

# Nasco ARTWORKS

## VINCENT VAN GOGH AND HIS SUNFLOWERS

Vol. 56

Developed by Noelle Burns

Grades K-5



Recreate  
Vincent's Sunflowers  
in 3 Class Periods  
(50 minutes each)

### Introduction

Vincent van Gogh used colors to communicate a feeling or mood. He was fascinated with the bright colors that Impressionist painters used. Van Gogh was especially drawn to the color yellow, as seen in his paintings of sunflowers. Students should be introduced to different paintings by Van Gogh. They can compare and analyze how they are different and how they are the same. Look closely at his sunflower paintings and discuss what an individual sunflower looks like. What color are they? What are the parts of a flower?

### Objectives

Students will...

- Learn technical skills such as drawing, gluing, cutting, rolling, and blending.
- Study the elements of design: line, shape, and color.
- Create their own conceptual/expressive sunflower imitating Van Gogh's sunflowers.

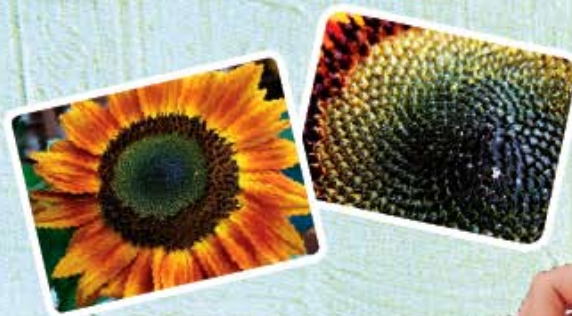
### Vocabulary

anther	petal	style
blending	seeds	sunflower
Cray-Pas®	shape	tissue paper
leaves	stamen	Vincent van Gogh
line	stigma	warm colors



# Directions

1 Show a real sunflower to the class and discuss its parts. What shape are the petals? What shapes are the parts of the flower broken into? Have students practice drawing sunflowers. Give them each a 9" x 12" sheet of white paper, and show them how to draw a large sunflower head to fill the paper, using their eraser first. Emphasize that they should not draw stems or leaves. When they are satisfied with their drawing, they should go over the eraser lines with a pencil and then brush off the eraser.



2 Using only warm colors, give the students a demonstration on how to blend Cray-Pas®. Discuss the warm colors on the color wheel and the ones in their Cray-Pas® box.

3 Have the students cut out their flower when they are finished coloring it.





# 4

Show students how to roll small pieces of tissue paper into balls to be used for the seed center. Use green or brown tissue paper. Put a small dot of glue in the center of the flower, cover it with a tissue ball, and hold it in place for 10 seconds. Continue gluing until the center is full of tissue.



Once the center is filled with tissue balls, have students use a variety of seeds to decorate the sunflower even further. They can put the seeds on the tissue balls or around the center as an added detail. Each sunflower will be unique.

The teacher will then make a large vase in the style of Van Gogh's Sunflowers vase. Student flowers, stems, and leaves will be added to the vase individually to produce a collaborative print of Vincent van Gogh's Sunflowers. Authenticate it by adding his signature to the vase. This makes for a colorful display in any school hallway!



## Assessment

### Did students...

- Understand flowers and their parts?
- Understand the Van Gogh reproductions?
- Draw a sunflower? Is it big enough?
- Use the correct warm colors and understand the blending process?
- Understand how to finish the flower centers with seeds and tissue?





## National Standards

- C.4.1 — Explore the elements and principles of design.
- C.4.7 — Develop basic skills to produce quality art.
- D.4.4 — Learn basic concepts in art.
- H.4.1 — Study the patterns and colors in nature.
- I.4.7 — Work alone and with others to develop visual ideas and objects.



## Materials List

- Nasco Budget White Sulphite Drawing Paper, 500 sheets, 9" x 12", 80 lb. (Cat. No. 9700928)
- Nasco No. 2 Pencils, box of 12 (Cat. No. 9728094)
- Sakura Cray-Pas® Junior Artist™ Oil Pastels
  - Colorpack™ of 288 (Cat. No. 9717694)
  - Set of 25 (Cat. No. 9714428)
- Nasco Country School™ 5" Scissors, blunt tip
  - Classroom pack of 24 (Cat. No. 9726128)
  - Individual (Cat. No. 9725780)
- Spectra® Art Tissue™, pkgs. of 24, 20" x 30"
  - Canary (Cat. No. 9701228B)
  - Apple Green (Cat. No. 9701228D)
  - Spring Green (Cat. No. 9701228L)
  - Emerald Green (Cat. No. 9701228N)
  - Seal Brown (Cat. No. 9701228Y)
- Nasco Country School™ Washable White Glue, 8 oz. (Cat. No. 9722164)
- Assortment of seeds & beans:
  - Sunflower Seeds, 3½ g (Cat. No. SB07340)
  - Red Kidney Beans, 1 lb. (Cat. No. SA05720)
  - Corn, 1 lb. (Cat. No. SA05736)
  - Italian Broad Beans, pkg. of 20 (Cat. No. SB32168LM)
  - Wheat, 1 oz. (Cat. No. SA05740)
  - Navy Beans, ¼ lb. (Cat. No. SA05718)
- Vincent van Gogh Art Prints, 36" x 12"
  - Set of 3, one of each below (Cat. No. 9726947)
    - Sunflowers (Cat. No. 9726882)
    - Starry Night (Cat. No. 9726881)
    - Café at Night (Cat. No. 9726875)

## Other Materials

- Real sunflowers
- Sunflower books

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