



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Art Center Art Activity Kit©

Alaskan Animals and Franz Marc

GRADE: 3

TIME: one session

Developed by Linda Pfisterer, Art Specialist



KIT INCLUDES:

- lesson plan
- book, *Franz Marc*
- paintings (5) by Franz Marc
 - *Two Cats, Blue and Yellow*
 - *The Tower of Blue Horses*
 - *Donkey Frieze*
 - *Monkey Frieze*
 - *The Little Yellow Horses*
- teaching boards:
 - warm, cool and neutral colors
 - shapes
 - process board, 3-fold
- vocabulary board
- animal drawing handouts (15)

MATERIALS:

- 6 x9" construction paper – dark colors: blue, green, red, magenta, brown
- One for each student:
- 9 x12" black construction paper
- 4.5 x 6" white paper
- black fine point felt markers
- full color set of oil pastels
- scissors
- glue
- pencil

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

Students study the animal paintings of Franz Marc, a German painter. They look for simple shapes in the animals that he painted, and also in the Alaskan animals that they will draw. Each student makes one animal pattern and traces it to make a group of animals. They design their art using overlapping animals and warm, cool and neutral colors.

VOCABULARY:

warm colors
cool colors
neutral colors
overlapping
foreground
background
rhythm/movement

ART ELEMENTS:

- ☒ Line
- ☒ Shape/Form
- ☒ Color
- ☐ Value
- ☐ Texture
- ☒ Space/Perspective

ART PRINCIPLES:

- ☒ Pattern
- ☒ Rhythm/movement
- ☐ Proportion/Scale
- ☒ Balance
- ☐ Unity
- ☐ Emphasis

CONTENT CONNECTIONS:

Alaskan Studies

THEMES:

Animals in Alaska

OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

1. Students will name the animals, colors and shapes they see in the Franz Marc paintings.
2. Students will name and draw the simple geometric shapes they find in their animal.
3. Students will demonstrate near and far by overlapping the repeated animal shapes.
4. Students will name and use the warm colors, cool colors and the neutral colors as color is added to the animals and the background.

PREPARE

1. Prepare construction paper:
 - 4.5" x 6" white, one per student
 - 6" x 9" dark colors to choose such as: blue, green, red, magenta and brown.
2. Set out black fine point markers, oil pastels, pencils, 9x12" black construction paper.
3. Lay out the 6" X 9" selection of papers.

ENGAGE AND EXPLORE

1. Franz Marc was a German expressionist painter who loved to paint animals. His brilliant colors combined with shape and rhythm create an excitement to his paintings. His death at an early age as a soldier during World War I cut short a promising career as an artist.

SET UP THE FIVE PAINTINGS BY FRANZ MARC

Set up the **shape board** and have students name the shapes and add more. (ie, heart, leaf) Ask the students the following questions to get them to look closely at the paintings.

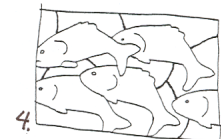
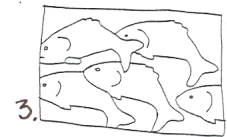
2. Which painting uses mostly the primary colors, red, yellow and blue? (Two Cats) What repeated shapes do you find in this painting? (circles) What are the two cats doing? Look closely. (Try to let students find the mouse and discuss what is happening in the painting.)
3. Which paintings have all the animals headed in the same direction? (Donkeys, Horses) This repetition of the animal shapes helps to create movement and rhythm in the paintings.
4. Look at the color schemes in each painting and name the two or three main colors. Does the artist pick the true animal colors ? Does this give the paintings a dreamlike quality or a realistic (real looking) quality?
5. In the monkey painting, which part of the monkey outline is repeated in the foreground grass? (the back and belly line) Can you sense the movement this creates as the monkeys run across the painting?
6. In the horse paintings, which horse is closest to you? (the one at the bottom) How do you know this? (Near objects are placed low on a painting, and far objects are placed high.) Which two horses are further away? How are the two horse paintings different from each other? What did Franz Marc do to make these paintings dreamlike? (star shapes floating around in blue horses, and clouds surround the yellow horses.)
7. Which painting has all the animals moving in one direction except one? (donkeys) Can you find how the artist repeats the donkey ear shapes in a different part of the painting?
8. Which paintings did the artist have part of the animals walking or running off the painting? Does this help create movement of the animals?
9. Franz Marc uses overlapping to show us which animals are in the front (near) and which animals are behind them (far). Overlapping is important to give unity to a painting and it also connects the animals in a group.
10. Which paintings have groups of animals? This lesson will be about drawing one Alaskan animal and using the drawing as a stencil to make a group of animals like Franz Marc.

