

Tropical Birds

Grade 6

Color Lesson

Concepts:

1. There are three primary colors: red, yellow, and blue.
2. The primary colors can be mixed to make secondary colors: green, purple (violet), and orange.
 - a. Red and yellow make orange.
 - b. Yellow and blue make green.
 - c. Blue and red make purple (violet).
3. When mixing colors, always start with the lighter color and add a very small amount of the darker color until the desired color is reached.
4. When you mix primary colors with secondary colors, you get tertiary colors: yellow-green, blue-green, yellow-orange, red-orange, red-violet, and blue-violet.
5. All the primary colors mixed together make brown.
6. Tropical birds have brightly colored feathers.
7. The bird's body and wings can be broken down into simple shapes.
8. When you are drawing from a subject, keep your eye moving around the outside contour.
9. When designing a large area, 1) keep the subject large, and 2) divide the space into interesting shapes.
10. In this lesson, the artist will think of the whole paper as having paths or roads for the viewer's eye to travel along, so that the viewer will look at the whole piece of paper, not just a section of it.

Materials:

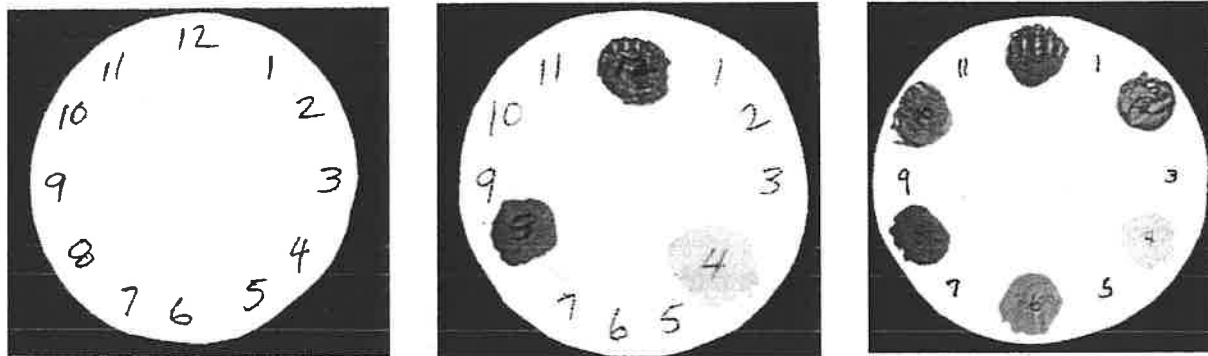
Paper plates, brushes, water cans, sponges, pencils, erasers, 18" x 24" white drawing paper, tempera paints (red, yellow, and blue).

Procedure:

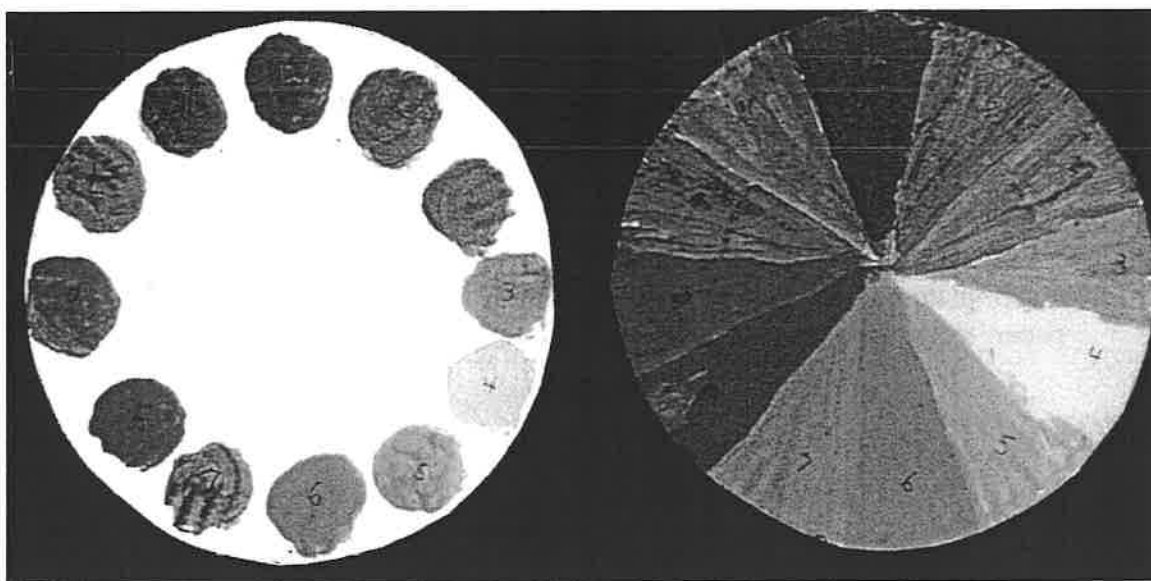
Session 1:

1. Using two white paper plates per child, go through the color wheel. One plate will have the three primary colors evenly spaced apart on it. The other plate will be blank.
2. Instruct the students to number the blank plate from one to twelve like a clock.

