

GRADE 9 Nature Painting

This is a fun choice of animal in a natural setting (landscape)!

For instance, you might choose a fox in the woods with trees and grasses behind it.

You might also bring in a colour photograph you have taken of an animal. The animal you choose must be the MAIN focus in the foreground of the painting (large). You will be producing a REALISTIC painting of the animal so proportion, natural detail, and accurate colour mixing are all important.

COLOUR, VALUE, TEXTURE, SHAPE are important **ELEMENTS OF DESIGN** in this assignment.

CONTRAST, EMPHASIS, PATTERN, RHYTHM AND UNITY are important **PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN**.

STEPS:

1. Selecting a **COLOUR photograph (GOOD QUALITY)** from a print or calendar or ? that you have cropped such that the animal is the focus. Check this with the teacher.
2. ANIMAL SHAPES planning in your sketchbook using ovals, circles, triangles first to draw accurate proportions of the animal's contours.
3. Use pencil crayons to rough in the colours you might use in your final painting.
4. Draw a grid of thirds on your paper so that you can transfer the areas more accurately to your 9" x 12" watercolor paper.

The rule of thirds improves drawings and paintings because it aligns a subject with these points which creates more tension, energy and interest in the composition than simply centering the subject.

5. Transfer your drawing by redrawing what you completed in your sketchbook using the grid to improve your accuracy. You are blocking in major shapes and using your **3H** pencil at this stage.
6. Develop a little detail, but do not do any shading or major drawing as you will be painting over most of this very soon.
7. Paint the BACKGROUND first! Always paint from the background to the middle ground to the foreground. General shapes before small detailed ones.
8. Use the various painting techniques to reflect the textures you wish to create. For instance, wet on dry, wet on wet, dry brush, holding your brush at a 90 degree angle for certain texture, etc.
9. Make sure you are showing highlights and shadows.
10. Use BIG brushes for bigger areas and SMALLER brushes for smaller detail.

You will be evaluated on the quality of your original drawing (planning stage non-critical). You will be evaluated in the painting for colour accuracy, the modelling of forms in the correct proportion, textural accuracy, detail and the care in the presentation of your work. **TAKE A PHOTO and POST IT, please.**

GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN!