

Classroom Art Project!



Inspired by Mme
Caroline's class at
the École d'éducation
internationale

Opération
tournesol

Van Gogh's Sunflowers

Van Gogh, a very famous painter, painted many sunflowers over the course of his life. His most famous work featuring sunflowers is titled *Still Life : Vase with Twelve Sunflowers*. To keep exploring this magnificent plant's universe, you too can paint sunflowers... in the same way as Van Gogh.



Who Is Vincent Van Gogh?

This famous painter was born in 1853 in Holland. Now a true legend, he is known for his striking colour palette and his unique way of portraying the world using bold, directional and textured brush strokes. Among other things, he is famous for works such as *Starry Night* and *Self-Portrait* (1889) as well as for his series of sunflowers, painted between 1887 and 1889. We draw our inspiration from one of the canvases in this series for the art project you'll create.



Understanding His Work

This canvas exudes joy and depicts the artist's beloved flowers. A major component of this piece is the use of the colour yellow, the artist's trademark colour, for the vase, flowers and table. The bright yellow feels as though it warms the soul of the onlooker. The background, painted blue, acts as a contrast. Paint is applied thickly, using close, visible brush strokes. The background surrounding the vase remains very simple as numerous details bring the flowers to life.



Vase with 12 Sunflowers

Artist: Vincent Van Gogh

Date: 1888

Dimensions: 95 x 73 cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Isn't Van Gogh's creative universe fascinating?



Now it's your turn to paint in the same manner as his famous paintings!

Necessary material:

For each student:

- A lead pencil
- A piece of white cardboard
- Gouache
- Brushes of various sizes

Easy Steps!

1. Paint the background wall blue.
2. Paint the vase and table
3. (choose the colours)
4. Using thick layers of paint, paint the sunflowers yellow. Add white to create shade variations as well as brown or black for details.
5. Complete the canvas using a small brush to add small strokes of brown or black.

TO GO FURTHER!

This very interesting book allows you to explore Van Gogh's fascinating universe.



*Vincent Van Gogh,
Milan*

Have fun!