



Noyes
Museum of Art
STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Lesson Plan: #NoyesArtatHome

Moran “Water Images” Drawing Project

Overview:

Donna Moran’s artwork is a blend of “landscape, fantasy, and architecture,” in digital and hands-on media including printmaking, painting and collage. She grew up in the Mid-West or “tornado-belt” and now calls New Jersey home. Moved by the damaging power of the forces of nature in both places, she sees similar dark forces in the current political environment. Her mixed-media work with its layers and mark making project the turbulence of our times.

Moran is a professor of fine art and dean of Pratt’s School of Art and Design in Brooklyn, NY. For many years she has taught life drawing, painting, and printmaking, among other classes. Her artwork is in the permanent collections of the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University, the New Jersey State Museum, the New York Public Library, and the Brooklyn Public Library.

Project Description:

“Stay indoors” while creating this “outdoors” scene. Follow three easy steps to create a semi-representational fantasy landscape.

Supplies:

8.5 x 11” piece of white paper
Pencil
Oil pastels, crayons or colored pencils

Steps:

1. Take a look at Donna Moran’s artwork, “Water Images” (see above.) This print is a **landscape**. In art, a **landscape** is a depiction of natural scenery. Landscapes may capture mountains, valleys, bodies of water, fields, forests, and coasts and may or may not include man-made structures and people.
2. Landscapes can be broken up into 3 sections: **foreground**, **middle-ground**, and **background**.



Donna Moran, *Water Images*, 1995,
lithograph
© Collection of the Noyes Museum of Art
of Stockton University

- The **foreground** is at the **front** of the image or what would appear to be closest to you, the viewer.
 - The **middle-ground** is located in the middle of the image.
 - The **background** is the land that is farthest away from the viewer. It may also include the sky.
3. Identify what is in the **foreground, middle-ground, and background**.
 - What do the orange triangles in the foreground look like to you? Mountains? A camp fire? A tropical “bird of paradise” plant?
 - What is in the middle-ground?
 - What is in the background?
 4. **Lines:** What kinds of lines do you see in this piece: straight, curved, wavy, angled, or zigzags?
 5. **Colors:** What colors do you see in this artwork?
 6. Follow steps A through C below by drawing only the shapes. **Color the shapes in later**, after you have “mapped out” the forms, in case you want to fix any shapes.

Step A: Begin by drawing the foreground.

- First, fold your piece of paper in half, vertically and horizontally, then open it back up. These middle lines will help guide us.
- Draw the outlines of the tall triangles. The peaks of the triangles should reach the middle horizontal line.
- Draw smaller triangles inside of the larger ones.
- Draw a horizontal, curved line below the peaks of the large triangles. It should look like a hill.

Step B: Draw the middle-ground.

- Draw the curved line of the water. Then, divide the curve into segments or “waves.”

Step C: Draw the background.

- The hills are divided by our folded vertical line.
 - To the left of this line, draw the curve of the left hill.
 - To the right of this line, draw the hill on the right side.
- Draw fluffy clouds.

8. Next, **color your shapes** in! Remember to look back at Donna Moran’s original piece of art for inspiration and reference. Add colors of your choosing within the shapes.
9. Lastly, use a black oil pastel, crayon or colored pencil to outline your shapes. Add expressive lines and zigzags within the shapes.
10. Look at your finished piece. What do you like about it and what would you change?

Share pictures of your artwork with us!

Post your pictures using the hashtag **#NoyesArtatHome**.

We will be posting work by community artists on our Noyes Museum social media pages.

For more information about the artist Donna Moran, visit her website at: <https://www.dlmoran.com/>

The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University · <http://www.noyesmuseum.org> · (609) 626-3420

The Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University · www.artsgarageac.com · (609) 626-3805

Check us out on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube

