

Family First Sunday: Spring Still Life

March 7, 2021



Welcome back to the Family First Sunday! Now that we're one week into March, you might have noticed that the weather is getting a little warmer and the days are getting a little longer. Spring is on the way, a time of renewal and rebirth. In anticipation of Spring, our project involves flowers, watercolors, and a sunny spot outside. Follow our step-by-step instructions and you'll have a beautiful floral watercolor painting of your own!

Here are some supplies you'll need for the Spring Still Life:

- Watercolor paints
- Watercolor paper or cardstock
- Cup with water
- Paintbrushes
- Pencil and Pen
- Flowers or plants in a cup/vase or a picture of flowers

- A nice, sunny spot outside

Instructions:

- 1) Take up a chair or lay on a blanket on the grass
- 2) Set up your paints, cup with water, paper, and still life reference (flowers). I bought some flowers from the grocery store and arranged them in this vase. You can always go outside and pick some flowers of your own or look at a picture of flowers!
- 3) Take a good long look at your flowers, try looking at it from different angles. When painting, try focusing on color and shape more than details. I used long strokes for my flowers or circular scribbles.



- 4) Next, paint your vase or bouquet using simple shapes. Play around with the colors by adding more water or going over with a dry brush. More water creates a lighter effect, a dry brush creates a bright, textured effect. For leaves, you can just press the paintbrush to the paper and create a single long stroke. For flowers, you can create circular blobs or scribbles. Focus on shapes and bright colors over “realism”, have fun!



Here I am outlining my vase in blue. I go over lightly with a dry brush to get the outlines down and then go over with a wetter brush to blend. Layering is important! I left my vase partially colored to give a 3-D look. The left side is a lighter color which makes it look like there is light hitting the left side of the vase!



(Use long strokes or shapes to create leaves, circular scribbles or blobs for flowers. Remember to have fun and use bright colors!)





5) Taking a pencil or pen, add any details or outlines to make your watercolor designs pop!







6) Step back and admire your Spring Still-life portrait