CREATE

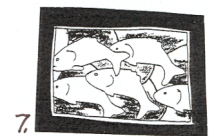
Use the color, vocabulary, and teaching boards to help you demonstrate the steps in the lesson.

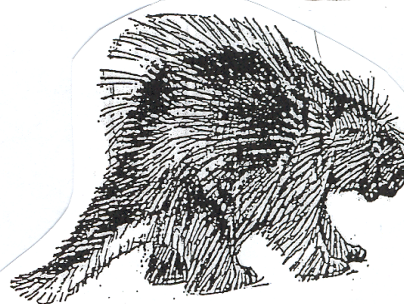
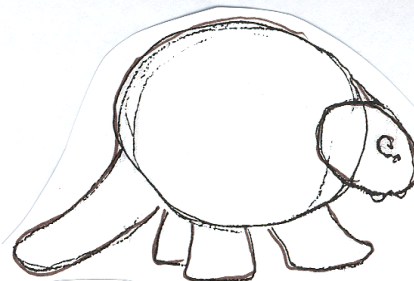
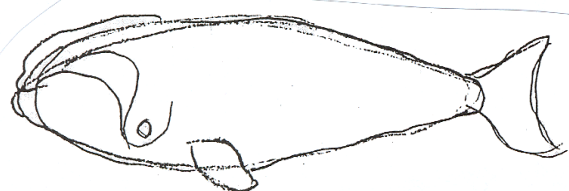
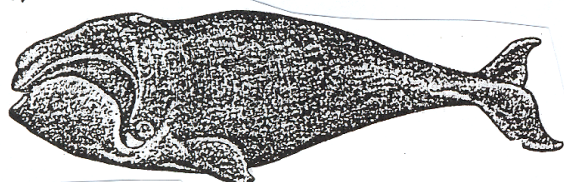
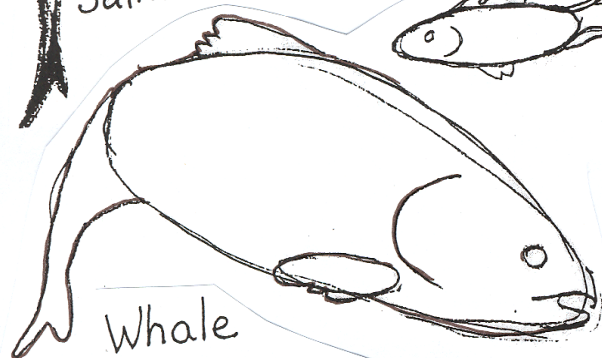
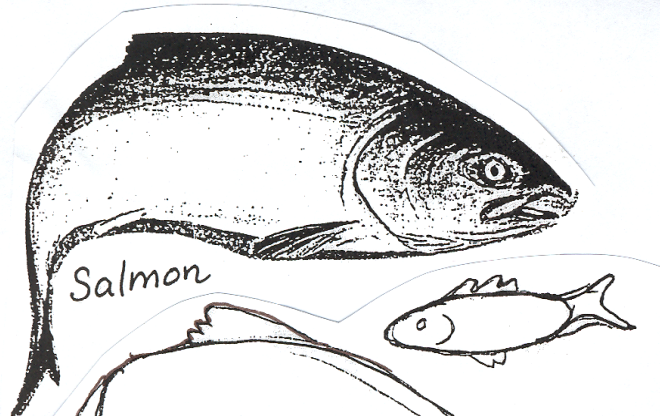
1. **Drawing the animal:** Choose one animal to draw from the handout sheet. Each animal on the sheet is beside the simple geometric shapes it takes to draw the animal. Begin by finding the biggest shape in the animal. In order to make the animal much larger than the picture, place two dots far apart on the white paper to make the body shape as large as possible. Be careful to leave a little room for long legs, high ears or antlers. Draw in pencil using many lines. When the main body parts are done, add the appendages such as wings, legs, and tails. Finally, use the black marker to trace over only the important pencil lines, adding any detail inside the face and body. Cut out the body carefully and save these scraps for creating the background lines.
2. **Refer to the color scheme board:** Choose a color scheme for your animals. Then choose a color scheme for the background. Franz Marc used this technique to make the animals appear separate from the background. If a warm color scheme is chosen for the animals, then the background would be cool or neutral. Have the students write down the choices they have made. Pick up a colored paper in the color scheme of your chosen background.

