

**Your paintings
can brighten
your home—**

**Tell about
Brownie fun—**

**Make others
happy—**

**And make you
happy, too!**

—Brownie Girl Scout
Handbook, 1963

Painting

Artists take what they see and make it beautiful. Learn to paint and color your world in super strokes!

Steps

1. Get inspired
2. Paint the real world
3. Paint a mood
4. Paint without brushes
5. Paint a mural

Purpose

When I've earned this badge, I'll have new ideas about what to paint—and how to paint it.



Can you tell when your painting is finished? Stop when it shows what you want it to show.

—Brownie Girl Scout Handbook, 1963



Tips Before Takeoff

To begin this badge, you'll need a few art supplies:

- ▶ Your favorite kind of paints (washable is best for when you are just starting out!)
- ▶ Different sized brushes: One for big stuff and one for the details is a great pair. You can also paint with your fingers or a cotton swab.
- ▶ Thick paper that you can paint on (what could you recycle? Old poster boards from school projects?)
- ▶ An old shirt that you can wear as a smock to protect your clothes

Every step has three choices. Do ONE choice to complete each step. Inspired? Do more!

STEP

1 Get inspired

Learn more about the paintings you like and the artists who painted them.

CHOICES – DO ONE:

- Talk to a painter.** Ask an art teacher or painter in your community where they get their inspiration. What do they like to paint? Why? Look at some of their paintings and explain what you like about them.

OR

- Go to an art show or museum.** Find five paintings that you love and decide why you think they're great. Who painted them? When? Look for what they have in common with each other.

OR

- Team up with an adult to find images of five paintings you love.** Search in library books, magazines, or online. Why do you like them? Who painted them, and when? Look for what they have in common with each other.

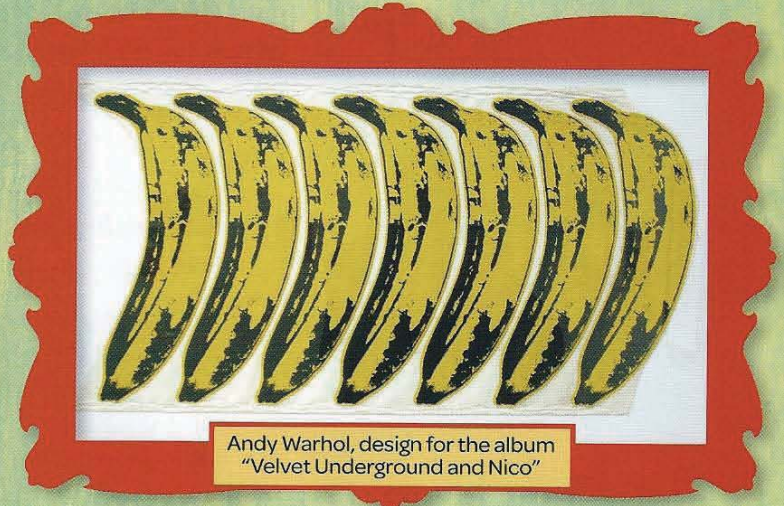


Painting Matchup!

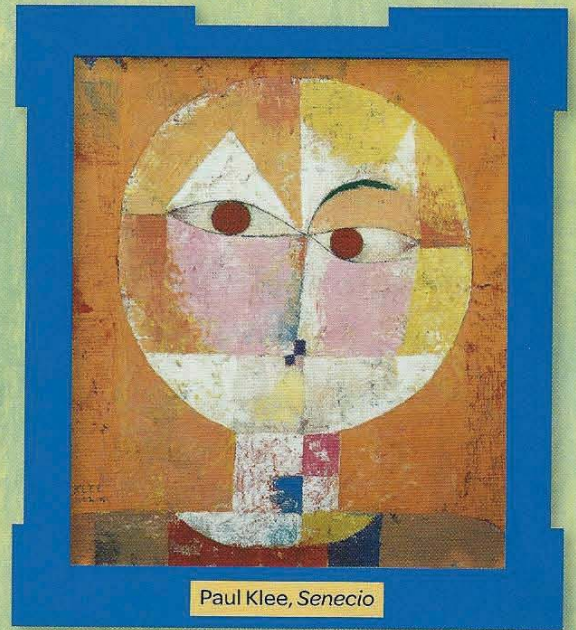
These are four different styles of painting.
Which painting matches each style?