- Instruct the students to paint the 3 primary colors. Take it step by step, one color at a time. "Paint red on the #12. Paint yellow on the #4. Paint blue on the #8."

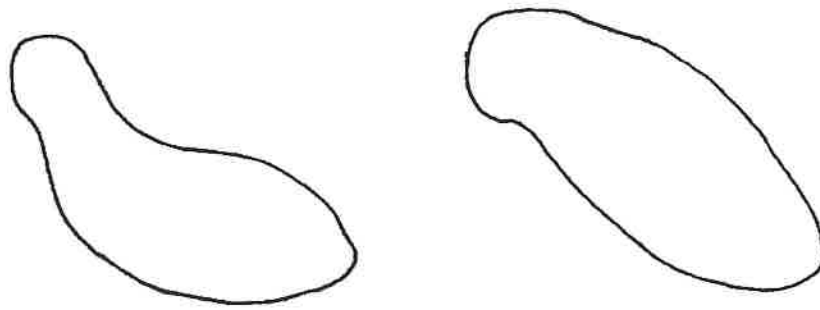


- Next, review how to mix two primary colors together to make secondary colors. Do one color at a time.
 - Yellow and red make orange. Paint orange on the #2.
 - Red and blue make purple (violet). Paint purple on the #10.
 - Blue and yellow make green. Paint green on the #6.
- Review the tertiary colors in the same fashion, and paint these colors on the 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11. Orange and red make red-orange (#1); orange and yellow make yellow-orange (#3); yellow and green make yellow-green (#5); green and blue make blue-green (#7); blue and violet make blue-violet (#9); violet and red make red-violet (#11).
- Encourage the students to paint a very neat color wheel, and to paint their mixed colors all the way to the center of the wheel in a pie shape.

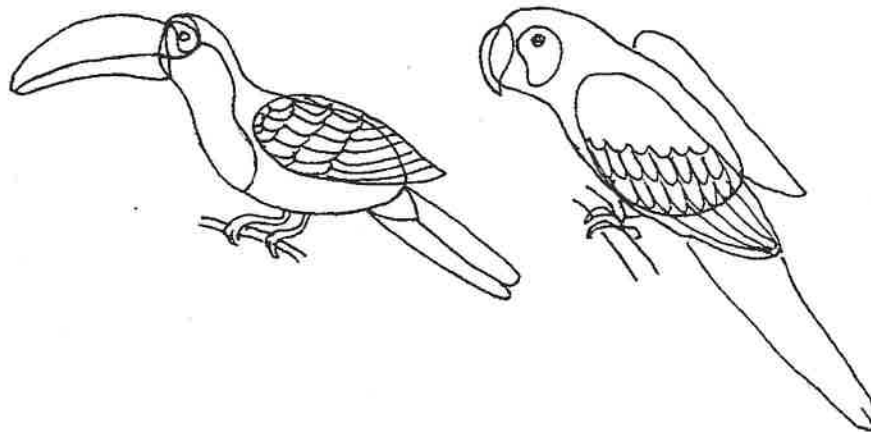


- Put the plates aside, rinse out the brushes, and prepare the students to listen and to discuss the subject of the paintings: tropical birds.
- Show as many pictures, paintings, and drawings of tropical birds as you can gather.

9. Demonstrate on the board how the birds are made of simple shapes. Start with the body shape only.



10. Now add wing shapes, beaks and tails to their body shapes to complete the birds.



11. Limit the students to one or two large birds.
12. Show the students ways to divide space on their papers in order to make their compositions more interesting. Show them how to create avenues or roads for the observer's eye to travel on and off the paper by drawing branches and large leaves that run on and off the paper.



13. After the color wheel has been completed and the drawing preparation is finished, instruct the students to draw their bird paintings using all of the tips you have given them. It is preferable to have them draw with black marking pens. They will draw more deliberately with pen. If students want to draw with pencil, limit their pencil drawing time to ten minutes; then insist they switch to pen. If they start out drawing small, stop them and make them start over, drawing large. Keep drawings simple, as if designing a page in a coloring book.
14. If they have any time left after they complete their drawings, they may begin to paint.

Session 2:

15. Show color wheels from last week's session and review.
16. Tell them they must use all of the colors of the color wheel in their paintings.



DRAWING AIDS

