Impressionist-Style Painted Tile

with Pebeo® Porcelaine 150

Through the study of Impressionist painters and their works students will select their own color palette and design an impressionistic scene reminiscent of those painted in the mid 1800s. They will learn to mix, layer and apply the colors using the techniques and methods used by these painters, adapting the methods used to paint on canvas to painting on a glazed surface. Additionally, they will learn the basic skills of the ancient art of china painting.

Students will learn how to prepare, paint and permanently heat-set a design on a glazed surface (tile) using Pebeo Porcelaine 150 paints in a kitchen oven. After completing a single tile piece, students will be inspired to create a larger mosaic piece (of many tiles) or even paint on china pieces such as plates, mugs or dishes.

Grade Levels 5-12

Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

- 1. Clean the tile surface with rubbing alcohol to remove all dust and fingerprints.
- 2. Distribute paint colors in palettes. Create orange with a mixture of 1 part yellow and 1 part red.

Process

- Begin by painting the entire flower in yellow; the colors will then be layered on top of the others. Dab the brush into the yellow paint and apply the color in small "vertical strokes" of color, along the petal. The paint may be applied by simply pressing the brush to the surface, laying down the bristles and then picking it up again. Start at the base of the flower and paint the entire flower. Paint each spiky "petal" by dabbing the color onto the tile. Be sure to apply the paint fairly heavily on the brush for the Impressionist stroke technique
- While the paint is still wet, place the brush (without cleaning it) in the orange mixture and paint directly over the yellow flower with the orange. Using the same technique, start at the bottom and work up the spikes. Do not go on top of all of the yellow — leave areas of solid yellow paint.



Materials

Pebeo[®] Porcelaine 150 Paint, need one bottle each of the following colors:

Marseilles Yellow (02908-4753), Scarlet Red (02908-3083), Lapis Blue (02908-6423), Olivine Green (02908-7943), Mummy Brown (02908-2613),

Ivory White (02908-1043)

Blick Scholastic Red Sable Brush size 8 round (05863-1008), need one per student

Alvin[®] Plastic Floral Palette (03046-1049), need one per student

Water cups, paper towels and cotton swabs

Rubbing alcohol or window cleaner

White or ivory glazed tile (any size), available at home center or hardware store

- 3. Next, repeat the same process as in step 2, but use the Scarlet Red paint. Again start at the bottom and work up to the top, but leave solid areas of both orange and yellow.
- 4. Wash and dry the brush and begin to paint the "floating leaves". As in step 1, begin by painting the entire area of the leaves with yellow. Be sure to paint the leaves with short, horizontal brush strokes. While the paint is still very wet, and without cleaning the brush, dip it into the Olivine green and begin to paint small strokes on top of the yellow color. Blend the colors by dabbing the paint many times before rewetting the brush with color — this will allow for lighter green shades to develop. Finally, add a few darker green strokes to add contrast.
- 5. Wash and dry the brush. Pour a dollop of Lapis Blue and Ivory onto the palette, then mix a combination of equal parts of the two colors to make light blue. Begin by painting (see photo for assistance) Lapis blue directly onto the tile. Paint horizontal strokes to fill about 3/4 of the water area. While the paint is still wet, and without cleaning the brush, paint the light blue mixture over portions of the water area, some strokes on top of the dark blue and some on top of the white space. Finally dip the brush directly into the Ivory and begin to "highlight" the water by lightening the areas between the flowers.
- 6. Lastly, pour out and mix 1 part Mummy brown with 1 part Lapis blue. While the paint is still wet, paint this brownish blue color below and around the "floating leaves" to add depth. Paint color heavily, close to the leaves, and paint lightly outwards away from the leaves.
- 7. After completion, feel free to add color where needed throughout the design. Be sure the Ivory highlights flow through the flowers.
- 8. Once students have completed painting their tiles, allow 24 hours drying time. If the paint has been applied thickly, dry for 48 hours, to prevent bubbles.

- 9. Place dried tiles in a cool oven, directly on the center rack. Turn the oven on and set the temperature to 300°F. Using an oven thermometer for accuracy, wait until the temperature has been reached, then set the timer for 30 minutes. When the timer goes off, turn off the oven and open the door to allow the piece to cool down gradually. Once cool, remove the tiles from the oven.
- 10. The tiles are now microwave safe, dishwasher safe, solvent resistant and ready to use. Hang them as a piece of art, use as a coaster, a hot plate or paint a series to make an address plaque or a large mosaic. As a variation, paint utilitarian objects such as dinner plates, mugs, salad plates, dessert plates, creamer and sugar, candlestick holders, etc. The possibilities are endless!

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Hints

- To make changes at any time prior to baking, remove Porcelaine 150 from the tile with glass cleaner or rubbing alcohol. Keep paper towels and cotton swabs available for repairs.

- Brushes and tools clean up with soap and water. Porcelaine 150 is waterbased and water-soluble. Wash it from hands and clothing with soap and water.

- Please use a thermometer to determine oven temperature as many ovens are incorrectly calibrated. Paint will burn and brown if it is too hot!

- For more opaque colors, apply several coats, allowing 20 minutes to dry between each coat.

- For more pastel shades and to extend the color, add Porcelaine 150 Gloss Medium (02908-0003).

- Add up to 10% water to thin the paint. Adding more could lessen the durability of the paint once baked.

National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes

5-8 Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques and processes to enhance communication of their experience and ideas.

9-12 Students apply media, techniques and processes with sufficient skill, confidence and sensitivity that their intentions are carried out in their artworks.

Content Standard #2 – Using knowledge of structures and functions

5-8 Students generalize about the effects of visual structures and functions and reflect upon these effects in their own work.

9-12 Students demonstrate the ability to form and defend judgments about the characteristics and structures to accomplish commercial, personal, communal or other purposes of art.

Content Standard #5 — Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others

5-8 Students analyze contemporary and historical meaning in specific artworks through cultural and aesthetic inquiry.

9-12 Students identify intentions of those creating artworks, explore the implications of various purposes and justify their analysis of purpose in a particular work.