

SUMI-E INK WASH PAINTING & DESIGN

Developed with Rachel Lynn Christian
Grades 9-12

Time: 2-3 class periods,
approximately 50 minutes each

INTRODUCTION

Ink wash painting, also known as literati painting, is an East Asian type of brush painting that uses black ink (the same as used in East Asian calligraphy) in various concentrations. Ink wash painting developed in China during the Tang dynasty (618-907 A.D.). Wang Wei is believed to have been the painter who first applied color to existing ink wash paintings. Over the next few hundred years, during the Song dynasty (960-1279 A.D.), the art was refined and polished. For centuries, this most prestigious form of Chinese art was practiced by highly educated scholar gentlemen, who were known as literati.

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

- Use Sumi-e ink wash techniques and design elements to create an abstract composition
- Learn about the history and culture of Sumi-e ink wash painting

Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Art and Design Education

C. Visual Design and Production

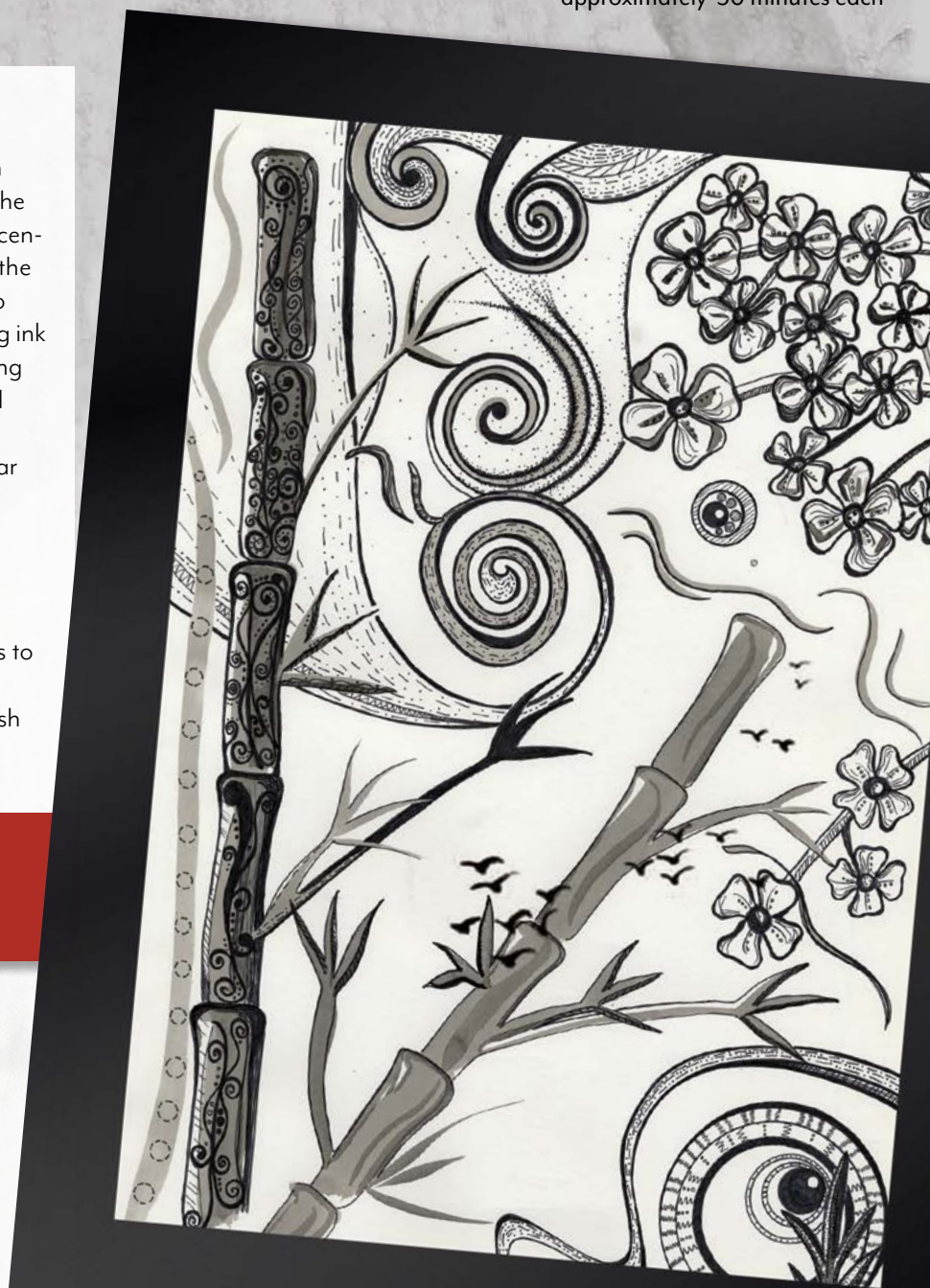
- C5: Look at nature and works of art as visual resources
- C6: Use sketching to develop basic skills to produce quality art

E. Visual Communication and Expression

- E1: Communicate basic ideas by producing studio art forms, such as drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, jewelry, fibers, and ceramics

