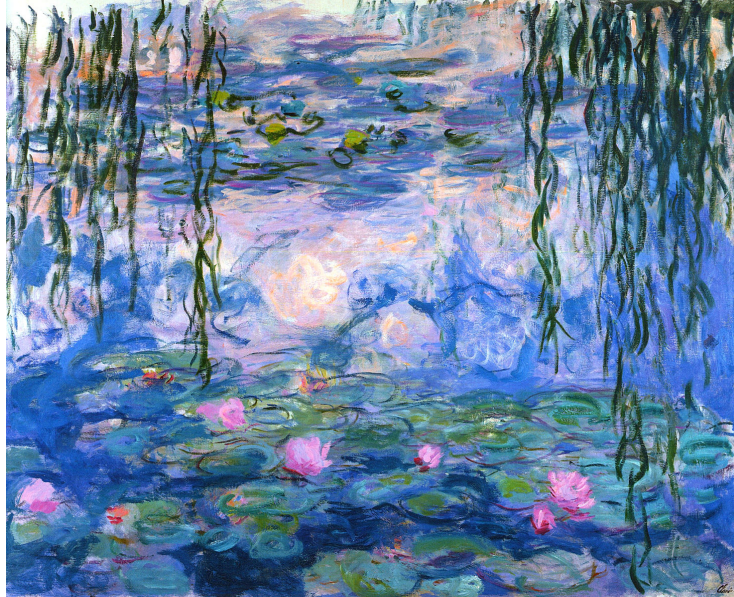


**Art Masterpiece: *Water Lilies* by Claude Monet**



**Keywords:** Brushstroke, Composition, Color, Impressionism, Landscape

**Activity:** Watercolor painting with tissue paper water lilies

**Keywords Defined:**

- **Brushstroke** - a line, shape or texture created by applying paint to a surface with a paintbrush in a particular way.
- **Composition** - the organization of lines shapes colors and other art elements in a work of art.
- **Color** - an element of art. The hue, value and intensity of an object.
- **Impressionism** - style of art developed in France during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. These pieces of art were painted as if someone just took a quick look at the subject of the painting. They were usually in bold colors and did not have a lot of detail. The paintings in this style were usually outdoor scenes like landscapes. They were painted to look like they were shimmering.
- **Landscape** - a painting or drawing showing a scene from nature, often including mountains, trees, rivers, fields and other outdoor scenery.

## *Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Make-Up Lesson (March)*

### **Meet the Artist:**

- Oscar-Claude Monet was born in 1840 in Paris, France. His parents wanted him to grow up and work in their grocery store. He only wanted to paint, eventually going to art school.
- He was fascinated with what different light would do to colors. He noticed that the brighter the light, the more vibrant the color. He started to paint outdoors so that he could really see the vibrancy of the colors. At the time, artists exclusively painted indoors, in their studios.
- He married twice (his first wife died) and had several children.
- Much of his life, he lived near poverty. It took him until he was age 50 to sell enough paintings to buy his first home. This house he bought was in Giverny (Zhee-vare-ney).
- He loved painting water, since light reflected off of it. He had a pond made and filled with water lilies in his backyard in Giverny.
- Monet started going blind in 1908 due to cataracts. After having medication, he was able to regain much of his sight. Some of his most memorable paintings were at the end of his life, his numerous water lily paintings. Monet died in 1926.

### **Possible Questions:**

- Is this painting realistic? Does it look real?
- Why do you think Monet liked to paint outside?
- Often, he painted the same thing over and over again. Why do you think he did that? (Different lighting, time of day, different seasons' colors)
- What does the painting look like close up? Far away?
- What time of day do you think it was painted?

## *Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Make-Up Lesson (March)*

### **Activity:**

- 1) Pass out one piece of 9 x 12-inch white construction paper to each student and have them write their names on the back. Have them turn their papers to the "landscape" (horizontal) orientation and place a paper towel underneath their paper. Explain to the students that they will be painting a watercolor background to add tissue paper water lilies to later.
- 2) Pass out water cups, watercolor sets, and wash brushes. Students should paint long horizontal brush strokes of blue, green, and purple to cover their entire paper.
- 3) After painting is complete, allow the watercolor paintings to dry. Discard the water cups, collect the watercolor sets, and wash the brushes. Brushes should lay flat to dry.
- 4) Pass out three pre-made tissue paper water lilies to each student. Show them how to gently crumple the tissue paper to make the lilies 3-dimensional.
- 5) Pass out the glue bottles, and have students glue their water lilies, (green lily pad facing down) onto their watercolor paintings. It is okay if the paintings are still a little wet. The glue will still work, and the glue and paper will simply dry together overnight. Allow artwork to dry flat before hanging or sending home.

### **Materials Needed:**

- 9 x 12-inch white construction paper
- Paper towels
- Water cups
- Watercolor sets
- Large wash brushes
- Tissue paper water lilies (tissue paper squares stapled to green construction paper lily pads), 3 per student
- Glue

*Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Make-Up Lesson (March)*

**Artwork Example:**

