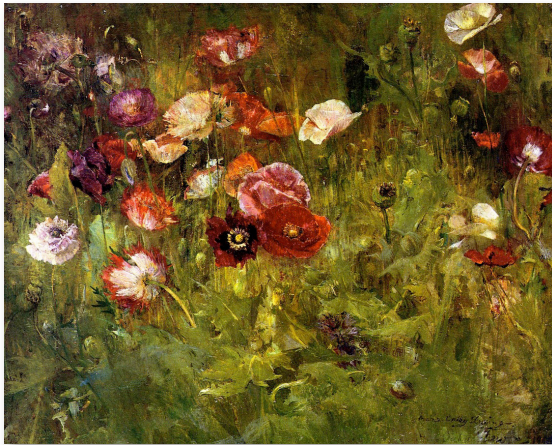




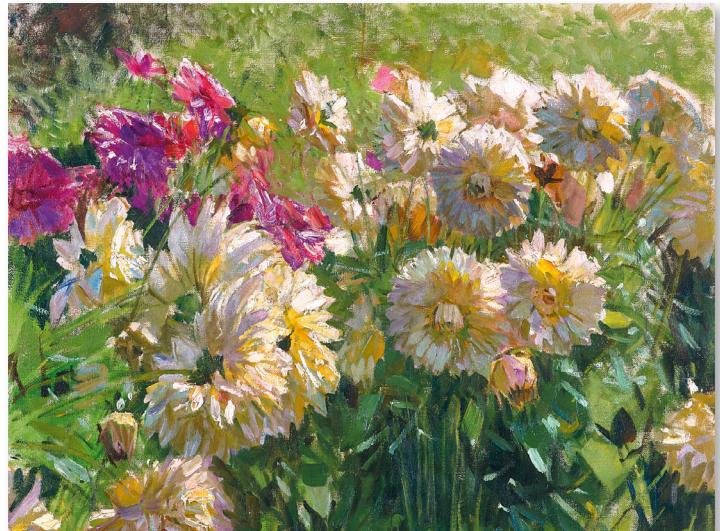
In this lesson, we will study **symmetry** and how having a balanced design is an important principle of art. When something is the same on both sides, like a butterfly or flower, it has formal balance or symmetry. First, we'll look at master artists, and see how they use this principle of art in their artwork. Then we'll apply this principle to create symmetry in our own art. In Project 1, we'll create a beautiful flower garden out of mixed media. In Project 2, we'll draw dramatic butterflies on black paper to further develop our understanding of symmetry in art.

### Masterpieces Referenced:

*Dahlias*, by Carl Moll • 1945



*A Bed of Poppies*, by Mary Oakey Dewing • 1909



*The Butterfly Hunter*, by Carl Spitzweg • 1840



*Anticlea Badiata*, by Paul Robert • 1945



*Butterflies*, by Wilhelm von Kaulbach • 1860

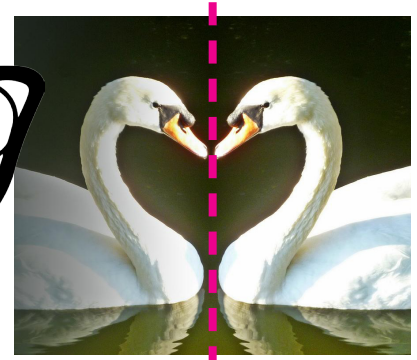
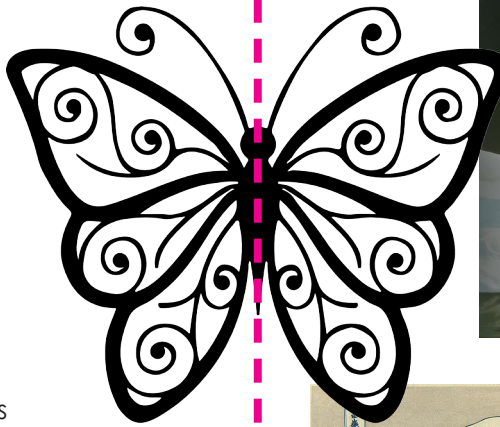
“**Butterflies... flowers that fly and all but sing.**”

