# Gel Press®Starry Night

Grade 2



**Objective:** Students will use the Gel Press® to create a Vincent Van Gogh inspired Starry Night. Focus will be on creating movement in the sky through printmaking. Students will create and be able to define the foreground (village scene) and background (sky depicting movement and energy.

#### Materials

- Gel Press® Plate
- Craft acrylic paints for printmaking (cool colors)
- Oil pastels
- Texture tools
- Metallic markers
- Circle shapes (tubes etc.) for stamping
- Brayer



#### Motivation

- Share with students examples of Van Gogh's Starry Night, talk about the movement in the sky. How did the artist show the movement,through mark making?
- Share examples of other works of art created by Van Gogh and discuss his short, quick brushstrokes.
- Share with students the Gel Press® plate printing process

sharing a Gel Press®. Each student has a turn using their Gel Press® and a limited palette of cool colors (blue and purple) and a brayer to roll out their paints. Teacher puts a dab of blue and a dab of purple on each Gel Press® as students are working. While each student is working with the Gel Press® the other students will be working on their village scene. Students are encouraged to use cardboard tubes and cut up pieces of pool noodles) to stamp on circles of various sizes on their painted Gel Press®. Students will use other tools, daubers, Q-tips to create more movement lines.

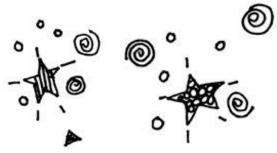


Step 2: While students are waiting their turn creating their print, they will be using metallic markers or crayons and black paper to create a "silhouette" village scene. This will be cut out and detail will be added with the drawing materials. Allow inked backgrounds to dry.

**Step 3:** Week two has students beginning to put their masterpiece together.



Glue or a glue stick will be used to adhere the village scene to the dry inked background. Students will use warm and cool color oil pastels to add more movement and depth to their piece by retracing some of their printed lines with pastels. Metallic marker may be added to painted areas to add detail such as stars or energy lines.



## Opening Questions:

- Who has heard of the artist Vincent Van Gogh? What are some of his famous paintings?
- How do artists show movement and energy in their work?
- If you look at Van Gogh's Starry Night does the sky look calm or wild? Why?
- Have you ever done any printmaking? What is the difference between printmaking and other art techniques?

### National ARTS standards:

# Anchor standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

**Enduring Understanding**: Artists and designers experiment with forms, structures, materials, concepts, media, and art-making approaches.

**Essential Question(s)**: How do artists work? How do artists and designers determine whether a particular direction in their work is effective? How do artists and designers learn from trial and error? Grade 2

#### VA:Cr2.1.2a

Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design.

Enduring Understanding: Artists and designers balance experimentation and safety, freedom and responsibility while developing and creating artworks. Essential Question(s): How do artists and designers care for and maintain materials, tools, and equipment? Why is it important for safety and health to understand and follow correct procedures in handling materials, tools, and equipment? What responsibilities come with the freedom to create?

Grade 2

#### VA:Cr2.2.2

Demonstrate safe procedures for using and cleaning art tools, equipment, and studio spaces.

## Vocabulary:

- Vincent Van Gogh
- printing
- foreground
- background
- brayer
- Creating movement and energy through art making
- cool colors
- warm colors



# Gel Press Organic Shape Collage



**Objective:** Students will use the Gel Press to create various printed papers which will be used in collage making. Students will focus on cutting and creating with organic shapes in the style of Henri Matisse. Students will also focus on using the negative space in their piece to create line making, adding visual interest to their piece.

#### Materials

- **Gel Press**
- Various paints for printmaking
- Shaving cream
- glue
- oil pastels
- Metallic markers
- Glitter
- Paper scraps

Motivation:

- What will happen if we use shaving cream to paint/print with?
- What is an organic shape?
- Show examples of Henri Matisse and his paper
- Demo with students the Gelli plate printing process.

**Step :** Students are grouped with 4 students sharing a Gel Press. Each group shares small paint brushes and various paints. Students will work cooperatively (by table) to create several printed papers to create their collages from.



A dollop of shaving cream is squirted on each Gel Press. Using brushes students will swirl and spread the shaving cream. Color will be added to the shaving cream using caked temperas and liquid watercolors.

Student will gently place their paper on and "pull the print". Allow papers to dry.

**Step 2:** Students use pencils to draw free form organic shapes on their printed papers. Using scissors students cut out their shapes and glue them on their background paper. Scrap paper will be used to create more organic shapes. Shapes will be outlined with metallic markers and oil pastels. Using glue students will outline their organic shapes and add glitter. The negative space will allow students to create line and patterns with oil pastels.



## Opening Questions:

- Who has heard of the artist Henri Matisse?
- What do organic shapes remind you of?
- What is the difference between an organic shape and a geometric shape?

#### National ARTS Standards

## creating:

- Brainstorm collaboratively multiple approaches to an art or design problem.
- Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork

### Responding:

 Perceive and describe aesthetic characteristics of one's natural world and constructed environments.



### Vocabulary:

- printing
- Organic shapes
- Geometric shapes
- Henri matisse
- collage





