### ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

## LESSON PLAN

## AT-HOME ART PROJECT: Abstract Art & Painting What You Hear INSTRUCTIONS



Circles in a Circle, 1923

#### **INSPIRATION ARTIST**

#### Wassily Kandinsky (1866 –1944)

When Kandinsky was a young boy in Russia, he was given a box of paints by his aunt. When he opened it, he said he could hear the colors. It's thought that Kandinsky had a rare condition called synesthesia. People with this condition often experience their senses differently from the rest of the world. They can hear color, see music, taste words, or smell numbers.

#### **MATERIALS NEEDED FROM HOME:**

- Thick white paper
- Different sized lids, cans or cups
- Pencil and Eraser
- Black Sharpie or pen
- Crayons, colored pencils, watercolor, oil paste/chalk pastel, acrylic paint, Crayola markers, or colored sharpies (whatever you have on hand)



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**ART PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Abstract artists use shapes, colors, forms and often paint emotions. Kandinsky was inspired by the music he listened to while painting. For this project we will use music to feel different emotions as we work. Think about drawing what you hear.

"The swirling colors trilled like an orchestra tuning up for a magical symphony."

— The Noisy Paint Box

#### **PROMPT QUESTIONS:**

- What kind of music do you listen to? How does it make you feel?
- Do you listen to different music when you are happy? Sad?
- What do you think drawing music will feel like?

#### **ART MAKING PROCESS:**

#### Step 1:

• Put on some music. Any music!

#### Step 2:

Use the lids, cans and cups to trace multiple overlapping circles on your paper.

#### Step 3:

• Trace over the pencil lines with a sharpie or black pen. Erase any visible pencil marks.

#### Step 4:

- Fill in areas of your composition with different colors using whatever art material you have on hand.
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#### **POST PROMPT QUESTIONS:**

- How did different styles of music change how you worked?
- Did you hear different colors as you worked?
- **EXTRA FUN:** 
  - Play a type of music that is new and create another drawing. Is it different from your first work? How?
  - What other shapes besides a circle could you use in your work of art to convey your feelings from the music.



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#### **EXAMPLES:**







#### **SOURCES:**

https://www.arthistorykids.com/blog/2016/6/7/painting-with-your-senses-kandinsky-abstract-art



