

Create like Chagall (Grades: Pre-K, K, 1, 2, 3)

Children will express their creativity through exploring the differences between transparent, translucent, and opaque materials and engaging in unique activities inspired by artist Marc Chagall.

- View and discuss reproduction of Marc Chagall's work that reflect his childhood memories.
- Understand the differences between transparent, translucent, and opaque materials.
- Create a vibrant translucent drawing
- Explore the technique of mosaic, by using natural materials to design a small multicolored, textured work of art.
- Discover the art of mono-printing, by creating designs and textures with paint.

State Goals:

- 4.A, 25.A, 25.B, 26.A, 26.B

Materials:

- Transparencies
- Window markers
- Flour
- Salt
- Pebbles
- Beads
- Ceramic pieces
- Activity paint
- Plexi easels, or plexi boards
- Paper
- Smocks

Introduction: Start by reading short story about Chagall.

Chagall was a painter, he was known for his brightly colored paintings that were a dream-like quality with a mixture of *Cubism*. Cubism is an art style that uses geometric forms (shapes) and creating a new way of seeing things from different angles. For example, in the painting *Paris Through the Window* the figure in the bottom corner has two faces, and the use of geometric shapes are seen throughout the painting. Many of his painting are about his childhood and his life in Vitebsk (show examples). Focus on works he did that were memories of childhood and then show reproductions or samples of transparent, translucent, and opaque materials.

Marc Chagall (1887-1985)

Marc Chagall was born in 1887 in Vitebsk, Russia. At an early age he too was introduced to the arts. He took violin and singing lessons, he also drew pictures and wrote poetry. When Marc was 19 he told his parents that he wanted to study art, his parents were not happy. He decided to leave to pursue his dream of studying art. Marc was influenced by the Cubist style-neutral colors and geometric forms. He thought the Cubist style lacked color, so he explored using lighter colors and his painting became more harmonious and dream-like. As an artist he explored other mediums: ceramics, sculpture, and stained glass. Throughout his painting career Chagall painted about childhood memories, farmlands, and Jewish folktales.

What things can you see in his work?

- Flowers, cat, buildings, people, and many colors

Mono-Printing:

At this station everyone will get the chance to create a mono-print. The first thing you need to do is put on a smock. Second, use the roller to apply a small amount of paint onto the plexi-glass. With your fingers mix and blend the paint, you can create new colors by mixing blue and yellow together, red and yellow, red and blue, and red and blue. After the paint is spread around use your finger to draw into the paint. When you are finished drawing into the paint a grown-up will lay a sheet of paper on your painting, gently rub the paper and then peel it off, the image you drew in the paint is now on the paper. Finally, we will put on the drying rack to dry.

Translucent Drawing:

Marc Chagall created colorful stained glass art (show example of stained glass). Light can pass through the different colors. Some of the glass he used was **translucent** which means that light can pass through it. Today we are going to create a drawing similar to stained glass- we are going to use sheets of plastic and special markers that light will be able to shine through when you put it in the window. There are several colors that you can choose from, you can make shapes, or create a drawing about you, or your family.

Mosaics:

Marc Chagall created other types of art, he created a colorful mosaic mural using ceramic pieces that were laid side by side to create an image. Have you seen his mosaic mural? It is located in downtown Chicago, at First National Bank?

Today we are creating a mosaic. You can use different materials to create designs and patterns in the dough.