for helping kids create art.*

If you have used this activity, we’d love to hear from you! Please send questions or comments through our website www.hildegardcenter.org .

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