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November 2013 Newsletter

Here's what my classes have been working on in the month of October:

Kindergarten drew line landscapes using marker for many of the different lines they have learned. They learned the difference between good and bad coloring techniques. They used the good techniques to completely color in their landscapes with crayon.

First graders were read the story of Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni. The story was followed by mixing primary colored dough to make the secondary colors. They took their dough home with them. In the next class, we read Only One You by Linda Kranz. They created colorful fish with crayons and markers inspired by the painted rocks in the story.

Second graders made oil pastel patterned "rugs" after studying Native American rug designs. They practiced using a ruler to make straight lines for a border and to divide the space.

Third graders colored value color wheels varying the pressure to create the 3 different values of each color. They will choose their next project and use this skill to create gradual value changes to make the drawn objects appear to be 3-dimensional.

Fourth graders completed value scales in gray tones using Ebony pencils and colored pencils, too. They learned about light sources and their affect on real 3-dimensional geometric forms. Then they practiced shading geometric forms using gradual value changes. They will be using this skill to shade a drawing of a real object with a natural light source.

Fifth grade are finishing up their profile portraits in proportion. (They have missed some art classes due to parent teacher conferences and music program practice.) They used marker, colored pencil, and crayon to make them colorful.

All students in grades 1-5 complete a self-evaluation on their art project prior to my evaluation of it. Both are completed on the same form for comparison.

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