

# UNIT PLAN

REBECCA JARDIN, 2017



WATER  
COLOUR

GRADE 8

UNIT TITLE:	Simplicity - Making the Ordinary Extraordinary With Watercolours
GRADE LEVEL:	8 (12-13 years old)
LESSONS:	80mins each
WEEKS:	7
ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:	How can transparency and white space give life to your painting?  What are the characteristics of watercolors that make them a unique medium?  Why do people say “that watercolors can be unforgiving”?
OBJECTIVES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•To be able to recognize 10 different watercolor techniques.</li><li>•To be able to annotate and reflect on student growth as their skills develop.</li><li>•To be able to learn from others but not to copy.</li><li>•To be able to create a high level painting which applies transparency, wet in wet, hard edges, white spaces and tone.</li><li>•To be able to discuss strengths and weaknesses whilst applying the correct vocabulary.</li></ul>

## BASIC LESSON OUTLINE:

### LESSON 1:

Divide an A3 paper into 10 boxes and label each one with the following headings: wash, wet in wet, wet on dry, dry brushing, salt, paper towel, toothbrush, dripping, masking tape and cling wrap. Fill each box with one of the techniques listed.

### LESSON 2:

1. Complete the watercolour techniques.
2. Create a small A5 color swatch of all the colours that we have. Practice mixing colours.
3. Create a Pinterest board and collect as many watercolor paintings and tutorials as possible. Write on some of the images in the comment box what techniques you can see.



BASIC LESSON  
OUTLINE:



LESSON 3:

1. Complete the watercolour techniques and color swatch.
2. Copy one of the works provided or choose one from your Pinterest. As you complete the task answer: What did you learn? What will you do differently next time? What worked out well for you?
3. Combine 3-5 of the techniques from earlier to create a watercolor painting of your choice.



LESSON 4:

1. Complete the practice paintings and notes.
2. After the demonstration create a fish in watercolours.  
step 1: sketch the fish  
step 2: apply a very light wash on one side  
step 3: add a second layer and dry completely  
step 4: build up the tone on the other side and drop in some salt  
step 5: Add less water, use a small brush and apply the details



LESSON 5:

Wet the paper around the fish, add watercolors and apply cling wrap. Squish the cling wrap to create the water effect.

Introduction to a landscape

Tape the paper to the board, apply a wash for the sky, and press in tissue for the clouds.

Create the land, apply the hills, build up the layers and details.



LESSON 6:

1. Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/ETavRDDEaaE>
2. Test masking fluid on a small paper.
3. Introduction to the final task after viewing the PPT images.
4. Use [coggle.it](https://coggle.it) to brainstorm possible subject matter.

BASIC LESSON  
OUTLINE:

LESSONS 7 and 8:

1. Watch the video: [https://youtu.be/LIGOeWG\\_fSE](https://youtu.be/LIGOeWG_fSE)
2. Add watercolor to the masking fluid
3. Review the chosen object and discuss in pairs how to get a unique composition.
4. Thumbnail sketches for composition and tone.
5. Peer critique

LESSONS 9, 10, 11:

1. Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/7waScgEnCKU>
2. Update the documentation of their learning (student choice documentation tool)
3. Painting practice. Try to push the: white space, color combinations, limited palettes, wet on wet, hard edge, drips and spatters.
4. Peer critiques and teacher conferences.

LESSONS 12, 13, 14:

1. Complete a semi-final color plan
2. Use the next three classes to create the final piece.
3. photograph and share all stages of the process.
4. Write a reflection/annotation/artist's statement (student choice) and exhibit the final work.