— Robert Frost



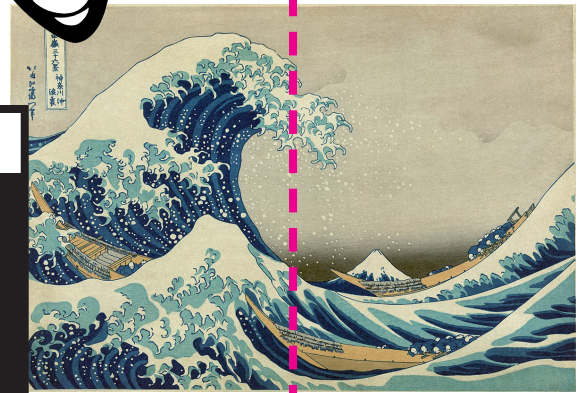
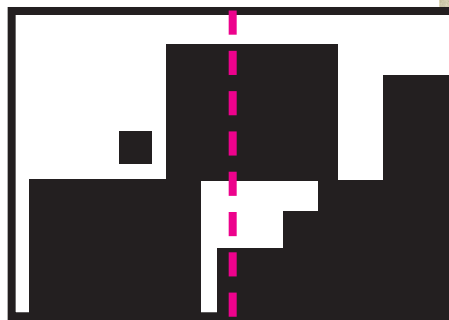
### Symmetry:

Symmetrical balance refers to elements that are equally weighted and arranged on either side of the center of a composition, like a mirror image. Because symmetrical balance can be thought of as 50/50 balance and has a very orderly structure, it is also known as **formal balance**.

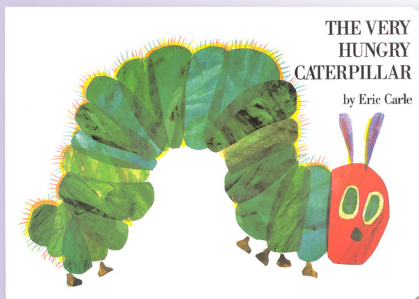


### Asymmetry:

Asymmetrical balance refers to two sides that are not identical and differ from one another. However, the elements are arranged so that there is still a sense of balance. In art, this balance is considered to be more dynamic because it integrates a variety of shapes, sizes, colors, textures, and lines in the composition.



### Sharon's Literature Inspiration:

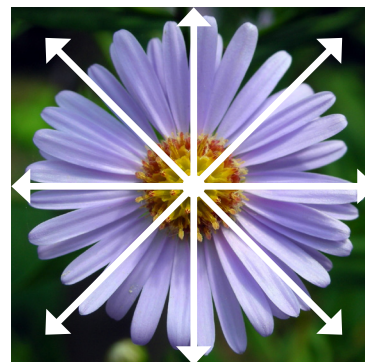


### Bible Lessons:

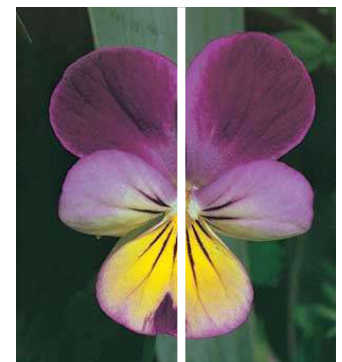
#### John 3:3

Jesus answered and said unto him, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

**Radial Symmetry:** A type of balance in which the parts of an object or picture are regularly arranged and radiate from a central point. In nature we can see radial symmetry in spider webs and some flowers.



**Bilateral Symmetry:** similar anatomical parts are arranged on opposite sides of a median axis so that only one plane can divide the individual into essentially identical halves. Here's an example in the flower below.



*“Happiness radiates like the fragrance from a flower and draws all good things towards you.”*

— Maharishi Mahesh Yogi



## Project 1: Flowers

Create a colorful floral garden scene by incorporating radial symmetry into flowers and spider webs. Add a fun 3-D, mixed-media look with tissue paper.

