



Art Table and Easel: Creating Imaginary Trees

In contrast to the previous week, children create imaginary trees.

Big Ideas	The natural world can improve people’s quality of life and inspire artistic expression.
Guiding Question	How can the earth inspire artistic expression?
Vocabulary	imaginary: something that is make believe Representation:
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● tree images ● a child’s “real tree” from the previous week <p>In the Art Studio, offer the same materials as the previous week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● tree artifacts such as bark, leaves, branches, acorns These can be brought in by adults and children. ● a variety of Beautiful Stuff that will support children’s creation of real trees such as rocks, sticks, acorns, leaves, corks, etc. ● adhesives for Beautiful Stuff such as liquid glue and/or tape If a glue gun is desired, adults should use this tool. ● cardboard of different sizes, to be used as a base ● paper of various sizes, colors, and textures ● a variety of art materials such as paint, pastels, colored pencils, markers, and crayons ● paint brushes of various sizes ● scissors <p>Organize and display the materials so that children can access them as needed. If possible set up a mixing table near the easel so that children can create the colors they need to represent their trees. Post, project or show on a laptop/ipad some of the tree images.</p>

	<p>Bring to Intro to Centers: a child’s “real tree” from the previous week, tree image, some Beautiful Stuff.</p>
<p>Intro to centers</p>	<p><i>Last week at the Art Studio, we created real trees. Here is _____’s work. What do you notice?</i></p> <p>Show the work. Provide time for children to share their observations. Invite the child to share the inspiration and process for the work.</p> <p><i>This week at the Art Studio, we will create trees again. But this time, you can create imaginary, or make believe, trees. Use your imagination to create any kind of tree you would like!</i></p> <p><i>Let’s take a look at some photographs of imaginary trees created by different artists. These trees are not realistic like those we constructed last week. Instead, they are artistic representations of trees.</i></p> <p>Show the photographs. Pause after each slide to allow for children to share what they notice and their reactions.</p> <p><i>What does this make you think about?</i></p> <p><i>These trees might inspire you to create your own imaginary tree. When you are ready, you may use any available materials to create an imaginary tree. You might use crayons or markers, Beautiful Stuff, or paint. And remember that you might create a 2-dimensional tree or a 3-dimensional tree.</i></p> <p><i>Turn and talk to a partner about an idea you have about imaginary trees. What might you create?</i></p> <p>Harvest a few ideas.</p> <p><i>Collaborate with your peers and see what you come up with!</i></p>
<p>During centers</p>	<p>Children look at the tree parts and images. Support children as they decide what kind of trees to represent what materials to use. They might choose to create 2-dimensional or 3-dimensional pieces.</p> <p>If using Beautiful Stuff, children may need support with how to glue their pieces together.</p> <p>If painting, children may need support with mixing colors.</p> <p>Remind children to use the resources as a source of inspiration and also to include details about trees.</p>

	Encourage children to talk with one another about their creations and stories, share materials, and paint together.
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What do you notice about these parts (or photos) of trees? ● What different colors or shapes do you see? ● What part of the tree do you want to be sure to include? ● What materials will you choose? ● How will you make the colors you need? ● What inspires you about trees? ● Can you tell me a story about your tree? ● How is your tree special?
Standards	<p>SL.1.K.a Participate in collaborative conversations about kindergarten topics and texts with peers, and adults in small and larger groups.</p> <p>SL.3.K.b Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.</p>

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