

Van Gogh and His Inspirations: K-5th Grade

Museum Manners

Please review these guidelines with your students before your visit to the museum.

- Touching can permanently damage works of art. Please don't touch the art or lean on the walls in the galleries.
- Food, drinks, and gum are not permitted in the galleries.
- Be careful where you walk! Try to stay at least arms-length from any work of art.
- No pens, backpacks or large bags are allowed in the galleries. Bring only what you need!

Big Ideas & Major Themes

Here's some information relating to your program to review with your students before visiting the museum.

- Vincent van Gogh was an artist who lived about 100 years ago. He's famous now for the particular way he painted but a lot of factors contributed to his style.



Vincent Van Gogh. *Flower Beds in Holland*, 1883.

- Van Gogh was interested in showing nature as a way of celebrating God's creation. Art can give us a sense of a place both by including physical elements (like trees or storm clouds) and by setting a mood or tone.
- Artists all use elements of art to create work. Van Gogh especially used bright, bold colors and manipulated line to make striking works of art.

Please Note For this tour you have the option of touring either just the exhibition or the exhibition and selected, related pieces from the collection. Both tours will be approximately the same length.

Standards Addressed

VA K-5 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1

In the Classroom

Prepare students for your visit with one or more of these activities.

- Notice various weather conditions and consider different ways artists might depict them. Try painting with various materials (e.g. cotton balls, q-tips, toothpicks) to create different weather phenomena.
- Examine a number works of art representing the same genre (e.g. still life or portraiture) that represent a variety of styles and eras. Have students make comparisons and analyze them using the formal elements of art. As an extension, have students create their own piece in one of these styles.
- Discuss the connections between visual art and what was happening around the world in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. (See MOMA website for themes and visual inspiration.)

Questions? Contact us at
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tours@columbiamuseum.org

columbiamuseum.org/learn



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Resources

Want to explore more? Use these references to learn and share information with your students.

- Philadelphia Museum Collection Search. <http://www.philamuseum.org/collections/search.html>
- What is Modern Art: MOMA. https://www.moma.org/learn/moma_learning/themes/what-is-modern-art
- Inspiration from Japan: Van Gogh Museum <https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/stories/inspiration-from-japan#0>