Art Exploration

POINTILLISM PAINTING

Like the famous painter Georges Seurat, make a picture using only dots and spots!

Materials Provided:
Painting templates (2)

Materials Needed:
Q-Tip
Watercolor Paints
Bingo paint dauber (optional)
Clothespin / cotton ball (optional)
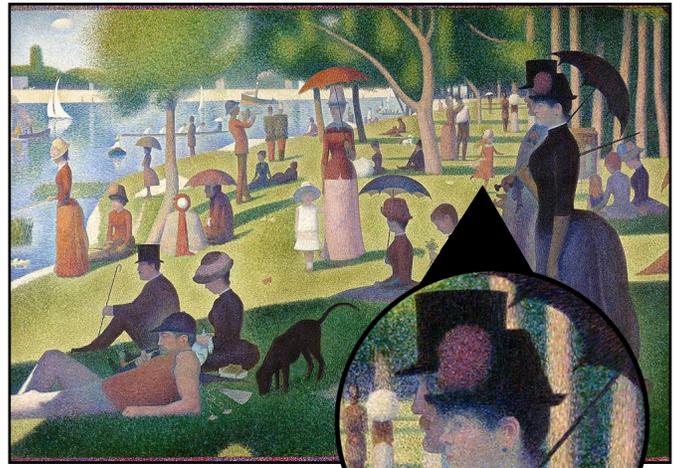
Baker Free
LIBRARY

Instructions:

Georges Seurat, a famous French painter, invented a new style of artwork in the 1800s. He painted pictures using small dots of paint, without blending them together. From far away, these tiny dots blend together to create a picture. But the closer you get, the more you see -- they're just thousands and thousands of tiny polka dots!

1. For this project, you'll need some paint and any kind of tool to make dots with. We recommend painting with either a Q-tip (for smaller dots, and older children), or making your own paintbrush with a clothespin and a cotton ball (for bigger dots, and smaller children). You can also do this project using a paint dauber like the kind used for Bingo, or even markers!

2. Choose one of the pictures provided for you, and "color it in" using only dots! This will feel different from the kind of painting you're used to. Instead of brushing or swiping a paintbrush across the picture, you'll be stamping it up and down lots of times. The closer your dots are to one another, the more they'll blend together when you look at the picture from far away. Experiment with different sizes, pressure, and spacing to see how it affects your picture!

One of Georges Seurat's most famous paintings -- all made with tiny dots! From far away, they blend together to create a picture, but the closer you get the more you can see. This style of painting is called **Pointillism** (POINT-ah-liz-um).

"Color" in your templates using any method you like, to make a picture using dots. If you're feeling up to it, you can also create your own original piece of artwork using this method. Grab a blank sheet of paper and see what you can paint!