

MATERIALS

- White paper for each student
- Watercolor set and brush for each student

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will...

- gain experience with simple watercolor techniques.
- learn about horizon line and overlapping.
- learn to render objects more accurately as a result of thoughtful study and analysis of the subject matter.

Watercolor is always a challenge, but it is the medium we use because it is an inexpensive one for schools to purchase.

I like helping the students feel like they have accomplished something amazing with color, so we started

with “Blob Flowers,” which combines the use of watercolor and fine-tipped markers to make some pretty amazing flowers.

The students and I first talked about the colors we see in the flowers in our gardens at home. When you look

at some of the flowers, you see that they are not all one color. We also study overlapping and how we don't see all of every single flower.

We then did a watercolor wash the first day and learned about the horizon line. We decided what colors we would see in the sky and on the earth.

The second day (or after the watercolor wash has dried), we decided what colors they wanted to make their flowers and we talked about making an odd number of flowers. We then took our brush and made “blobs” of color on the paper.

After the “blobs” dried, we then took the pens and made our flowers, noting that the petals are not all the same. We pointed out that the centers also must have some stamen or pistils to make them look realistic.

The students were thrilled with the results and, in the process, they had learned some concepts in art and science. ■

Elaine Canfield is a fifth-grade teacher at Windridge Elementary School in Kaysville, Utah.



Danielle Nelson, age 10.



Caleb Davis, age 10.

**blob
flowers**

by Elaine Canfield



Kelsey Datwyler, age 10.