

Tell Me About Your Art!

Dear Fourth Grade Families:

Today we used a
RANGE OF VALUES TO CREATE A SETTING
 using a watercolor wash.

Looking: We looked at two paintings: *Moonlight Scene* by Johann B. Jongkind and *Landscape at Barbizon* by Diaz de la Peña or *Music at the Tuileries* by Edouard Manet and *Rockets and Blue Lights* by J.M.W. Turner. We looked carefully for areas where the artist used **values**.

Talking: We talked about the **mood** of each painting, and the way darker values contributed to that mood.

Making: We analyzed the **setting** (time, place, and mood) from a story we are reading in class. We sketched and made watercolor washes showing that setting. First we **primed** each of the watercolor pans with water by dripping in a few drops of clean water to soften the color. Then we used a large paintbrush to sweep water across the paper until it had a glistening sheen. We worked **wet on wet** to paint color onto the wet paper. We painted a range of **intensity of color** and light to dark areas, with **directional strokes** to suggest areas of landscape: forest, water, hills, mountains, etc. Once it is dry, we can add additional details in fine-tipped marker or add human figures from the story.

Art at Home

Together:

You could go outside and squint your eyes to find the lightest areas of color and the darkest areas of color.
 You could think of descriptive words to express the mood of the darkest areas.

Questions to ask:

Where are the darkest areas of color in your neighborhood setting?
 What is the mood of each of the areas?
 How does changing light or weather change the values of color you see?

Use of a range of values can suggest time, place, and mood.