

Summer Arts 4: “Creating Memories” the use of value

Lesson Plan Objective:

In the exhibition *Bonds*, many of Jagdeep Raina’s mixed media works tell stories of migration from across the Kashmiri and Punjabi diasporas. To tell the stories of collective and individual histories, the artist sometimes uses archives of black and white photographs as a starting point. The use of light and dark in art is called *value*. We can create contrast through using different values in black and white shades. The objective is to use a personal photograph to make a painting using only black and the white of the paper and create different values. It will be like looking at an old black and white photograph.

Look at an image from the exhibition such as *Soda Pyanaara, you are the one who opened the doors for us*. For your subject, if possible, use a family photo or an old photo in black and white. If none are available, think about a building you want to remember or a group of friends you want to be with.



Image, Installation view, Blaffer Art Museum. Jagdeep Raina, *Soda Pyaara, you are the one who opened the door for us*, 2016, mixed media. Courtesy of the artist and Cooper Cole, Toronto.

Approximate Time:
Up to 1 Hour

Skill Level:
Medium

Parental Supervision:
Assistance with preparing materials recommended

Art Materials:

- Heavy paper such as cardstock, or posterboard or white cardboard. If no white cardboard is available, glue thinner paper to cardboard.
- Black tempera or watercolor paint and a brush, or several brushes
- Paper cups or bowls if mixing water and paint for shades of black or grey
- Paper towels
- White paper
- Various pencils (such as H, HB, B, 2B, 4B), or black crayon or marker,

Instructions:

1. On a separate paper create a value scale for practice and reference, using media of choice. Draw five large rectangles. Leave number 1 the white paper, and make 5, the darkest you can., Color 2,3,4 in between. If using paint add water slowly to the black and test before you use to see if you need more water.
2. On a second paper or white heavier paper or board use pencil to draw your picture. Remember to draw big shapes.
3. Decide where the darkest and lightest areas of your drawing will be. That is usually where we look first.
4. Fill in the darkest and then work back to the lightest areas. The greatest interest will be the contrast of darkest and lightest areas.
5. If you are painting, you can add details with crayon or marker when dry.
6. If using tempera paint, mix the different shades of black to create the values of black first in paper bowls or cups. Continue until you have finished the picture.



Images: Rona Lesser
Sample Artworks
Value Scale