

R|A|M

Sgraffito Art Activity Inspired by Gloria Hernandez

Gloria Hernandez is a Colombian artist who specializes in the Mata Ortiz style of pottery making. This style of pottery uses sgraffito, cut-outs, vivid colors, and geometric designs to recreate the Mogollon pottery style found at the historic sites of Casa Grandes in the Mexican state of Chihuahua. Sgraffito, meaning “scratch” in Italian, is a subtractive technique. Using this process, the artist creates a design by scratching or scraping off a surface that has been added to another surface—revealing the contrasting material below. Try your hand at sgraffito by creating your very own scratch art.



Gloria Hernandez
Vase, ca. 1995
Glazed earthenware
12 1/2 x 11 1/2 inches diameter
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Gary Rosenberg
Photography by Jon Bolton

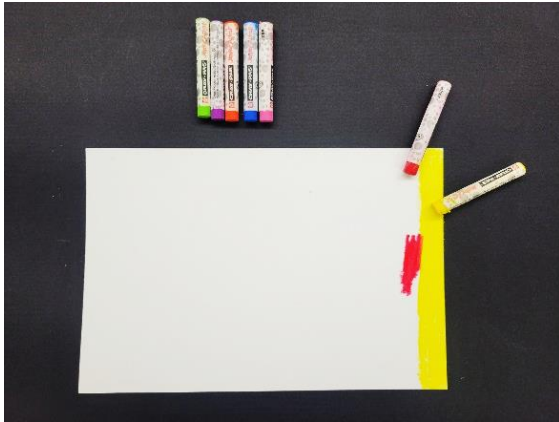
Supplies

- Sturdy white paper
- Oil pastels or crayons
- Black tempera paint
- Foam brush
- Toothpicks



Instructions

1. Cover the paper with colorful drawings using oil pastels or crayons. Make sure to cover the entire sheet of sturdy paper.



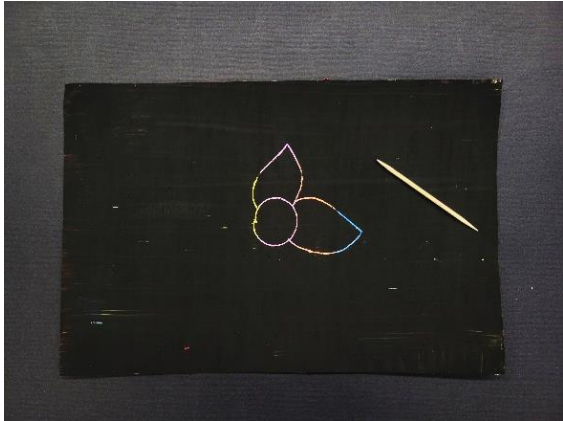
2. After you have completely filled the paper, paint over it using black tempera paint.



3. Allow the sheet to fully dry. TIP: Use a hair dryer to speed up the process.



4. Once the sheet is dry, use a toothpick to scratch designs into the painted piece of paper.



5. Fill the entirety of the paper to create a dynamic design. And, voilà!
You have created your own scratch art using the technique of sgraffito.

