

ColorWorks[™]

Ceramic Arts Lesson Plan

Yayoi Pumpkins

Yayoi Kusama was born in Matsumoto, Japan in 1929. She was the youngest of 4 children and had a difficult childhood. Art was her way to deal with the challenges she faced throughout her life. She studied art in Japan but because of cultural restraints, she studied very ancient techniques. Yayoi longed to create outside of those boundaries, so she left home and moved to New York. There, she flourished and gained notoriety and was able to create her own art without any judgement. Her legacy continues to inspire many.



Instructions

Materials List

Duncan® Oh Four® Bisque

- #37205 Small Egg Plate OR
- #37206 Medium Egg Plate

Duncan® Concepts® Underglazes

- CN 501 - CN 507 Neon Colors

Duncan® French Dimensions™ Glaze

- FD 254 Black

Duncan® Pure Brilliance® Clear Glaze

- Brush-On or Dipping

Brushes & Tools

- TB 737 #3 Small Round Brush
- TB 731 #7 Medium Round Brush
- TB 732 #9 Medium Round Brush

Miscellaneous Supplies

- Sponge
- Pencils
- 6" Wooden Skewers
- 1.5" x 2" Wooden Dowel Pins

For Best Results

Please read all instructions before beginning project. Refer to photo for color & design placement.



- 1 With a damp sponge, wipe the bisque down to remove dust.
- 2 Lightly pencil the outline of a pumpkin onto the plate. Use the egg shape to create the curves of the pumpkin. Draw your stem on the smaller width of the plate on the top.

Tips for Success

1) Too much graphite can sometimes repel the clear glaze. Make sure your pencil lines are very light. If your marks are too dark, wipe a very damp sponge across the plate to remove any extra graphite, still leaving visible marks for your reference.

2) Shake your French Dimensions™ towards the tip before using to avoid air bubbles while you are outlining.

Vocabulary

- **Puddling:** Fired glaze that has run to the bottom or puddled in detail or ware.



- 3 Use Black French Dimensions™ to outline the pumpkin by tracing over your light pencil lines. Wait until the black has dried and lost its shine to keep it from mixing in with the colors you will be adding.

Instructions Continued ...

4 Pour a small amount of each Neon Concepts® color onto a palette. Add water to the colors with a 1:1 ratio and mix well.

5 Heavily load the your round brush with the watered down glaze, then roll the brush to apply the color. Try to avoid brushing the glaze on. Rolling the brush instead will create a more “puddled” look. Let dry.



6 Dip your various dotting tools in the Black Concepts® to make dots in different sizes and patterns. Paint the background (outside of the pumpkin) with a contrasting color. Let dry completely.

Last Steps!



7 Dip or brush on Duncan® Pure Brilliance® Clear Glaze, front and back.

8 Fire to cone 06.

Content created by:



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5673 E. Shields Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727

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Visual Arts Standards

The relevant National Visual Arts Standards were considered in the design of this lesson plan.