



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

O-original Art Activities: Abstract Landscape Drawing Inspired by Will Henry Stevens



Will Henry Stevens, *Abstract Mississippi River*, 1942, Pastel on paper

Will Henry Stevens was an artist from Indiana who lived in New Orleans for several years. He is known for his geometric abstraction and his en plein air paintings and geometric landscapes of areas in the American South.

Create an abstract drawing of a nature scene near you.

SEE WILL HENRY STEVEN'S ABSTRACT MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN ART. CHECK OUT [OGDEN MUSEUM ONLINE](#) FOR MORE RESOURCES!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL
EDUCATION@OGDENMUSEUM.ORG.

Supplies

Paper, Scissors, Pencil, Colored Pencils, Tape or Glue

Instructions

Step 1: Pick a scene in nature that you would like to draw. Don't be afraid to explore beyond your own backyard! Ask a parent or guardian to accompany you on a nature walk throughout your neighborhood or a nearby park. If going outdoors isn't an option for you, choose an image online or create one using your imagination.

Step 2: Draw your scene while you are looking at it in person. If this is not possible for you, you can take a picture of your scene and draw it at home.

Step 3: Use your colored pencils to bring your artwork to life. Feel free to get creative - if you want the sky to be pink and the trees to have polka dots, go for it!

Step 4: Use scissors to cut your drawing into geometric shapes. Think beyond just circles, squares, and triangles. What about hexagons? Crescents? Hearts?

Step 5: Practice rearranging the shapes into different patterns and designs. Once you find a composition that you like, tape or glue your artwork back together onto a new piece of paper.

Step 6: Take a step back and admire your work!

Vocabulary

En plein air painting - painting outside while viewing a subject in person

Abstraction - representing something by focusing on shapes and colors rather than realistic accuracy

Geometric abstraction - a type of abstraction that assembles shapes like circles, squares, and triangles in interesting ways

Landscape - all of the features of a piece of land that you can see at once; a genre of art that shows a this type of scene

