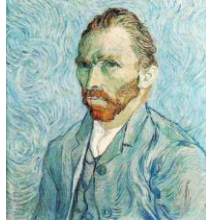




There are many different things we can learn by studying famous artists throughout history. They can teach us about different styles in art and different ways of painting. Many famous artists developed new methods of creating art that altered the course of the art world forever. When we try and recreate the methods and styles of famous artists, we can learn about the ways they used their creativity, and also develop our own innovative creativity.

Vincent Van Gogh

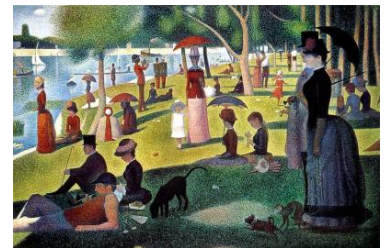
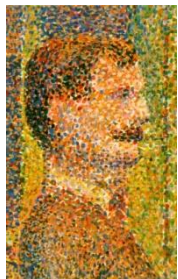
Van Gogh is best known for his swirling paintings of the night sky, and fields of wheat and flowers. He used a very thick application of paint, called **impasto**, and very fluid movements in his paintings. The way he painted gives his work the feelings of movement.



✚ To create a work like Van Gogh, start with a plastic tray big enough to lay a sheet of paper inside. First spread an inch of shaving cream in the tray, and smooth it out like you would the icing on a cake. Drop in some food coloring or liquid watercolor, and swirl it around like the night sky in Van Gogh paintings. Once you like the way it looks, place a sheet of paper over it, (any kind works). Be careful not to swirl too many colors in or swirl for too long because it could blend and turn to brown. Lift up your paper after allowing it to soak up the color, and then use a piece of cardboard or anything flat and stiff, to squeegee the excess shaving cream, and enjoy!

Georges Seurat

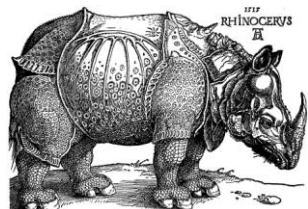
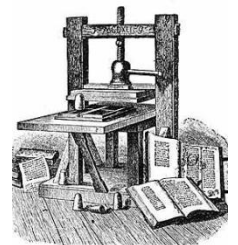
Seurat is best known for his use of **pointillism**. He created large works using only dots, no brushstrokes. He meticulously worked for years to create some of his paintings. He used dots of many different colors to achieve the colors he wished to produce. His use of optics gives the paintings a very different look from 20 feet away or 20 inches away.



✚ To create a painting like Seurat, start by getting some paper, paint, and q-tips. Use the q-tips to create the dots on your paper. Create many different scenes with the dots, such as a beach or sunrise. Experiment with using different arrangements of spacing for the dots, or different color combinations. Hang your picture up while working on it, and step away a few times to see how dots blend together to create one image.

Albrecht Durer

In the Renaissance, they had no way of communicating information to a large amount of people, as we do now. They had no television, radio, or computers, and so they had to rely on word of mouth to get their message out. Durer, a famous artist from Germany during the Renaissance, wanted to make sure that many people could see his works of art, so he used **printmaking** to create multiple copies of one work of art, for many people to see.



✚ To make prints like Durer did, you must start with what is called a plate. Styrofoam trays from the meat or produce sections in the grocery store are perfect; wash one thoroughly, and trim the edges so it lays flat. You can use a pencil to draw your design into the Styrofoam. Remember that the lines you draw in the Styrofoam will show up as white space in your prints, like a reverse image. Once you have finished your drawing, apply a thin layer of paint or ink to the plate (tray), and lay the paper on top of it. Rub the paper to make sure all the ink has transferred, and then lift the paper to see your print. Repeat this process multiple times to create multiples of the same image; this is called an edition.

