



Fun and Fruity Painting

This wacky design project uses cut fruit pieces as the basis of the composition. Students can create anything from aliens and animals to tessellations and pattern designs. We used gouache paint in our Advanced Art class at The Learning Vine for this project, but any color medium can be used, including colored pencils, markers, watercolors and acrylics. Note: Gouache (pronounced “gwash”) is an opaque watercolor paint, similar to tempera.

Good for ages 10-adult

Thank you, Xavier M., for this great alien fruit painting! Xavier used gouache paint and black marker for his design.

Supplies:

- Fruit or photo references of whole fruit and fruit slices *
- Pencil with eraser
- Sketch paper
- Paper or board that is suitable for your chosen medium (See chart below.)
- Color medium: Choose one or mix and match:
 - Gouache paint
 - Watercolor paint
 - Colored pencils
 - Colored markers
 - Acrylic paint

*Here’s my favorite free photo reference site:

http://www.morguefile.com/archive/browse/#/?query=fruit&terms_all=fruit

Directions:

1. Slice fruit in half and lay it out on a table (or lay out photo references) to help you visualize a design that can be made from these pieces. You can duplicate pieces, cut them up further, and change their sizes and colors.
2. Using pencil and sketch paper, loosely sketch out at least 2-4 design ideas that use the fruit creatively. If you are doing this with a group or class, spend some time brainstorming and critiquing each other’s’ ideas. Choose one to make your design.
3. Carefully draw your chosen design on your good paper. Color in with your chosen medium. You may wish to outline elements of the design with black marker.

Here are some other examples from my Advanced Art class at The Learning Vine:



Thanks, Noah, Jeremy, and Lauren for these great paintings!

Use the right paper for your chosen medium:

Medium	Suitable Paper or Ground
Gouache or Acrylic Paint	Illustration Board or Acrylic Paper
Watercolor Paint	Illustration Board or Watercolor Paper
Colored Pencil or Markers	Heavy Drawing Paper or Bristol Board