3. **Trace the animal:** Decide where to place the nearest animal and put the animal pattern in the lowest part of the paper. Trace it carefully with the black marker. To make the second animal behind the first animal, place the pattern a bit higher and a little overlapping the first animal. BUT, it is important to only trace the parts of the second animal that would be showing if it is behind the first animal. Trace two or three animals. Some can be going off the page to show movement. Use the black marker to clearly outline the animals and fill in detail on the face and legs.



4. **Background lines:** Use the scrap white paper from the animal pattern. Break up the background with black marker lines traced from your scrap. This will create a repeating line from the animal shape.
5. **Color the animals:** Begin coloring the animals with oil pastels in a different color scheme from your base paper color. Pick out all the colors in the box that are in that color scheme plus white. Gently color in each animal with a different main color in that color scheme. Try to leave the black marker lines showing to help define the animal. Shade each animal with lighter colors from that color scheme or add a white layer on the dark color.
6. **Lightly color the background:** Use a different color scheme from your animals to lightly or gently color in the background spaces. Pick all the colors from the box in the background color scheme and try to use them in the different spaces. Don't cover up your black marker lines because they are important to show the repeating animal lines in the background.
7. **Mount finished drawing** on black 9x12" paper with four dots of glue.

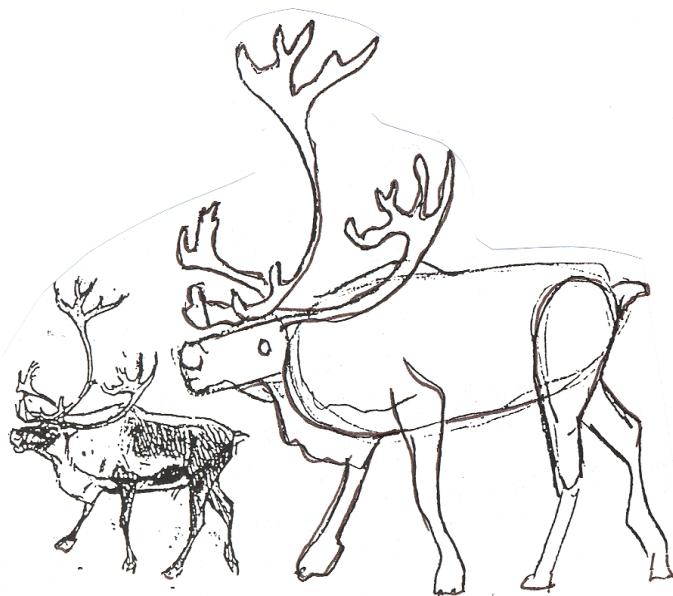
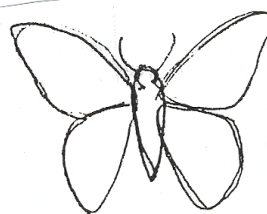




