

DESIGN AND PAINT WITH DOTS (GOND PAINTING)



TEACHING ARTIST: **SHAKUNTALA MAHESHWARI**

Shakun is a visual artist who works in many genres. She began her artistic life in her native India, learning traditional folk arts from her mother and aunties. With formal art training in graphic design, photography and various other mediums, she has enhanced her background and teaching methods. Shakun uses her folk art background to make connections with other cultures and is dedicated to teaching all students the creative process.

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

Making a dot is simple, creating an entire art piece with dots can be a little bit challenging, but learning to make creative designs with dots can be a fun activity. I will take you through each step in the process, from creating the idea to finishing an art piece created entirely with dots.

ARTISTS & PIECES OF ART INCLUDED:

Some examples of Pointillism artwork will be shared.

Explore the Famous Dot Painting Technique:

- <https://artfilemagazine.com/pointillism/>



Minnesota
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COMPAS PRISM PROGRAM

Lesson plans are created by COMPAS Artists. Each highlights artists and artworks from African, Latinx, Indigenous, and/or Asian communities.

LEARNING GOALS:

Learn about the tribal art of India

- Practice and create an art piece based on the dot-style of art making in India called Gond painting
- Why did you choose to share this lesson?
Art is the best way to learn about other cultures. With this lesson plan students will gain some insight into one of the many art forms still practiced by tribal communities across India. While learning this art form participants will also find similarities in dot style art forms from different countries and cultures.

This is a simple and fun activity for all ages and abilities to enjoy learning a new creative process.

- What inspires you about this activity?
In my artistic practice I love experimenting with different techniques using simple materials found in my environment. I am excited to share some simple techniques to use when you don't have any idea what to create with minimal tools and supplies.
- Why is this activity, these artists, this art important?
Engaging in the creative process as a group helps build community by sharing the culture and experiences of Indian folk artists. The main purpose of this activity is to gain self-confidence, explore new art forms and develop a meditative way to create art. We all have creative power within ourselves, sometimes it's not easy to recognize until we try new things. Folk art is about enjoying the creative process and letting go of perfection.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS LESSON:

Gather your imagination. Find a table and chair where you can make a mess and can be cleaned up easily. Wear an old shirt or smock, put paper or plastic on your work surface.

EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Pencil
- Paper
- Acrylic paint: red, blue, yellow, white, black
- Card stock or canvas board
- Q-tips

LESSON ACTIVITIES:

Lotus Blooming in Water

Step 1 - Make drawing with pencil:

1. Draw the lotus flower center
2. Draw side petals two times on both sides
3. Draw one petal in the center
4. Draw one petal upside down to connect side petals
5. Draw a stem
6. Draw a floating lily pad around the flower or two or three lily pads floating in water
7. Make small dashes or wavy lines to represent water

Step 2 – Paint flower

1. Put a small amount of each color on a paper or plastic plate, making sure not to mix the colors together yet.
2. Dab the Q-tip in one color and put a dot on your lotus drawing.
3. The basics of mixing colors - white will lighten any color and black will deepen any color. Mixing red and blue makes purple; it can be darkened with black
4. Complete your entire lotus design with dots, creating some areas with highlight shadows and some darker areas for contrast.
5. Paint the stem and lily pads using the same dot technique.
6. Paint the water using lighter and darker shades of blue and green to create reflections and shadows.

INDICATORS OF REACHING THE LEARNING GOALS:

- Create a finished piece using dot style of painting
- Practice dot techniques, shading and color mixing
- Learn something new about Indian tribal art and artists.

COMMUNITY THIS ACTIVITY IS DESIGNED FOR:

- Older adults
- Asian Indian community seniors

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

- Botanical drawing
- Representational design
- Color theory
- Pointillism technique

WHAT COULD A COMPAS TEACHING ARTIST HELP YOU ACHIEVE IN YOUR CLASSROOM?

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