



# EXPERIMENTAL ART WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

BY: DANIELLA GARCIA





“The biggest hindrance to understanding a work of art is *wanting* to understand.”  
Bruno Munari

During childhood, when perception is keen, there is a special sense of intuition a certain presence and purity, thus art flows and develops spontaneously.

More than learning how to paint, it is necessary that the child develops with confidence his sensibility, and learns how to observe not only his environment but also his internal expression; therefore accepting his/her self and others.

We are all capable of creating, of imagining beyond the immediate reality, we only need to be stimulated -not inhibited- since the earliest stages of education, when we start to distinguish the world.

In the creative work, children find themselves so completely and joyously immersed in an activity, that any sign of inhibition disappears. It is in such moments that teachers are not needed, but guides that help transmit sensations and aid to discover new paths.





I propose to explore and bring into play this important childhood moment, through workshops of artistic expression by stimulating the sensibility, imagination, creativity and playful essence through the visual arts.

This workshop consists of 5 themes and 5 activities, which take place during 6 classes, 2 hours each.

The discovery of the primary and secondary colors is necessary as a foundation for the freedom of expression and use of color. However, color harmony as a restrictive rule is not of our interest.



The background is an abstract composition. It features a large, central, irregular wash of bright yellow paint. Surrounding this yellow area are various splatters and washes of light pink and pale red paint, creating a textured, layered effect. A thin, dark red line is drawn across the lower portion of the image, starting from the left edge, curving under the yellow wash, and extending towards the right. The overall texture is grainy, suggesting a watercolor or ink-on-paper style.

# THEMES AND ACTIVITIES

# Self-portrait

We begin with this activity of self-identification and freedom of expression.

## 1. Who am I?

- Group presentation.
- Using a small mirror, each child observes his face, gestures and expression.
- They will create a self-portrait using only the primary colors.
- This activity lasts 2 hours minimum.





# PRIMARY COLORS

It is always necessary to remember the importance of the primary colors, regardless of the child's age; this theme will be developed with various activities, all of them as creative games.



## YELLOW MESS!

**2.** This activity starts with a guided meditation, lying down in the floor of the studio. We will imagine ourselves as beings from a yellow planet!

Then we will do a collective painting with our hands, it is important to get our hands dirty, in order for the children to feel the painting, for them to enjoy it and get themselves involved without fears.

This activity lasts 2 hours (2nd class)

# SUN COLLAGE



- 3.** First we will explore and understand the collage technique throughout history, by looking at several art books and magazines. Recycling the previous artwork with the primary yellow, each child will now elaborate a great luminous sun using collage and recycling materials.

This activity lasts 2 hours (3rd class)



# PRIMARY BLUE

After passing by the planet of the primary yellow sun, we will now enter the depths and immensity of the blue planet: the ocean!

4.


By projecting images on a wall, books and other media the children will observe the vastness of the ocean, the multiple tones of blue caused by the change of light from the sun and particularly the ocean's inhabitants: fishes, corals, algae etc.

They will elaborate an individual painting using mix media on a large surface, it will be their interpretation of the ocean, its light and inhabitants; trying to only use different tones of blue.



During this activity they will also learn the proper use of the brush, the preparation of colors and most importantly the ability to observe and express using mix media.

This activity will last 4 hours (4th and 5th class)

An abstract painting by Pablo Picasso, featuring a vibrant, textured surface. The composition is dominated by warm, earthy tones of ochre, sienna, and terracotta, with cooler accents of blue and green. The texture is highly varied, with visible brushstrokes, splatters, and areas of apparent abrasion or rubbing, creating a sense of depth and tactile quality. The overall effect is one of intense energy and emotional resonance, characteristic of Picasso's mature work.

“There are painters who transform the sun to a yellow spot, but there are others who with the help of their art, transform a yellow spot into sun” P.PICASSO



# PRIMARY RED



## 5. RED EXPLOSION WITH DRIPPING

For this activity, we will ask the children to come for this class with any red garment or outfit.

Before starting the activity, they will be asked what does RED means to them and there will be an emphasis on the “primary red planet.”

Dripping, technique most famously used by Jackson Pollock, is like a "splashing" of paint that can be achieved through different methods, by throwing paint or using a toothbrush for example.

We will use the shape of a heart as the format for this activity.

The children will prepare different tones of red and experiment with the dripping technique over the hearts.

This activity will last 2 hours (6th class)

This will be the final session from the first module of the **Experimental Workshop**.

The second module consists of pictorial activities to discover the secondary colors.



### WHO CAN ENJOY THE WORKSHOP?

Everyone! However it was created for children ages 5 to 10. Ideally the workshop should take place with min. 5 children and max. 10.

### WHAT KIND OF SPACE DOES THE WORKSHOP NEED?

The space should be a studio or room with tables and ideally a garden or nature nearby. It is necessary to have a water faucet, a bathroom and a sink.

If possible each child should bring an old t-shirt or clothing that can get dirty with paint without any problem or fears!













