



Elements: Color & Line

Principles: Contrast

Materials:

- ☐ 9" x 12" gray construction paper
- ☐ Small black papers
- ☐ Oil pastels
- ☐ Pencil
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue Sticks

Instructions:

1. Show students the painting entitled *Wheatfield with Crows*, painted by Vincent Van Gogh in 1890. Talk about the colors within the painting – both the **warm and cool**,

along with the **contrast** created by using both. Also mention the flowing bold brushstrokes in the painting and how they lend a sense of movement to the overall effect of the art.

2. Show the **sample** of the art the students will be making. Explain that this is interpretation of Van Gogh's wheat field, not an exact copy.
3. Putting the paper in the vertical position, have students **use pencil to draw a horizon line** 2/3's of the way up the paper. Model this for them.
4. Then **sketch a curved line** from just under the horizon line to the bottom of the paper – again model this for them. Have the students **sketch a circle** in the top left of their paper.
5. **Add yellow oil pastel** to the moon and the moon's reflection on the water, which should be a diagonal line from the moon. Also add a richer yellow for the field.
6. Then **add strokes of blue pastels** to echo the circle shape of the moon and the horizontal line of the water. **Add brown** vertical stalks in the wheat field.
7. Have students **cut out black bats and glue them onto the scene**.
8. Once finished with the art, have students put names on the back and clean up.

Contrast is achieved in this art by the juxtaposition of warm and cool colors side by side.