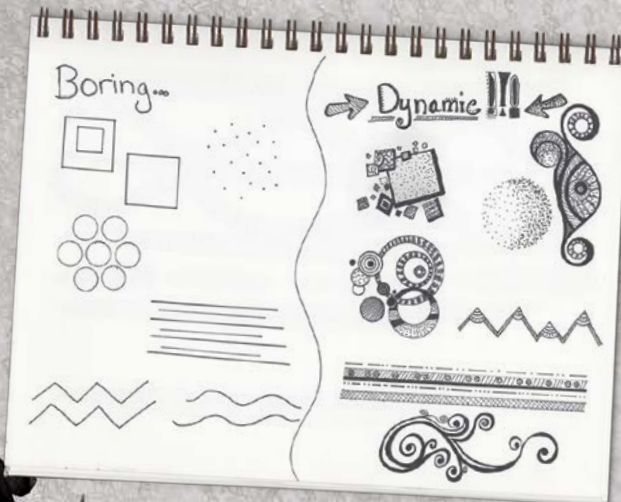
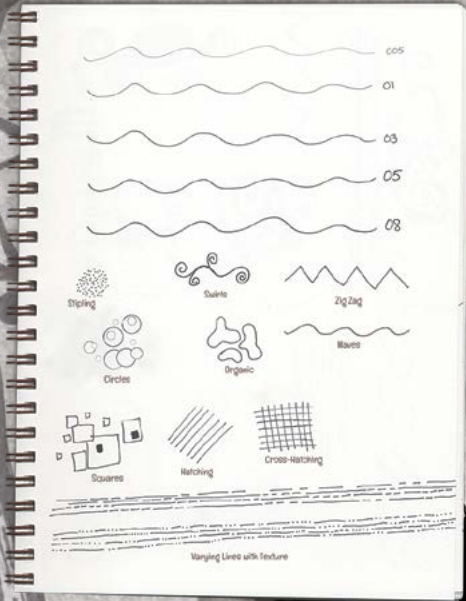
H. Visual Thinking

- H1: Study the patterns and colors in nature
- H3: Show differences among colors, shapes, textures, and other qualities of objects in their artwork



CLASSROOM PREPARATION & TIPS

- Introduce Sumi-e wash painting by briefly discussing its history, then show videos on YouTube containing various examples of traditional paintings and techniques of Sumi-e wash painting.
- Show students how to properly care for and clean the brushes.
- Hand out the assessment rubric to students (download from NascoEducation.com/lessonplans). Explain the project to them (described in the following steps) and make sure they understand the criteria on which their project will be graded.
- Show examples of boring versus dynamic design using different line weights and pattern techniques.



STUDENT PRACTICE



PAINT!



DRAW!

- Use a small dish or paint tray to practice dipping the brush with water and ink.
- Use a pulling technique with your brush by dragging the water and ink mixture across the page making curves or swirls as you go to create varying shades. As you get to the end of a stroke, pull the brush up slowly and this will create a tapering point to your brush stroke. Once you have a few strokes made, allow them to dry.
- Go back to the first brush strokes and begin layering the brush strokes to deepen the color/shades of ink on the paper.
- Once the ink wash is completely dry, use PRISMACOLOR® Technical Markers to practice drawing dynamic patterns within the wash samples.

PROJECT DIRECTIONS

1.

Give each student a sheet of paper and have them create a Sumi-e ink wash painting on the paper using the techniques practiced.

2.

Remind students to leave some white space on their paper, not cover the whole page in ink. Some white space is desired. They should also have many shades of ink to allow for technical drawings to be seen over the ink.

3.

Once students are satisfied with the ink wash strokes on their paper, allow it to dry completely until next class period.

4.

Drawing directly over the ink wash, have students begin adding some of the patterns they experimented with using the technical pens. Have them add additional designs, patterns, and lines, layering and thickening lines until they are satisfied with how it looks.

5.

Have students mount their finished pieces onto black mounting board.

6.

Have students evaluate themselves and their work on the assessment rubric. They may add any additional comments they have under the "Student Comments" section on the assessment rubric.





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15 9x12 100 LB
22.8 x 30.5 cm 260 g



Try using colored Sumi ink
or colored technical pens
for a dramatic touch

MATERIALS

- Chinese Calligraphy Starter Set — 9721557 or Royal Brush® Bamboo Bonus Classroom Pack — 9724272
- Slant Well Palette — 9731564
- Yasutomo® Liquid Sumi Ink (Bokuju) — 9726375
- Canson® Foundation Smooth Finish Bristol Pad, 9" x 12", 15 sheets, 100 lb. — 9731195
- Canson® XL Mixed Media Pad, 9" x 12", 60 sheets, 98 lb. — 9729047
- PRISMACOLOR® Premier Illustration Fine-Line Art Markers, set of 5, black — 9726653
- Sharpie® Ultra-Fine Point Markers, set of 24 — 9724288
- Crescent® Perfect Mount® Black Mounting Board, 11" x 14" — 9732388
- Assessment rubric (available online with download of this lesson plan)
- Water

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Lesson Plans are developed with teachers with no claim of original authorship.

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SUMI-E INK WASH PAINTING & DESIGN

Volume 84

Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Assessment Rubric

for Sumi-e Ink Wash Painting and Design Project

Directions: Select the number that best shows how well you feel you completed each criterion for the project, fill in the number under “Your Rating,” and then total points at the bottom of the column. Add any additional comments you may have in the space below.

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Average	Needs Improvement	Your Rating	Teacher's Rating
Practiced ink wash and created dynamic patterns in sketchbook.	10	9-8	7	6 or less		
Utilized brush control, layered wash techniques, and had dynamic use of positive and negative spaces.	10	9-8	7	6 or less		
Use of multiple scale patterns, varied line weights, and other design techniques.	10	9-8	7	6 or less		
Effort — Took time to develop idea and completed project. Used class time wisely and did not need to rush.	10	9-8	7	6 or less		
Craftsmanship — Is your project neat, clean, and complete? Skillful use of art tools and media?	10	9-8	7	6 or less		
Point Total (out of 50 possible points)					Your Total:	Teacher's Total:

Your Comments:

Teacher's Comments: