



Elements: Space & Natural Shapes

Principles: Contrast

Materials:

- 12" x 18" white construction paper
- Oil pastels
- Rubbing crayons (aka peeled crayons)
- Watercolor trays (spray with water bottle before lesson to activate)
- Bigger sized brushes
- Sponges
- Water (in small cups/jars)
- Tops & Bottoms* (by Janet Stevens)

Instructions:

1. Read the book, *Tops & Bottoms*, to students and **brainstorm** a list of vegetables that grow underground versus those that grow above ground. Introduce the element of **space**, specifically "above" and "below" (see below).
2. Use this list to quickly illustrate with expo marker examples of how these vegetables look. Or have a poster already made with simple line drawn examples.
3. Show students the **sample** of the art they will be making. Explain that they will first use oil pastels or crayons, which will act as a resist for the second part of the art, which is water coloring. May **model** resist if needed by painting over oil pastel drawing.
4. Have students **use oil pastels or crayons to make a horizon line** on the paper, then draw a variety of vegetables. No need to use pencil.
5. Encourage the students to **draw their vegetables to be bigger than the size of their fist for proportion**, unless they are a skinny vegetable or a radish.
6. Have students add some **shading** with rubbing crayons or pastels to their vegetables. Also have them add highlights with white or yellow crayon or pastels.
7. Once students are done coloring, pass out watercolor and brushes and jars of water. Remind students to **use the top of their tray if they are mixing colors, do not mix in the watercolor oval pigment cakes themselves**.
8. Have the students **paint the sky**, Feeling free to paint right across the vegetables. Have them sponge off paint as needed. Also have them **paint the dirt**, again right over the drawings, sponge as needed.
9. Have students use paper towel to wipe off the tops of their watercolor trays as they clean up their supplies. Clean brushes and place flat or upright to dry.

Space is the area or volume containing both positive and negative areas which can be altered and organized using the other elements and principles of design.

Grade: Kindergarten

Lesson: "Veggies"

Descriptive words: Openness, organic positive, and negative.

American Artist, **Joseph Holston**, has some excellent examples of space in his artwork (specifically featuring above and below) in his Journey Along the Underground Railroad series, if you want to google some on the teachers computer and display on the smartboard.