

van Gogh: Sunflowers

Vincent van Gogh was an Expressionist painter who painted bright, cheerful sunflowers with thick impasto paint. He was born in Holland and lived in France where he was influenced by the Impressionist painters.



Discussion

Students learn about van Gogh's still life painting and learn about his expressive style.

They look at a reproduction of a famous painting to identify warm colors, circular shapes, lines, and rough impasto texture.

Project: Vase of Flowers

Students draw flowers, vases, mix paint to create shades of orange, then paint a still life of flowers using thickened tempera and impasto brush strokes.

Vincent van Gogh, *Sunflowers* 1888, oil on canvas, 91 cm. x 72 cm. Neue Pinakothek, Munich, Germany