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Go Cubic with Pablo Picasso *(cont.)*

Technique of the Artist

Picasso had a variety of techniques, depending on the phases of his art. His early work was traditional, executed in shades of blue and cool colors with a melancholy theme. The paintings were dark and filled with sadness, due to the loss of a friend. This was called his Blue Period.

Later he moved to France. Here, he lightened his palette as he became interested in the clowns and acrobats of the circus. Shades of red crept into his work, as well as happier themes. This was known as his Rose Period.

Later Picasso became interested in African and Iberian art. He dissected the classical idea of art, shattering it into geometric forms like facets on jewels with three-dimensional qualities. Later he added collage until he realized he could get the effect of collage by simply using paint.

Suggestions for a Project

Project



Set up a simple still life using interesting shaped kitchen utensils. Encourage students to draw them with the cubist technique as Picasso did. A second suggestion is to ask students to draw two animals not ordinarily pictured together. (Examples: bear and dolphin, giraffe and whale, bird and manatee, snake and elephant, or other animals of the student's choice.)

Materials Needed

still life with kitchen utensils or books with animal pictures, ruler, 12" x 18" (23 cm x 46 cm) white drawing paper, pencil, eraser, acrylic or tempera paint, brushes, bowl of water, paper towels, firm cardboard, scissors, paste

Directions

Rule a 1" (2.5 cm) frame on the drawing paper. Ask students to sketch lightly the project of their choice. When the sketch is finished, make some of the rounded lines angular. Leave some lines rounded. Students should study Picasso's technique and imitate it. They may add anything they wish. Paint with acrylic or tempera. Mount the painting on firm cardboard.

Sample Project

