



**eva**

**ELEMENTARY VISUAL ARTS**

Park City Education Foundation • Kimball Art Center

LESSON

**1**

## **Gustav Klimt Elements of Art**

Tree of Life

Verbal Directions

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Students will learn about the artist Gustav Klimt (1862–1918) and his decorative art style. Klimt was a twentieth century master of decorative art, a visual art style known for hosting design and ornamentation of items. Students will also learn about the elements of art and how they are portrayed in Klimt's artwork. Students will use these elements with verbal directives to create their own "Tree of Life," one of Klimt's most famous works, in his decorative style.

### INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Learn about Gustav Klimt.
- Learn about the elements of art and apply them in artwork.  
Line, Shape, Form, Value, Space, Color, Texture
- Learn about Klimt's decorative style of art.
- Create a "Tree of Life" using elements of art in the style of Klimt.

### SUPPLIES

- Images of Klimt's artwork showcasing elements of art.
- Samples of Tree of Life.
- Gold glitter.
- Glue.
- Black sharpies.
- Markers.
- Metallic markers and/or paint markers.
- White or brown paper.
- Black construction paper for matting artwork.

### GUSTAV KLIMT



Gustav Klimt (1862-1918) was an Austrian symbolist painter and his artwork was viewed as a rebellion against the traditional academic art of his time. He is noted for his highly decorative style in art most often seen in art with women with elaborate gowns, blankets and landscapes. Klimt was a co-founder of the Vienna Secessionist movement, a movement closely linked to Symbolism whereby artists tried to show truth using unrealistic or fantastical objects. [Learn more](#)



# LESSON PLAN

1. Introduce students to the elements of art (line, shape, form, value, space, color, and texture). These form the building blocks for art making.

Introduce Gustav Klimt and his artwork. Have samples of Klimt's work to show to the students. Discuss what elements of art are seen and used in his works. Tell students that one of Klimt's most famous works is called "The Tree of Life". They will have the opportunity to use elements of art to create their own "Tree of Life" in the style of Klimt. You are going to give verbal directions and you will show them his painting when their artwork is complete.

2. Creating the background (see sample).

- Each student will select 3 colors. On their blank paper instruct students to cover the entire paper with their 3 colors with no overlapping or blending colors. You could suggest thick wavy lines, touching squares or rectangles etc.

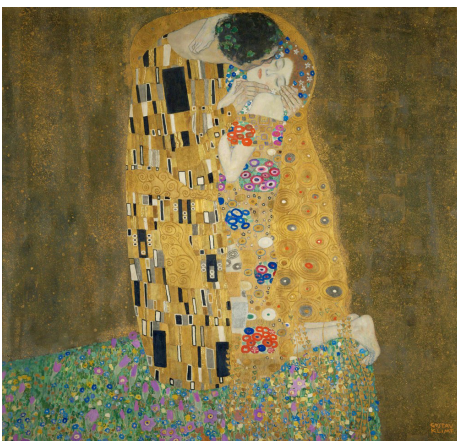
3. Creating the tree.

- When students are finished with their backgrounds, give them black sharpies. Instruct students to make a tree trunk part way up their paper and fill it in. Describe directions for the branches such as create x# of wavy branches that have curved ends. Have x# branches reach the entire length of the paper. X# branches should have one or more branches coming off it etc. Describe the ground for students to create.

4. When finished you may offer the option of glue and glitter to add decorative ornamentation like Klimt. You may also suggest to have students add shapes or forms to their tree or background in the style of Klimt.

5. When the artwork is completed, have students glue their Tree of Life to black construction paper and sign their names.

6. When finished, show students Klimt's Tree of Life and discuss what they see in his work as well as compare it with their Tree of Life creations.







Student examples

## KEY IDEAS THAT CONNECT TO VISUAL ARTS CORE CURRICULUM:

Based on Utah State Visual Arts Core Curriculum Requirements (3rd Grade) Click on links to see more.

[Standard 1.V.CR.1](#)

[Standard 1.V.R.2](#)

[Standard 1.V.CR.2](#)

[Standard 1.V.R.3](#)

[Standard 1.V.CR.3](#)

[Standard 1.V.C0.2](#)

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Click on links to learn more.

- <http://greenbayartroom.blogspot.com/search/label/3rd%20Grade>
- <http://visualartspdsf.blogspot.com>
- <http://www.gustav-klimt.com/The-Tree-Of-Life.jsp>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav\\_Klimt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav_Klimt)
- [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-7\\_RuCwo65qw/](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-7_RuCwo65qw/) ▪ <https://artsmart4kids.blogspot.com/2008/01/introduction-to-art-nouveau.html>

## ELEMENTS OF ART YOU TUBE VIDEOS

- LINE - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BDePyEFT1gQ&list=PLi-Oil1qP-cMURN\\_8baOr3QWfySmljqKlj](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BDePyEFT1gQ&list=PLi-Oil1qP-cMURN_8baOr3QWfySmljqKlj)
- SHAPE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJzGkZwkHt4>
- SPACE - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U11B\\_0FCn6o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U11B_0FCn6o)
- COLOR - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWW\\_UbrkBEw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWW_UbrkBEw)
- TEXTURE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAwYHNo31ZQ>
- VALUE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAwYHNo31ZQ>
- FORM - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DIPs3T2dQk>

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