



Art Easel: Creating Still Lives
Children use paint or pastels to represent still lifes.

Big Ideas	The natural world can improve people’s quality of life and inspire artistic expression.
Guiding Questions	How can the earth inspire artistic expression?
Vocabulary	still life: a painting or drawing of objects such as flowers, plants, fruit. arrangement: materials that have been put together in a particular way
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● still life images ● still life natural materials such as fruit, flowers, shells, pinecones, bark, leaves, branches ● sample of children’s work from the previous weeks ● pastels ● paint and paint cup, also for mixing colors ● paint brushes of various sizes ● paper of different size ● laptop/ipad <p>Gather materials to set up a couple of different still life arrangements (flowers in a vase, fruit in a bowl, branches tied together, etc). Set up a mixing table near the easel so that children can create the colors they need to represent their still lifes. If you do not have natural materials to create a still life arrangement, post, or project the resource images.</p> <p>Bring to Intro to Centers: a still life arrangement or images</p>
Intro to Centers	<p><i>We have been thinking about different ways in which nature can inspire our work. Here are some paintings that _____ and _____ have been working on. What do you notice?</i></p>

	<p>Harvest a couple of responses.</p> <p><i>Here are some artists' representations of still lifes, paintings or drawings of objects such as flowers, plants, shells, or fruit.</i></p> <p>Show a couple of the images from the resources</p> <p><i>When artists paint a still life they are looking at an arrangement for inspiration, here are _____ I put together in a particular way to inspire you.</i></p> <p>Show an arrangement you created.</p> <p>Think, Pair, Share</p> <p><i>As you have done before you, you can mix paint or use pastels to represent your still lifes. You can also use the natural materials to create your own arrangements and then represent them.</i></p> <p><i>Work as a team and share ideas about what media to use to represent your still lifes, and how you might work together on the same painting or pastel drawing.</i></p>
During Centers	<p>Support children as they decide what type of still life arrangement they would like to be inspired by. Invite them to create their own arrangement with the natural materials you have gathered or encourage them to use the resources as a source of inspiration for their work. Remind children to talk with one another about their creations and stories, share materials and paint and draw together.</p>
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What do you notice about the still life arrangement? ● What different colors or shapes do you see? ● What would you like to include in your painting or drawing ? ● What colors will you need for your painting or drawing? ● How will you make the colors you need? ● What inspires you about still lifes? ● How are you collaborating with others?
Standards	<p>SL.1.K.a Participate in collaborative conversations about kindergarten topics and texts with peers, and adults in small and larger groups.</p> <p>SL.3.K.b Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.</p> <p>VA.K.V.Cr.01 - BOSTON Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work. Experiment with a wide variety of both two- and three-dimensional materials, including recycled/repurposed ones after looking at images from several artists who use those materials.</p> <p>SEL.Relationships Building: Teamwork.</p>