

MASTERPIECES of COLORADO

A RICH LEGACY OF LANDSCAPE PAINTING



Use this lesson while viewing the exhibit AND in the classroom

Landscape and Value

Grade Level: 5-12

Duration: One to five class periods of 40 to 45 minutes

Materials: Drawing paper, drawing pencils, attached handout

Colorado Standards: Visual Arts: 2 and 3

DESCRIPTION:

Students will learn the element of visual art called value. They will complete a landscape illustration using value only.

PROCEDURE:

1. Look at the Landscape paintings in the 2007 *Masterpieces of Landscape* exhibit and notice the ways the artists depict light in the various paintings. Instruct students to choose one painting that has lots **variation** in light and dark or lots of **contrast**. Ask students to squint at their chosen painting. Squinting is used by visual artists when they are observing a piece of art or a scene that they are going to paint. When we squint, our eyes eliminate much of the small detail and we see the largest and most contrasting shapes and lines.
2. Ask students to get comfortable in front of one of the paintings. First fill in the Value Scale on the attached handout by using different shades of black up to white with your pencil. Sketch the painting using value only. Remind students to press harder with their pencils for darker areas and lighter for the lighter areas.

VALUE SCALE



Black

White

3. Take the sketch back to the classroom and redraw onto good drawing paper. Draw the outlines first and fill in with value using the pencil only.

ADAPTATIONS:

1. Back in the classroom, have students use charcoal or black ink to create a landscape from their pencil sketch.
2. Have students create a value study in watercolor or acrylic using only one color plus black.
3. Have students use different textures to create value such as stippling or crosshatching.

EXTENSIONS:

More advanced students can translate the value study into a painting. Paintings can be studies in watercolor or paintings in acrylic using one color plus black and white to create value with color.

MASTERPIECES
of
COLORADO

A RICH LEGACY OF LANDSCAPE PAINTING



Name _____

Value Scale and Landscape Sketch

Complete the Value Scale below, using your pencil only. Then choose one painting that has very dark and very light areas, lots of contrast. Do a rough sketch using value only to depict the texture and shape in the landscape.

VALUE SCALE

--	--	--	--	--

Black

White

BLACK AND WHITE LANDSCAPE SKETCH

