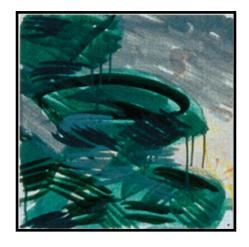
Stepping Into Spring

Making art with the Grid Method Inspired by Jennifer Bartlett's At the Lake, Morning



Have you ever seen a painting and said to yourself: how did they do that? Well, every artist has a process and a set of tools they use to create their art. One of the tools that artists use is the grid method. A grid helps artist discover interesting compositions. It is a useful tool for making a still life, portrait or landscape artwork.







For this activity we will look at Jennifer's work and notice how she breaks down her landscapes into squares. If you look closely at each square you will see that each is different and unique. A viewfinder will help you focus on one section at a time and connect the details in your artwork.













Making the Viewfinder

To start we will make a view finder to help select your composition and break it down into smaller squares for easier art making.







Step 1: Print out the last page of this document and cut on the solid lines, both the outside and inside border.

Hint: If you want to make a different size viewfinder, measure with your ruler the inside border in 1 inch increments. Then make the outside border.



Supplies:



Step 2: On a piece of cardboard trace the edges of your paper viewfinder. Then cut out the cardboard into the same shape and glue it to the paper.



Paper & Cardboard



Step 3: Mark the inside border with 1 inch intervals. Cut the floss and tape it between the marks.

Optional: Decorate your viewfinder!

Glue & Tape

Ruler & Scissors Floss & Paper Clip Pencils & Pens



Arting an Image





Step 1: Mark out a grid on a sheet of paper with a pencil in the same proportions as your viewfinder. The sample viewfinder on this activity sheet has a dimension of 3 by 3.

Hint: You can make the grid on your paper as big as you like but it has to be 3 by 3 if you use the viewfinder that is 3 by 3.







Step 2: Find an image to print from the internet or an image from a magazine.

















Step 4: Looking with your viewfinder draw the shapes you see square by square. Try to ignore the whole image and concentrate on one square at a time.

The Example:



The Template:

