Braille Paintings

Creative Craft Paint is an extremely thick tempera paint which can be used to create a range of raised images and special effects. In this project, students create paintings that can be read in braille.

**Grade Levels 3-8**

*Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.*

**Process**

1. On page 2 of this lesson plan, there is a pattern that students may copy onto the watercolor paper using a pencil.

2. Distribute Creative Craft Colors in palettes. Fill in the background colors using the paint as water media, using one or both of these techniques:
   1) Dip the brush in the water and then pick up a small amount of color from the palette. Apply to the paper, smoothing it across the desired paint area.
   2) Apply strokes of clean water directly to the paper, wetting the area to be painted first. Pick up a small amount of paint with the brush and flow it across the water, allowing it to spread and fill the area with color.
   Rinse brushes before changing colors. Allow Paintings to dry.

3. Pour white paint into squeeze bottles to make braille dots. Creative Craft paint, when used without water, will be thick and hold the shape of a dot. Carefully place the dots to spell the words in braille. Allow to dry.

4. Paint the dots the same color as the background.

**Options**

- Look up the braille alphabet at www.nbp.org. Choose a word to spell out, design an image to go with it and create an original braille painting.

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**Materials**

- **Sargent Art® Creative Craft Paint**, Blue (00042-5016), White (00042-1026), Green (00042-7016), Orange (00042-4516), Red (00042-3016) and Yellow (00042-4016), need one 16-oz bottle each color
- **Round 10-Well Trays** (03041-1010), share one between two students
- **Blick Scholastic Ox Hair Brushes**, brights, size 10, need one per student
- **Plastic Squeeze Bottles**, 2-oz (04916-1003), need one per student
- **Blick Economy Graphite Pencils** (20302-2009), box of 12, need one per student
- **Blick Student Watercolor Paper** (10028-2158), need 1/2 a 15” x 22” sheet per student
- **Water Cups**, one per student

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**National Standards**

**Content Standard #1** — Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

- **K-4** Students use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories
- **5-8** Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques, and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas

**Content Standard #5** — Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others

- **K-4** Students describe how people’s experiences influence the development of specific artworks
- **5-8** Students compare multiple purposes for creating works of art