

# SHADOW PLAY WITH MATISSE CUTOUTS

### Derwent Line and Wash Paint Pan Set

Grade Level: 3-12

#### **MATERIALS:**

- Derwent Line and Wash Paint Pan Set
- Graphite Pencil
- Small Round Watercolour Brush
- Scissors
- Card Stock Paper 8.5 x 11 (2 Pieces)

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Inspired by famous artist Henri Matisse, experiment with light, shadows, and cutouts to create beautiful paintings using vibrant Derwent Inktense and muted colour paints to wash over permanent linework.





#### PROCEDURE:

#### Before You Begin:

- This art lesson is easier to do with a partner. One person can hold the cutout while the other paints the shadow.
- Shadow cutouts can be made more complex in shape for older students.
- A bright overhead light or directional light source is a great way to create stronger shadows.



Draw three contour outlines using the Line Maker; two floral shapes and one hummingbird. The silhouettes shown here can be used as a reference or students can do original drawings. Keep in mind, the simpler the drawing, the easier it will be to cut out.

Paint the outline drawings with Natural Brown Inktense paint.



Cut out your shapes. With an overhead or directional light aimed at or above the cutout, have one partner hold up a floral shape on top of card stock paper to cast a shadow.



## DERWENT

3 Lightly trace the shadow created by the shapes with a pencil. (This step is optional but if completed, makes it easier to paint the shadows.)



- While one partner holds the cutout steady, the other will paint its shadow using any colour from the Line and Wash Paint Pan Set. Have students experiment with warm versus cool colours, or complimentary colours from the palette. Inktense paint can be applied in washes similar to watercolour, or more intensely to create vivid colour shapes. We used the more direct application for colour opacity.
- Repeat steps 3-4 using the other floral shapes. Have students consider painting from light to darker shades to make interesting overlays. We used a warm colour palette with Sun Yellow and Mango Inktense, followed by Poppy Red Inktense.





## DERWENT

6 Using the remaining hummingbird cutout, repeat steps 3-4 to paint the last shadow on top of the previous colours. We picked a complimentary blue to balance the colour palette, moving from warm to cool. (Pro Tip: Have students experiment with different scales and angles of the hummingbird shadow to create a more interesting composition.)





You now have a Matisse inspired work of art using paper cutouts and shadow play. Have students compare the different arrangements of shapes, distinctive use of colours, and unique compositions.