Porcupine



Butterfly

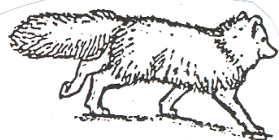
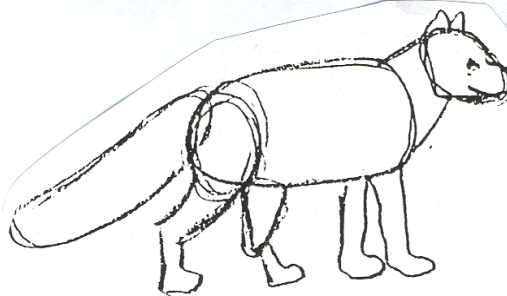
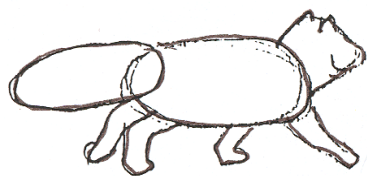


Caribou



Beaver

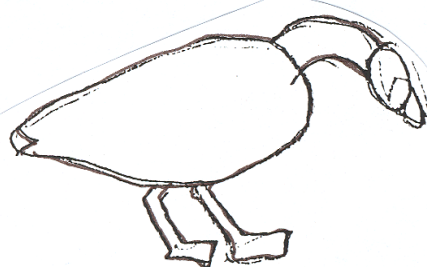




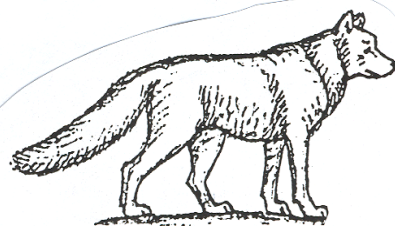
Arctic fox



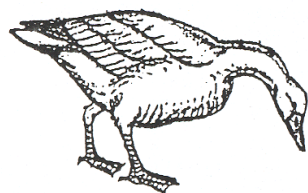
Arctic loon



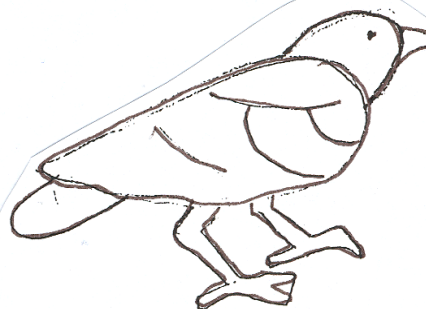
Siberian crane



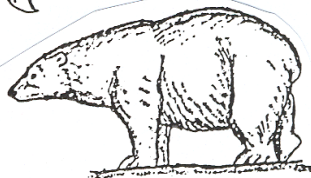
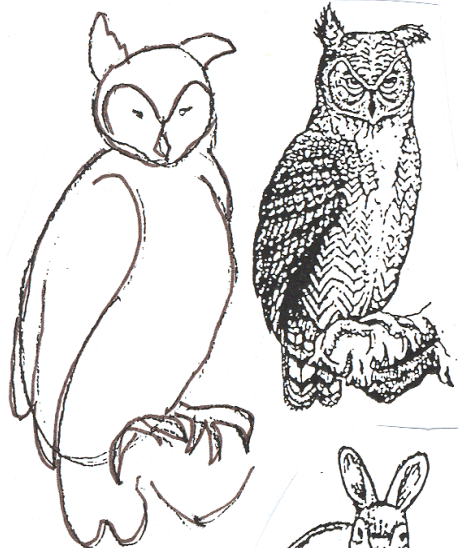
Arctic wolf



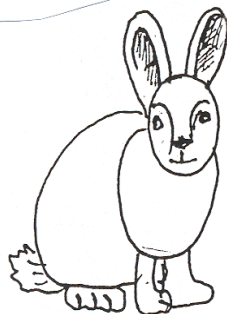
Snow goose



Raven



Polar bear



Snowshoe hare

