

Year 5 – Lesson Plan 1 - ART

How Can You Paint Light and Atmosphere?

Aim: To explore watercolour techniques to create a landscape that shows light, mood, and atmosphere.	Key Words: • watercolour • blend • wash • silhouette • landscape	Preparation: • Watercolour paints • Water pots and brushes • Watercolour or cartridge paper • Black card or black pens (for silhouette work) • Landscape photo examples (sunsets, mountains, coastlines, skies)
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Prior Learning: Children will have used watercolours and explored colour mixing in earlier lessons.

WC / PT	Warm-up: Show atmospheric landscapes (e.g. sunset, foggy forest). Ask: <i>What colours can you see? How do they make you feel? How do the artists show light or mood?</i>	0-5 mins
WC	Main Teach: Introduce watercolour techniques: washes, wet-on-wet blending, and layering. Demonstrate blending colours to create sky effects, then adding a silhouette on top for contrast.	5-10 mins
I / S	Activity: Children create a background wash using blended watercolours to show a landscape (e.g. sunset, sea, mountains). Once dry, they add a silhouette image using black card or pen (e.g. trees, buildings, animals).	10-30 mins
I	Extension Challenge: Add foreground elements or write a short caption/poem to match the mood of the painting.	30-35 mins
WC	Plenary: Children discuss how their use of colour creates atmosphere. Ask: <i>How did blending change the effect of the painting? What would you try differently next time?</i>	35-40 mins

WC – Whole Class

PT – Partner Talk

I – Independent

S - Support

Challenge A	Write a descriptive paragraph based on your landscape using rich vocabulary and figurative language.
Challenge B	Research how famous artists (e.g. Turner, Monet) used light in their landscape paintings.