

Artists Are Inspired: Hokusai

Objective: Think about the art making process and create self-directed work with available resources.

Grade Level		Medium	Making Connections	Elements & Principles	National Standards
K-2	3-5	?	Katsushika Hokusai	Various	VA:Cr1.1
MS	HS				VA:Cr1.2



Materials

- TAB centers such as painting, drawing, sculpture, collage, and printmaking.
- Select images from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*

Introductory Activities

- Explain that artists are often inspired by beauty.
- Tell students that Hokusai was so inspired by Mt. Fuji that he made a series of 36 woodblock prints about it. Show and briefly discuss a few images from the series.
- Ask students to think about ideas for their own art as you share some of Hokusai's work. Is there a beautiful place they've seen that they could make art about, or does something else inspire them?

1 Think

After viewing some of Hokusai's work, try Think, Pair, Share to have kids discuss ideas. Give them a few minutes to think about what they want to make, then pair them in small groups. Next, have the groups share ideas for art-making that were inspired by the work they viewed.

2 Create

As students work in centers, circulate around the room. Ask students about what they are making and discuss their opinions about Hokusai's work. What did they like about it? How is their version different than Hokusai's? Why did they select the media they chose to use today?

3 Reflect

After clean up, ask the class how they were inspired by Hokusai's art. Call on a few students to share the art they made. As time allows, give a few students the chance to ask questions or share feedback with the artists.



Insider Tips

- This is a perfect lesson for a printmaking mini-lesson. After the lesson's introduction, let students know that, if they're interested, you'll be doing a short demonstration on printmaking.