

1. The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art. Picture Books for Older Readers' category
2. Rosenstock, Barbara; illustrated by Mary GrandPre
3. Random House, 2014.
4. www.pinterest.com/barbrosenstock/Kandinsky-lessons-for-the-noisy-paint-box
www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=37574
www.classroombookshelf.com/.../the-noisy-paint-box-the-colors-and-sounds-of-kandinsky's-abstract-art
www.state.lib.la.us/files/LYRC/TheNoisyPaintbox_Guide_WEB
www.unleashingreaders.com/?p=3424
5. The beginning of the abstract concept in art was evident through Wassily Kandinsky's life. After trying to conform to the "normal" occupations, and then to "normal" painting, Kandinsky lets his colors speak for themselves.
6. Search the library database to discover what other artists were painting during Kandinsky's lifetime. Create a spreadsheet/Excel format to compare and contrast the painters.
 What is "abstract art"? Use the library databases to define the term. Are artists still painting abstract art?
7. Play different music styles and ask students to create a drawing with colors that reflect the music.
 Assemble a fan book. This is a simple book that can be utilized for vocabulary, genres, and book summaries.
 Materials: 10-15 slim rectangles (2" X 6")

Hole punch, scissors, brad, construction paper of various colors

Instructions: Cut at least 10-15 rectangles measuring 2 inches by 6 inches. Material can consist of construction paper, recycled greeting cards, wallpaper samples, or cardstock.

Stack the rectangles and punch a hole at the lower end (centered). Insert the brad and spread the prongs to keep the rectangles (pages) in place. Spread out the pages in a fan-shape. Students will write the name of the color on one side of the paper and the sound they associate with that color on the other side. Teams of 3-4 students will "perform" their sound combinations for the rest of the class. A score sheet will be tabulated for each team by the other teams. Winning team will receive an extra 10 minutes of reading time.

Another activity to express the concept of abstract art is tissue stained glass. Cut tissue paper into small pieces. Overlay and glue on a piece of black construction paper. Outline with pieces of black paper to create a stained glass effect.

8. California State Standards:

Key Ideas and Details, gr. 6-8, RL 1-3; Craft and Structure, gr. 6-8, RL 4, 6