



## Dot Day: A Collaborative Project



**Objective:** Students will explore color and circular shapes to create a **Gel Press®** print which will be part of a collaborative art work. They will be inspired by the artist, Wassily Kandinsky and author/ illustrator, Peter J. Reynolds.

### Materials:

- Gel Press®** round plate (6" used here)
- White 80lb. drawing paper cut 8" x 8" or colored papers 8" x 8".
- Acrylic paints or thick Tempera paints
- Squeeze bottles for paint
- Paint brushes or foam brush
- Q-tip or other soft tipped tool
- Oil Pastels
- Wipes or wet paper towel
- Cake turntable, potter's wheel, trimming wheel or Lazy Susan wheel

### Pre-Lesson:

- Read *The Dot* by Peter J. Reynolds
- Talk about how artists can create work using just color, shape, line and varying size.
- Introduce the artists, Wassily Kandinsky and his *Study of Circles* artwork.

### National Core Arts Standards for the Visual Arts:

**VA:Cr1.1.Ka:** Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials.

**VA:Cr2.1.Ka:** Through experimentation, build skills in various media and approaches to art making.

**VA:Cr3.1.Ka:** Explain the process of making art while creating.

**VA:Cr1.1.1a:** Engage collaboratively in exploration and imaginative play with materials.

**VA:Cr2.1.1a:** Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art or design.

**VA:Cr2.1.2a:** Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design.

**VA:Cr2.2.2a:** Demonstrate safe procedures for using and cleaning art tools, equipment, and studio spaces.

### Preparation:

- Cut paper to 8" x 8" size. Have enough for each child to have 2.
- Prepare paint- limit your palette to 4-5 colors.

**Tip:** If you don't have squeeze bottles, you can place a variety of colors on a paper plate or cups.

- Set up each table with one turntable each (or if you have limited number, set up one table to have students come to you a few at a time) and one **Gel Press®** plate centered on turntable.
- Have paint brushes, Q-tips or other soft tools set at tables.

**Tip:** Tables can be covered with newspaper or table cloths for easy clean up.

# K- 2nd Grade Art Lesson

## *Color and Shape*



- Repeat until circle is complete. Work quickly so paint doesn't dry too fast for printing.
- Students can use Q-tip or soft tool to add lines in paint before printing.
- Place paper with name side up and rub over to transfer paint to paper. Pull the print!
- Continue until all students print.

### Step 1: Printing

- After reading the book *The Dot* and viewing Kandinsky's *Study of Circles*, demonstrate using a video or live demo on how to print using the turntable and Gel Press plate.
- Students should write their names on a piece of paper.
- Pairs of students will work together.

**Tip:** Since students will have to take turns at the wheel, you could have drawing materials available for those waiting.

- Direct the first student to dip their brush into the first color choice. The other student will start turning the wheel (not too fast) while the first student uses their brush to press onto the center of the Gel Press while it is moving. Lift brush off. Add more paint if needed.
- Wipe brush onto a wet sponge or towel to clean. Get a new color and repeat just outside the 1st color to create a new circle.

### Step 2: Details

- Once prints are dry (2nd day), have students use oil pastels or crayons to add circles in between painted circles and/or add some patterns on top of dry paint. Repeating lines and shapes creates contrast and rhythm to the pieces.
- Students can then place their piece next to those at their table to decide how they should be displayed. The groupings can then be attached to a larger background paper or attached directly to a display board or wall.

