



Adventures in Art

Georgia O'Keeffe

Lesson Plan:

Introduction

- Who is Georgia O'Keeffe?
 - Artist and author. Known for bold and innovative art.
 - Grew up on a farm in Wisconsin. She was surrounded by land, and the land was very important to her.
 - Let's read one of her books together and learn more about Georgia and her art.

Read Aloud

My Name is Georgia by Jeanette Winter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyKvDJug70E>

Discussion

- Created **large paintings** of items from nature at close range, as if seen through a magnifying glass
- Made subjects so close and so surprising that they'd be **seen in new ways** by the viewer
- **Powerful and innovative** paintings, watercolors, and drawings of flowers and scenes from the desert
- Painted large forms from different **perspectives** (very close up, very far away)
- **Open composition** – parts of subject extend beyond the boundaries of the canvas
- Wanted viewer to see the **beauty of simple, natural objects** in a new way



Oriental Poppies, 1928

- What do you notice about this painting?
- What are these?
- Do they look abstract or real?
- Are there lots of details?
- What colors do you see?
- Have you ever looked at a flower from this perspective?
- This is a painting of two giant poppy flowers.
- It's a very large painting with an explosion of colors – dazzling pink and red with purple in the middle.
- Flower paintings are Georgia's most famous. Flowers were her favorite subjects – they fascinated her. She once said, *"I decided that if I could paint that flower in a huge scale, you could not ignore its beauty."*
- Georgia painted flowers as she saw them in nature.

Autumn Leaves, 1924

- What is the subject of the painting?
- Describe the colors.
- Where do you think these leaves are from?
- How are they being presented?
- Have you ever looked at leaves this close up?
- What does this painting make you think of?
- How is this different from the painting we just looked at? Which one do you like better?
- This is a study of autumn leaves from when Georgia and Alfred visited his family's home in Lake George, NY.
- To Georgia, leaves were symbolic of the autumn season.



- The leaves are magnified, extending off the canvas (open composition).
- Interesting colors, textures, and contours. Almost abstract.

Art Activity

Georgia O'Keeffe Inspired Poppies

Materials:

- Red/Orange/Yellow Paint
- Scissors
- Glue
- Black Paper
- Paint Brush

Link to Activity:

<https://www.learningandexploringthroughplay.com/2016/12/georgia-okeeffe-inspired-poppies.html>