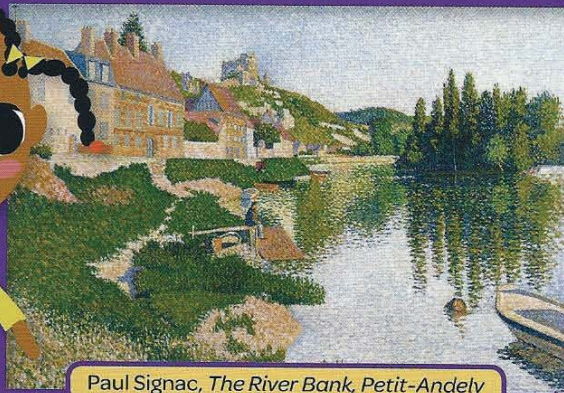
Mary Cassatt, *Young Girls*



Andy Warhol, design for the album
"Velvet Underground and Nico"



Paul Klee, *Senecio*



Paul Signac, *The River Bank, Petit-Andely*



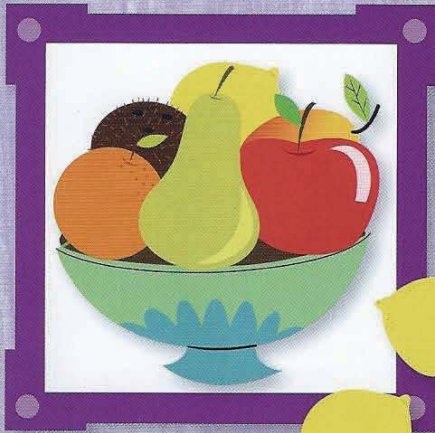
POP ART takes images from all around us (like ads or comic book characters), and uses them in an unusual way.

IMPRESSIONISM is a style that uses small, visible brushstrokes. The artist tries to paint light.

POINTILLISM is a style in which paintings are made with tiny dots of color. When you look from far away, the colors blend together to make the picture!

CUBISM is a style that uses squares and other blocky shapes instead of round edges.

ANSWERS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: IMPRESSIONISM, POP ART, CUBISM, POINTILLISM



STEP 2 Paint the real world

Painting what's around you is the first step to becoming an artist. Pick one choice and try to paint something from the real world.

CHOICES – DO ONE:

- Paint a portrait of a friend, family member, pet, or yourself.** If you are painting someone else, have the person sit in an interesting pose and try to capture what the person looks like. If it's yourself, use a mirror to see all the lines and shapes in your face.

OR

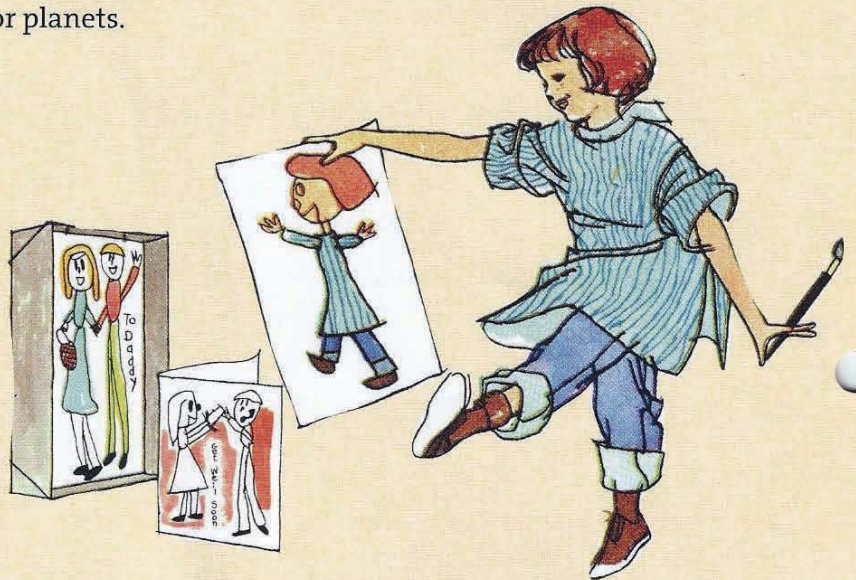
- Paint an outdoor landscape with trees or flowers.** Find a pretty spot with lots of colors and paint what you see.

FOR MORE FUN: Paint at a different time of day and see how the light makes the colors look different.

OR

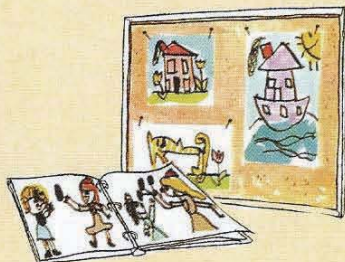
- Paint a still life.** A "still life" is an object, like a bowl of fruit or a vase. Set up what you want to paint first. Don't forget to show how the light hits the object by using light and dark colors!

FOR MORE FUN: After you've painted something in your world, paint something "out of this world," like the sun or planets.



STEP

3 Paint a mood



Some painters create “abstract” art. They don’t paint objects or people. They use shapes, lines, and colors to paint a feeling or mood. Pretend you are an artist who is trying to paint an emotion. Paint what you think one of these moods would look like. Remember, it’s your idea, so it’s okay if other people don’t see it like you do!

CHOICES – DO ONE:

Calm. What colors would you use to create a calm feeling?
OR //

Happy. How would you show a happy feeling? What colors or shapes make you smile?
OR //

Angry. What colors or shapes look like anger to you?

