



Lesson Plan: Introduction to Color Theory

Grade Level: K-12

Duration: 60 minutes

1. Objective:

Students will understand the basics of color theory, including primary, secondary, and tertiary colors. They will be able to mix colors to create new shades and demonstrate their understanding through a creative painting activity.

2. Materials Needed:

- Primary color paints (red, blue, yellow)
- Paintbrushes
- Mixing palettes
- Paper or canvas
- Water cups for cleaning brushes
- Paper towels
- Color wheel handouts

3. Activity:

Introduction (10 minutes):

- Discussion: Begin with a brief explanation of primary, secondary, and tertiary colors. Show examples of each on a color wheel.
- Demonstration: Demonstrate how to mix primary colors to create secondary colors (e.g., mixing red and blue to make purple).

Guided Practice (20 minutes):

- Activity: Students will receive their materials and create their own color wheel on paper or canvas.
- Step 1: Paint primary color sections.
- Step 2: Mix primary colors to create secondary colors and paint these sections.

- Step 3: Experiment with mixing secondary colors to create tertiary colors.

Independent Work (20 minutes):

- Activity: Students will use their knowledge of color mixing to paint a simple scene or abstract piece incorporating their newly mixed colors.
- Encourage students to experiment with different color combinations and shades.

Cleanup (10 minutes):

- Students will clean their brushes and workspaces.
- Brief reflection on the day's activity.

4. Assessment:

Formative Assessment:

- Observation: Monitor students during the activity to assess their understanding of color mixing and application of color theory.
- Questions: Ask students questions about the colors they used and how they created new colors.

Summative Assessment:

- Evaluation of Artwork: Review students' color wheels and paintings to evaluate their understanding of primary, secondary, and tertiary colors. Check for correct color mixing and application.
- Reflection: Have students share their artwork with the group and describe their color choices and mixing process.

5. Differentiation:

- For Advanced Students: Provide more complex color mixing challenges or allow them to create more detailed artwork.
- For Struggling Students: Offer additional guidance with mixing colors and creating their color wheels. Provide pre-mixed color examples for reference.

6. Extension:

- Homework: Ask students to find and bring in an object from home that demonstrates the use of color theory (e.g., a colorful magazine page, a fabric swatch).
- Follow-Up Lesson: Plan a lesson on color psychology and how colors can convey emotions and messages in art.

This lesson plan incorporates clear objectives, engaging activities, and effective assessment methods to ensure students understand and apply color theory in their artwork.