

### Young Artist

### Learn to Paint Set Instructions

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m \underline{\Lambda}}$  Important Information about this paint

- The paint included is a specially formulated non-toxic paint.
- Cover the surface you are working on with newspaper. Have a cup of water and paper towels handy.
- Wear a smock or old clothes. Although the paint is washable, as with all art supplies, it is possible that it may stain some fabrics if spilled. Clean up any spills immediately.
- Be sure to wash your paint brushes with cool water after each use so that they do not harden.

# Getting Inspiration and Painting your Picture

• After you have set up your work area and have chosen the material you are going to paint on (paper, posterboard, canvas, etc.) you should plan out your drawing. Inspiration can come from many places. You can draw from nature, you can choose a picture you like from a magazine or you can make up your own abstract design. The possibilities are limitless. Use a pencil to lightly trace out your drawing so that you have something to follow when you begin painting your picture. There are no rules. This is your creation.

## Using Your Brushes

• You get six different types of paint brushes with this kit. Each brush can be used to get different effects with your paint. Brushes are composed of 3 components: The tuft, the ferrule and the handle.



• The tuft is what carries and applies paint. The ferrule attaches the tuft to the handle. Our triangular-shaped handles are easy to hold and will not roll away. Try out each of your brushes on a piece of scrap paper to see what type of stroke you can get with it. You will see that the thicker brushes are good for filling in large areas. The smaller brushes are better for adding details and the straight end brushes can allow you to paint a nice sharp edge.

# Mixing Colors

• By using the palette and the paint colors included you can mix them to create almost any color. You can also add water to the paint to thin it out and make it go further.

Red, Blue and Yellow are considered Primary Colors. You can mix equal parts of them to get the secondary colors (Purple, Green and Orange). When you have mixed to get these you can create additional colors.





Black and White are not true colors. They are considered to be neutral.

To make a color lighter in value you add white. For example, to make Pink you would add White to Red.



Red + White = Pink

To make a color darker in value you would add Black. For example, to make Maroon you would add Black to Red



Red + Black = Maroon

You can experiment with mixing the paints on the paint palette to get the colors you want but should follow this information as a guide.

## Painting Techniques

#### • Hard Edge

A hard edge is clearly defined. To achieve this technique, generously apply paint to a flat brush and create even strokes while building a thick edge around the color. Allow the area to dry to avoid bleeding and apply another color to areas nearby.

#### • Soft Edge

A soft edge blends or fades into the background or into another color. Soft edges are accomplished by slightly dampening your paper and then paint adjacent colors to blend one color into another. Wet a paint brush with water and apply to the wet paint to blur the edges.

#### Overpainting

Overpainting is done by making layers of paint. It works best if you use a darker color over a lighter color. Create a painting that will be the background of your picture. After it has dried, apply other colors on top to overpaint.

#### Double Colors

Experiment with fun effects by using two colors on your paint brush. Dip opposite sides of the tuft in different colors.

#### Pressure Variations

Another fun technique to try is to vary the painted line width by pressing down harder during the middle of a brush stroke to create a "thick and thin" effect. This will help you learn control of the brushes. You can try this with each brush size to see what effect each makes.









#### Mirror Image Effect

Fold a piece of paper in half, then open and paint on one side of the fold. While the paint is still wet, fold the sides together to transfer the paint. Open and observe the mirror-image effect. Add details to the image after it has dried to create animals, faces or anything you can think of!



# Painting your Picture

• Now that you have practiced mixing paints and tried out your brushes you can paint your picture. Remember, this is your creation so you can paint it however you want. Experiment with different brush strokes to get different looks. Allow your painting to dry flat and don't forget to sign it!



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