

# Gel Press® Organic Leaves

Grade 3



**Objective:** Students will use the Gel Press® to create a print inspired by nature. Focus will be on using the organic shapes of leaves to create their masterpiece. Students will use warm color paints in their printing process.

## Materials

- Gel Press® monoprinting plate
- Craft acrylic paints
- Oil pastels
- Texture tools
- Cake tempera paints
- Black permanent marker
- Real leaves or fake leaves (dollar store)



## Motivation

- Share with students examples of Henri Matisse and his organic shape paper cut outs.
- Share with students the Gel Press® plate printing process.

**Step 1:** Students are grouped together with 4 students sharing a Gel Press®. Students will use two warm colors to create their print (yellow and magenta). One at a time students will place 4 or 5 leaves down (vein side down) on the Gel Press®. Students take turns putting a daub of yellow acrylic paint and using a brayer to cover the Gel Press®. Each student “pulls” a print of yellow.



**Step 2:** Students continue printing by repeating the process using magenta paint (or another warm color). Leaves can be repositioned slightly. Encourage students to have their leaves go off the page or overlap slightly.

**Step 3:** Allow prints to dry. Week two has students going back into their print to add visual texture through drawing and mark making. Students will use a black permanent marker and outline their organic leaf shapes, they will also add lines to represent the veins of the leaves. Students will use oil pastels (any colors) to continue adding color to their piece. Students

will use tempera cakes to paint over their pastels, and around their black lines.



### Opening Questions:

- Is nature an inspiration for you to use in your art? If so, why?
- Look around the room and find some organic shapes. Find some geometric shapes. Which shapes make you think of nature?
- What are the warm colors and what do they make you think of?

### National ARTS standards:

**Anchor standard: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.**

**Enduring Understanding:** Artists and designers shape artistic investigations, following or breaking with traditions in pursuit of creative artmaking goals.

**Essential Question:** How does knowing the contexts histories, and traditions of art forms help us create works of art & design? Why do artists follow or break from established traditions? How do artists determine what resources are needed to formulate artistic investigations.

**VA:Cr1.2.3**

Apply knowledge of available resources, tools, and technologies to investigate personal ideas through the art-making process.

**Anchor standard: Perceive and analyze artistic work.**

**Enduring Understanding:** Visual imagery influences understanding of and responses to the world.

**Essential Question:** What is an image? Where and how do we encounter images in our world? How do images influence our views of the world?

**VA:Re7.1.3**

Speculate about processes an artist uses to create a work of art.

### Vocabulary:

- printing
- organic shapes
- geometric shapes
- warm colors
- Henri Matisse





# Gel Press® Cool Color Portraits

Grade: 3



**Objective:** Students will use the Gel Press to create a cool color expressive portrait. Focus will be on using cool colors create a funky portrait face showing emotion and expression.

## Materials

- Gel Press
- Water based markers (chisel tip)
- Black permanent marker
- Cool color paints
- Cool color oil pastels

## Motivation

- Share with students examples of non realistic portraits, where the artist is depicting expressive faces.
- Demo with students the Gelli plate printing process.
- Show examples of Picasso Blue Period paintings and discuss how the colors convey a mood or emotion.

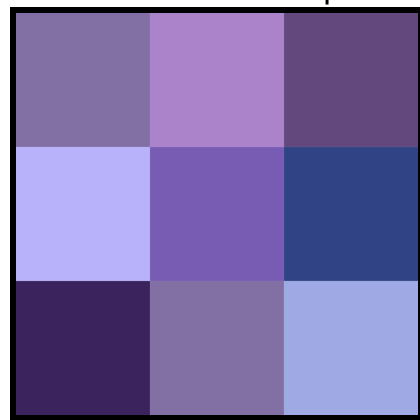


**Step 1:** Students are grouped with 4 students sharing a Gel Press. Students take turns using cool color markers to create a quick gestural expressive face. While students are waiting their turn they will work on small sketches, of their faces.



Each student will create a print to begin their masterpiece.

**Step 2:** Each student completes their piece using various cool color mediums. Background is colored or painted in. Detail lines will be added with permanent markers and oil pastels.



Students include a brief written statement on how the use of cool colors lead them on their artistic exploration of portraits.

## Opening Questions:

- What is a portrait?
- What is the difference between a portrait and a self portrait?
- What are the cool colors?
- How does an artist show emotion and expression in their work?
- How do cool colors make you feel?

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## National ARTS standards:

### Creating

- Create personally satisfying artwork using a variety of artistic processes and materials.

### Presenting

- Identify exhibit space and prepare works of art including artists' statements, for presentation.

### Responding:

- Determine messages communicated by an image.
- Interpret art by analyzing use of media to create subject matter, characteristics of form, and mood.

### Connecting

- Develop a work of art based on observations of surroundings.



## Vocabulary:

- Cool colors
- Portraits
- Expressive
- Pablo Picasso
- Emotion



GET YOUR COOL COLOR VIBE ON!