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Sol LeWitt Wall Drawing #880: Loopy Doopy (orange and green)



Sol LeWitt, *Wall Drawing #880: Loopy Doopy (orange and green)*, 1998/2013/2016, acrylic paint, 17ft. 6 in. x 60ft. 9 in., Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, partial gift of the artist and partial museum purchase with funds from Mini Won and anonymous donor, 2002.48. Photography by Edward C. Robison III.

Take a moment to look at the image above. What did you notice as you looked closely at this artwork? Perhaps you noticed the lines. Do you see any places where the lines are parallel in this work of art? What does it mean for lines to be parallel? In addition to the lines, perhaps you noticed the colors. Why do you think Sol LeWitt chose these colors for this work?



Color wheels can help you learn about using color in your artwork. A color wheel is a circular chart that shows primary (red, yellow, and blue) secondary (orange, green, and purple) colors, and tertiary colors are made from combining a primary color and a secondary color. For example yellow+ green= yellow-green.

Look at the color wheel above. How many slices of color is this color wheel divided into?

What fraction of the color wheel contains primary colors? What fraction of the color wheel contains secondary colors?

Sol LeWitt used two colors, across from one another on the color wheel (shown by the arrows) to create contrast.

Grab these materials from My Museum Classroom Kit:

2 pencils (rubber-banded together), oil pastels, watercolor paper, and pencil sharpener.

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Mark Rothko, No. 210/No. 211 (Orange)



Mark Rothko, *No. 210/No. 211 (Orange)*, 1960, oil on canvas, 69 x 63 in., Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas, 2012.20. Photography by Edward C. Robison III.

Take a moment to let your eyes wander over the image above, while paying close attention to all the little details. Did you notice any geometry in this work of art? Did you notice the three floating rectangles? How did you feel about the color?

Rothko explored emotion using simple colors and shapes. Rothko encouraged viewers to get really close to his paintings for a true emotional experience. By using geometry in the form of flat rectangles of color, Rothko created a style of painting we now call "color field painting."



Grab these materials from My Museum Classroom Kit:
Oil pastels, colored paper, and ruler.

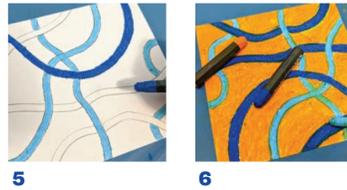


Step 1 Use a rubber band to put two pencils together. Make sure the pencil tips are even so that you can create two parallel lines at one time.

Step 2 Sol LeWitt's lines were wavy in *Loopy Doopy*, but you can create any type of line you want. Take a moment to practice drawing different lines on your white paper.

Step 3 Begin to draw your lines and cover the entire page.

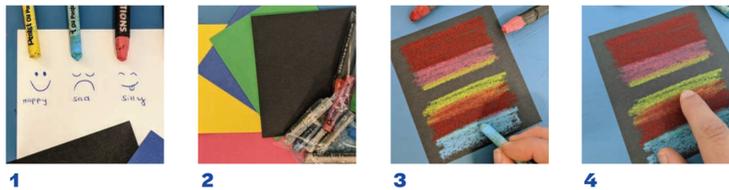
Now it's time to think about the colors you're going to use. Use the color wheel to help you decide what colors look best together. This example uses colors that are opposite to each other on the color wheel, but you can use any colors you want!



Step 5 Once you've decided which colors you want to use, begin to color your drawing. Make sure to color your whole page to make it pop. With oil pastels, you can use your fingers to blend your colors.

Step 6 Admire your finished project and put away your art supplies!

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Step 1 Before you start this art project, take a moment to think about how you're feeling. Are you feeling happy? Sad? Tired? Mad? What oil pastel colors would you pick to represent the emotions you're feeling?

Step 2 Once you have picked your colors, grab a piece of colored paper to use as your background. What do you think might look good with your oil pastel colors? You also might decide on what size you want your artwork to be. You can fold your piece of paper to make a smaller piece.

Step 3 Using simple colors and shapes, begin to color your paper with the oil pastels of your choice. Rothko painted about emotions and how we're feeling using simple colors and shapes.

Step 4 While you're drawing, feel free to blend the colors with your fingers.



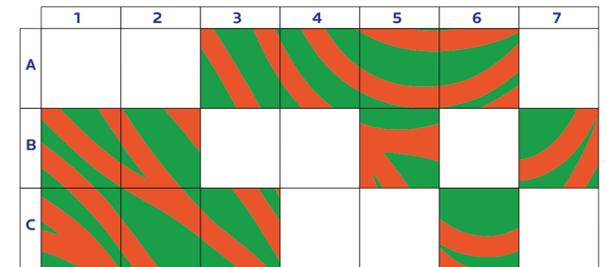
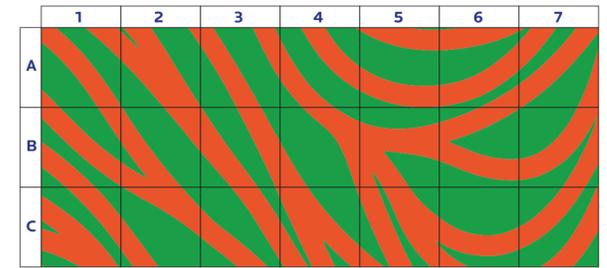
Step 5 Make as many tiny color and emotion artworks as you'd like! Put them together and admire your work when finished.

Reflection/Activity

Below are two partial grid drawings of *Loopy Doopy #880*.

The first grid drawing shows how Sol LeWitt divided this artwork into sections in order to transfer the painting from a small graph onto the large wall.

The second grid is missing some of the sections. Using the top drawing as your guide, fill in the missing sections.



Reflection

Lay out your pastels, close your eyes and pick up a random color. What does this color remind you of? How does this color make you feel? Use that color to draw out whatever comes to mind.

Extension Activity

In *No. 210/No. 211 (Orange)*, Rothko used rectangles and the color orange to create this color field painting.

1. Choose a color and a quadrilateral (any shape with four sides) to create your own color field painting. For example, you might choose yellow for your color, and squares for your shapes.

2. Using your ruler, measure the sides of the shapes you chose for your color field painting.

a. Now use these measurements to find the perimeter of each shape.

(Remember: perimeter is found by adding together the lengths of all sides of the figure).

b. Now use the measurements to find the area of each shape.

(Remember the formula for finding the area of a quadrilateral: Area = Base x Height)

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