**Art Masterpiece**

**Project Procedure Form**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist:</th>
<th>Pierre-Auguste Renoir</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Print:</td>
<td>“Monet Painting in his Garden at Argenteuil” &amp; “The Green Umbrella” by Potthast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project:</td>
<td>Beach Umbrella in Watercolor</td>
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<td>Objective:</td>
<td>An introductory to Watercolor Pencil Techniques. The student should have a good understanding on how to use and the uses for Watercolor pencils. They will need these skills in later Art Masterpiece Projects.</td>
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<td>Description:</td>
<td>Bring in one or more large umbrellas and place in front of the room. You may also want to bring in a towel, pail, etc... The umbrellas need to be colorful with big blocks of several colors. Ask the students to draw the umbrellas on the bottom half of the paper, outlining the different blocks of color. They can do more than one if they choose but encourage them to make them large, covering 1/3 to ½ of their paper. This will make it easier to get the desired effect when the water is added. Have them fill the blocks of colors in with the watercolor pencils. The more it is colored in, the more colorful the picture will be. Have them add sky, clouds, sand or grass to the background of the picture with the watercolor pencils. When they are completely done, give them a paintbrush and clear water and demonstrate how to apply the water to achieve the watercolor painting look.</td>
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<td>Suggestions:</td>
<td>Show and discuss the Potthast painting when you get read to do the project. This is a good example to show for this project. Umbrellas are often seen in impressionist paintings. Remind them that the darker the dry color the brighter the washed color will be. Also to re-wet their brush before they move onto a different color otherwise the colors will mix.</td>
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| Supplies: | Beach Umbrella (pail, towel, etc)  
Watercolor Paper 8”x10”  
Water cups  
Paint Brushes  
Watercolor Pencils |
Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Renoir was born on February 25, 1841 in Limoges, France. His father was a tailor and his mother was a dress maker. They had a family of seven children.

When he was 13, Renoir worked in a porcelain factory where his drawing talents led to an apprenticeship in the fine art department decorating the fine china porcelain dishes. By the time he was 20, he had begun to paint murals on the walls of different cafes in Paris.

At this point in time Renoir was determined to become an artist. He would spend hours in the Louvre copying paintings and statues of the Old Masters. At 21, he enrolled in a school of fine arts. It was at this school that he met Claude Monet. While still a young man, he became one of the founders of the Impressionist Art Movement.

Renoir is perhaps the best-loved of all the Impressionists, for his subjects---pretty children, flowers, beautiful colorful landscape scenes, above all lovely women---have instant appeal, and he communicated the joy he took in them with great directness. Renoir was the first Impressionist to be accepted by the public. He said, “There are enough unpleasant things in the world, why shouldn’t art be pretty?” He frequently used his wife and children as his models.
Renoir's paintings are notable for their vibrant light and saturated color, most often focusing on people in intimate and candid compositions. The female nude was one of his primary subjects. In characteristic Impressionist style, Renoir suggested the details of a scene through freely brushed touches of color, so that his figures softly fuse with one another and their surroundings. Soft, feathery, light brush strokes, create the softness typical of Impressionist painting versus hard crisp lines.

Renoir achieved fame and financial success, but in his forties he was crippled by rheumatoid arthritis. He moved to a warmer climate close to the coast hoping this would help his condition. In his last years he was wheelchair bound and his shoulders and finger had become deformed due to the arthritis. Unable to hold his brushes, but determined to paint he continued to by having his brushes strapped to his hands. He painted furiously in spite of the intense pain. This pain was never reflected in his painting. He was distressed to have to sell his pictures. He knew he had to, but he always wanted to see them again.

Renoir was also an accomplished sculptor. When his hands became too crippled for sculpting, he would sketch his ideas, then make marks in the clay. An assistant would cut and shape the material under his constant guidance.

Renoir had many health problems later in life. He died on December 3, 1919 at the age of 78.
Two of Renoir's paintings have sold for more than $70 million. *Bal au moulin de la Galette, Montmartre* sold for $78.1 million in 1990.