Eric Carle Garden: Day 1

TIME: 40 min

MATERIALS

- White paper (regular printer paper is just fine)
- Large paint brushes
- Paint palette or plate
- Liquid tempera paint in a variety of colours
-   (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple)

PREP

In an effort not to make the tables a total disaster and to allow an edge to hold onto, I printed a large rectangle onto white paper. This gave them a guide so that they only painted to the line, not to the edge of the paper. This also helped them to carry their painted sheet to the drying rack.

On each sheet I wrote the colours I wanted them to paint, like "red + orange", "purple + blue", "green and yellow" etc so that I would ensure we had enough of each colour. Alternatively, you could assign tables or groups to do certain colours. Remember, it doesn't matter what each student paints because we're making the paper for all of us. Everyone will get all the colours, even if they don't paint all the colours.

STEPS

- Pour paint onto palettes or plates and divide them among students.
- Students will mix the paint on their sheet to cover the entire area. I recommend painting in one direction, rather than swirls or back and forth motions.
- Once the entire area is covered, leave it to dry.
- Each painted sheet will give 6 square blocks of colour to use for flowers, sun or cloud so think about how many elements each student will need to decide how much of each colour to paint. **For example: If you have 22 students, you'd need to paint at least 4 pages per colour, or 5 so that you'd get 30 squares just in case of mistakes. (4x6 = 24 squares, or 5x6= 30 squares).
- **They will need a little more green than any other colour so paint more green pages
- Before leaving for the day, take the papers off the drying rack or counter. They'll probably be curled, so flatten as best you can, then put them under something heavy to get weighed down overnight.

Eric Carle Garden: Day 2

TIME: 45-60 min

MATERIALS

- Painted papers from day 1
  (cut into chunks/strips - teacher to prep this ahead of time)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- White paper (for background)

PREP

Take the weighed down papers and cut off the white excess around the edges. I did this so that no student would accidentally have a half white, half red flower.

Once the edges are trimmed, cut the remaining sheet into 6 sections. Organize the painted paper sections by colour to make it easier for students to choose the colours they need.

STEPS

- Choose 5-6 colours for the tulips and take one of each painted paper.
- On the BACK of each paper chunk, draw two tulip shapes with a pencil. Cut out the tulips and set aside.
- On a blue paper chunk, draw 1-2 clouds and cut out, set aside.
- On a yellow/orange paper chunk, draw a sun and cut out small strips for the sun rays.
- On green paper chunks, cut thin strips for stems and cut some leaves.
- Once all painted paper has been cut into shapes, glue it down onto a white paper background.
  - Start with the stems, then leaves, then tulips so that you don't have to tuck the stem under after
  - Once the garden is done, add the sky elements.