“Chalk Pastel Silhouette”

Objective: Students will use value to create a winter silhouette.

Materials
- White construction paper 12” x 18”
- Black Tempera Paint
- Chalk Pastels
- Pencils

Motivation
- Talk about silhouettes and look at other examples of artists using silhouettes.
- Talk about value and how color can graduate from light to dark.
- Ask students: What colors do you often see in the winter sky at sunset? Warm or Cool? Both?

Step 1: Draw the Silhouette
Each student will brainstorm a winter scene and then draw an outline. The scene can tell a story. Students should keep the scenes simple and avoid details. The scenes should take up 1/3 of the bottom half of their papers. If students draw inside their outlines to help them, it’s ok because they will fill the shapes in with black paint later.

Step 2: Paint the Silhouette Black
Students will paint in the entire outlines with black using tempera paint. They should be sure to keep as much detail as possible by painting carefully and extend the black all the way to the bottom of the papers. Let the black paint dry.

Step 3: Create the Sky
Choosing a color scheme of either warm or cool colors, students will use chalk pastels to show value in the sky. The lighter color will highlight the most important part of the drawing, and colors will blend out, lightest to darkest, on both sides.

Encourage students to be careful not to get chalk on the black paint. Students can blend with their fingers, or with the pastels themselves.

Tip: The chalk step is last because it’s messy! You may want to laminate or spray these to keep the chalk from getting everywhere.

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