



## Vincent Van Gogh Sunflowers

**Vincent Van Gogh:** famous Dutch artist who made colorful, expressive paintings that were inspired by the Impressionist movement. Van Gogh used color in an expressive way to create a mood or feeling.

(Vincent Van Gogh, *Sunflowers*, 1888)

**Impressionism:** a style of art focused on capturing the movement and light of a moment.

**Materials:** crayons, colored pencils, or markers, pencil, paper, flowers (preferably sunflowers) in a vase.

### Instructions:

1. Study *Sunflowers* by Vincent Van Gogh. How big is the vase compared to the rest of the page? How big are the sunflowers and what shape is their center?
2. Now look at your own flower arrangement and think about size relationships. How big are the flowers compared to the vase and to one another? What shape is their center?
3. Use a pencil to draw a vase that takes up the bottom half of the paper. (Draw big: start by drawing four dots that the edges of the vase should touch--this defines the big area your vase will take up.)
4. Above the vase, draw the same number of circles as there are flowers in the vase.
5. Draw the petals and then lastly, the stems.
6. Color in the sunflowers based on the type of feeling you want to express. For example, red could mean love or anger; orange could mean excited; yellow is happy; green is peaceful; blue is sad; purple is powerful.



**Take it further:** Read *Van Gogh and the Sunflowers* by Laurence Anholt or watch the read-aloud on YouTube by Allie Lamb: <https://youtu.be/J0nBIRFLzJw>

Lesson Adapted from: Art with Katie

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