Make Puffy Paint

Puffy paint might be fun to use in your mood painting. Ask an adult to help you follow these directions to make some:

- Put shaving cream into a plastic bowl. Try a small amount first.
- Add white glue and 3 to 4 drops of food coloring to the shaving cream. Start with a little bit and mix until it is almost like taffy, but not quite as thick.
- Grab paintbrushes and paint! Paint it on thickly to get the best—and **puffiest**—results.

More to Explore

Musical moods. Put on some instrumental music (the kind without words) and try painting the mood you hear.



STEP
4 Paint without brushes

**Who says you have to use brushes?
Try painting with one of the things below.**

CHOICES – DO ONE:

- Paint with something from nature.** Use something with a design on it, like a leaf. Press it into paint and then onto your paper. Try different kinds of leaves.

FOR MORE FUN: Press the leaf onto one side of your paper, then remove it. Before the paint dries, fold the paper in half. Open it. What does the shape look like?

OR

- Paint with indoor objects.** Dip string or yarn into paint and drag it across your page. Paint an entire picture this way. Then use a feather, a spoon, or a cotton swab as a paintbrush. Next, paint a picture and use a straw to gently blow water on it. What does it do to the picture?

FOR MORE FUN: Use food coloring and blow that through the straw.

OR

- Paint with a stamp.** All kinds of things make super stamps. With an adult's help, cut a potato in half and carve out a design. Dip the end in paint and stamp it on your paper. Try it with a sponge, too.

FOR MORE FUN: Paint bubble wrap and press it on your paper. What does the design look like? Do you like it?



STEP

5 Paint a mural



A mural is a really big painting that tells a story. Murals are sometimes painted on buildings (some take up whole city blocks!). Do you have any murals in your town? If not, team up with an adult to look at some online. Then create a mural on butcher paper (or many pieces of paper taped together).

CHOICES – DO ONE:

Paint a mural that tells a story you love. It could be the story of your favorite book, or all about the best family vacation ever.

OR

Paint a mural about your Girl Scout fun. What about the story of a favorite trip or activity?

OR

Paint a mural that tells the story of an event or person. Choose a story you want your community to know about!

Tip: If you work on the mural with your friends, make sure everyone gets to use their own style.

More to Explore

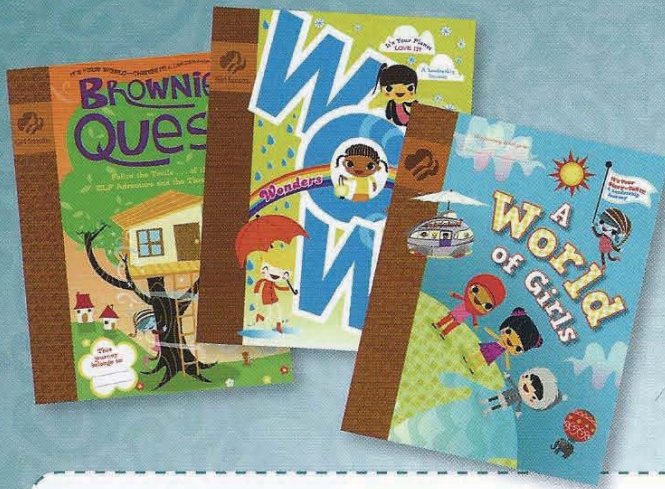
Show it off. Paint one of the murals above. Then hang your mural at your meeting place with your other paintings, and invite family and friends to enjoy your artwork.



Paper dolls made from recycled letters

Paint a Paper Doll on Old Letters

Daisy Low loved to make paper dolls. She said, "My painting is the greatest pleasure I have." When Daisy was young, her cousin Caroline drew the dolls and Daisy painted them. These are some of Daisy's dolls. Try making some paper dolls of your own—maybe even team up with a friend, like Daisy did!

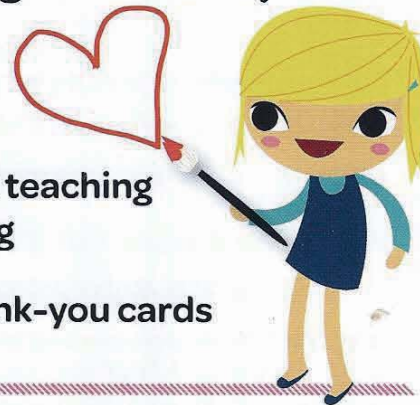


Add the Badge to Your Journeys

For step 5, have fun with your Brownie sisters by painting a mural that shows the project you did as part of your Journey. You could show what you did to make the world a better place, and how it made you feel!

Now that I've earned this badge, I can give service by:

- Painting murals that tell important community stories
- Giving a painting lesson to Daisies and teaching them about different styles of painting
- Creating paintings for the front of thank-you cards



I'm inspired to: