

Art Activity Jim Dine Hearts



Summary:

Residents create concentric heart art in the style of Jim Dine.

Objectives:

- Increase positive self-esteem
- Promote a sense of accomplishment
- Facilitate expression of feelings
- Promote pro-social interaction



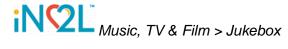


Supplies:

- Oil pastels (Cray-Pas brand is inexpensive)
- Watercolor paper
- Watercolor (or acrylic) paints and brushes
- Paper palette
- Water for rinsing brushes

Room Set Up:

- Tables protected with newsprint (or washable tables) for residents to work
- Position residents in chairs at tables
- Do not place art materials in front of residents until reviewing each step, so as not to overwhelm them
- Soft, instrumental music in the background







Facilitating the Activity

Procedure

1. Personally welcome residents to the group by saying each person's name and shaking each person's hand.

Say:

"Welcome! Today we are going to create amazing art with oil pastels and watercolor using a resist method. Resist is a popular fine art technique, where a picture is created using material like wax, glue, or in this case, an oil pastel, and then painted with a water-based material like watercolor paint. When the water-based paint is brushed over the oil pastels, the paint does not stick to the pastels, creating an interesting textural effect on your paper. We will be making art in the style of an artist named Jim Dine. He was fascinated with the heart as a subject of art and painted thousands of them."

Ask:

"What associations do you have with the heart?"

Elicit responses: love, life, vitality, energy, etc.

- 2. Pass out a selection of oil pastels and paper for each resident. You may recommend residents use a white pastel and make concentric hearts all the way to the edges of their paper.
- 3. Model drawing a small heart on the paper, near the middle.
- 4. Model drawing concentric hearts, each one a bit larger, around the original heart.
- 5. Invite residents to color and add designs to their hearts.
- 6. Model adding watercolor or thinned acrylic paint over the heart images.



Processing

Invite residents to compare/contrast their experience with the media (relaxing, curious, frustrating). Was this a new experience for them? Encourage residents to share their final art with each other. Ask about any inspiration.

Ask:

"Did you enjoy this activity? Would you like to do this again?"

Adaptations/Modifications

Cognitive Impairment: Mild to Moderate

- Consider paper size with lower functioning residents; larger paper may be intimidating.
- Limit the numbers of colors of pastels and watercolors, so as not to overwhelm.
- Praise and encourage all efforts.
- Do not place all materials in front of residents until they are ready to be used; for example, allow residents time to complete their initial drawings before providing watercolors.