

# A Grade 3-5 ARTful Hour...

March 2012 – Various Media with Earth Day Themes  
with Heidi Stoddart

## Teacher Resources:

- ✓ My Website... <http://elementaryvisualart.weebly.com/index.html> (to share resources & links for teaching art)
- ✓ Twitter: Follow “art4schools” (creativity, art education, visual arts, etc.)
- ✓ PSS - ‘Sculpture Saint John’ (with info about educational opportunities in September)

## 1. LOOKING AT ART (by Romero Britto)

Romero Britto Website: [www.britto.com](http://www.britto.com)

### Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS)

1. “Tell me what’s going on in this picture.”
2. “What do you see that makes you say that?”
3. “What more do we see?”



“Cutting Trees” by Romero Britto  
1992; Acrylic on Canvas

## 1. “Earth Day” Art Inspired by Romero Britto

### CREATE...

#### Materials:

- newsprint (for exploring, sketching and planning ideas)
- pencils & erasers
- cartridge paper (eg. 9”x12” or 12”x12”); cartridge paper scraps (for ‘tester’)
- Crayola water-based broad nib markers

### VOCABULARY...

**Line** = a mark made by pulling a pencil across paper; representing the edges or contours of a subject on paper; drawn lines may have different qualities (thick, thin, straight, zigzag, wavy, broken, etc.)

**Shape** = a defined area; shapes may be organic (such as a teardrop, ovoid) or geometric (for example, square, rectangle, triangle)

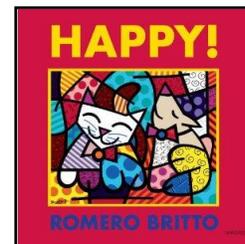
**Balance** = each element in a composition, carrying visual weight, that can be offset or balanced by other elements. Balance may be symmetrical, asymmetrical, radial or crystalline.

**Pattern** = The repetition of something (e.g., shapes, lines, colours...) in a design; also called a motif. Pattern is one of the principles of design.

- terms & definitions retrieved from “Appendix C: Art Terms” and “Appendix D: Art Materials” in *Art & Illustration for the Classroom: A Guide for Teachers & Parents* by Rhian Brynjolson (Peguis Publishers; 1998), “Program Glossary” in *SRA Art Connections Teacher Edition Level 4*; ART LEX website

### PROCESS...

1. Brainstorm possible topics, themes, and environmentally-related issues
2. Sketch, explore and plan ideas for a way to visually depict your subject
3. Use your pencil to lightly draw the picture on cartridge paper, using lines and simple shapes.
4. Demonstrate some techniques to use with the marker (eg. parallel lines using the wide edge to fill in solid areas; pattern ideas...)
5. Fill in using bright colours and bold patterns.
6. Outline all of your pencil lines with a black marker.
7. Complete an Art Label, including a title for your work and an artist’s statement about the topic, issue or idea(s) you have tried to express visually.



## 2. "Tree of Life" by Gustav Klimt & Printmaking (2 sessions)

-Based on lesson @ "Panther's Palette" [http://pantherspalette.blogspot.ca/2010\\_12\\_01\\_archive.html](http://pantherspalette.blogspot.ca/2010_12_01_archive.html)

### Part 1

#### CREATE...

##### Materials for Session 1

- pencils
- newsprint (for exploring, sketching and planning ideas)
- styrofoam for creating template (eg. trays or plates) or "
- ballpoint pens (for 'carving' design into styrofoam template)



#### PROCESS...

1. Experiment with lines and shapes to create stylized trees; choose your favourite.  
\*NOTE: Designs will appear IN REVERSE when printed! (mirror-view)
2. Lightly draw the tree design on the styrofoam using a ballpoint pen, using the space well
3. Gently 'carve' your design into the Styrofoam by re-tracing your lines, applying enough pressure so the design is 'dented' into the template; dent should be as deep as possible without puncturing or creating a hole in the Styrofoam.

### Part 2

##### Materials for Session 2: Printing Stations

- printing plate or template (Styrofoam)
- paper for printing onto; several/student (eg. Cartridge, construction OR pre-painted backgrounds)
- newspapers (to protect workspace & create a 'cushion' for printing)
- inking tray
- water-soluble printing ink (teacher should oversee dispensing)
- brayers (rollers for evenly spreading ink)
- designated drying area for multiple works (eg. clotheslines)



Brayer



Water-soluble printing ink



Styrofoam for printing plate



Printmaking Resources in Schools

- ✓ TEACHER TIP: See "Printmaking Info" binder in all District 6 Elementary Schools

#### PROCESS...

1. Set up printing stations in advance
2. Demonstrate the printing process:
  - have paper ready (name and number already printed along bottom edge of several sheets)
  - dispense a ribbon on ink is squirted onto the inking tray
  - use brayer to evenly spread the ink (so the roller is evenly coated; listen for a 'snapping/crackling' sound when ink is ready);
  - apply the ink to the printing plate/template with the brayer
  - position the printing plate/template onto the paper; rub gently with the 'heel' of your hand to help transfer the ink
  - 'peel' paper away from the printing plate/template, noting places where you might need more or less ink on your next print
  - Take print to drying area, and repeat process until several prints are created.
  - Wash printing plate/template and hands thoroughly with water & soap

- ✓ **TEACHER TIP:** Until students are experienced with the printing process, consider setting up two printing stations for students to take turns (4 students at each to station) so you can oversee and assist with the printing process while the remainder of class works independently.

### 3. More Ideas...

- “Tree of Life”-inspired paintings using liquid tempera

Based on lesson idea found at: <http://mrspicassosartroom.blogspot.com/2011/10/sparkly-trees-adapted-for-classroom-use.html>



-Artworks created by Mme Underhill's & Mme Moore's Gr. 4's at LES (Feb. 2012)

- Planet Earth collage



- Plasticine Sculptures

