



Elements: Shape & Space

Principles: Balance

Materials:

- ☐ 9" x 12" white construction paper
- ☐ Watercolor trays (spray with water bottle to activate paint)
- ☐ Water (in cups/jars)
- ☐ Brushes
- ☐ Oil pastels
- ☐ Paper towels

Instructions:

1. View a variety of pagodas online by using the SmartBoard. Have students pay particular attention to the **negative space** created between each level of the pagoda and in some of the architecture details (anywhere there is support beams, with space showing between them). Also have them pay attention to the **symmetry** of the architecture and the overall **balance** it creates. Point out the different roof shapes.
2. Have students use **oil pastel to sketch pagodas**. Emphasize using **black as the main pagoda body** with whatever other colors they select to make their structure. Have students use **yellow in their windows or lanterns**. If students want to add lines to their windows have them do it later, after their paint has dried.
3. For drawing the **background** they could add snowy mountains, trees, blossom branches, grassy hills, sun/moon, etc. Brainstorm background ideas with the students if any of them are struggling to think of what to draw.
4. **Add oil pastel accents** to the drawing, but caution students against filling in the entire art with oil pastel as this art is approximately **half oil pastel, half watercolor**.
5. Once students are finished with oil pastels, have them **use watercolor to finish making their art**. Remind them that they can paint directly over the oil pastel and it will act as a resist.
6. When art is done have students put their name on the back. Then have students wipe out the top of their trees with paper towels and clean up the area.

Balance refers to the equilibrium of various elements and involves a sense of order. Order may be symmetrical, formal or informal, or rigid and random.