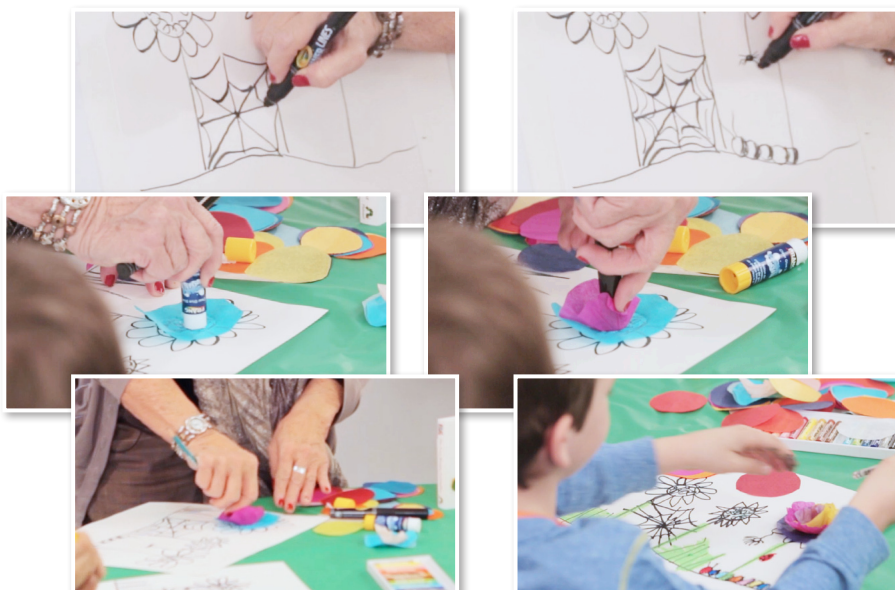
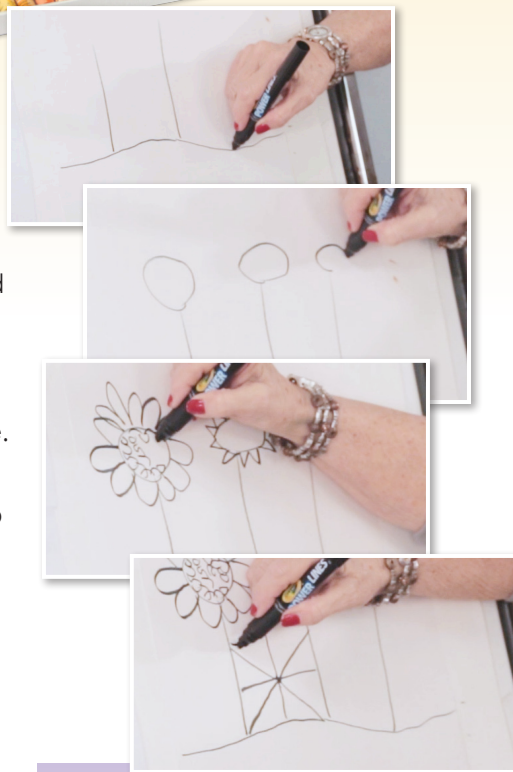
### Materials List:

- Tagboard Paper (12" x 18")
- Black Marker
- Glue Stick
- Tissue Paper (circular shaped)
- Oil Pastels



### Let's get started...

1. For a fun drawing space, cut the 12" x 18" paper down to 12" x 12".
2. With a black marker, draw a horizon line 1/3 of the way up the page. Then add 3 vertical lines for stems and 3 circles for the center of the flower at the top of each stem. Add petals to make the flowers and then draw squiggly lines in the circle for texture. Each flower should have balanced symmetry.
3. Once all 3 flowers are done, draw a spider web between the first and second flower with radial symmetry. Next, draw a caterpillar between the second and third flower. Add a spider hanging from the third flower. Add vertical lines for grass on both sides of your picture.
4. Color in the flowers, caterpillar and grass to create a whimsical garden scene. Next cut tissue paper into circle, or use pre-cut circular paper.
5. Finish by making 3-D flower petals with the tissue paper. Glue one circle flat to each flower. Then put a marker on the middle of the second circle and wrap the tissue around the marker and glue on top of first circle. For a third layer of tissue, wrap it around a pencil before gluing on top of the second circle.



### Sharon's Sample Artwork:







## Project 2: Butterflies

Create bold and beautiful symmetrical butterflies using oil pastels on black paper that pop with color.

### Materials List:

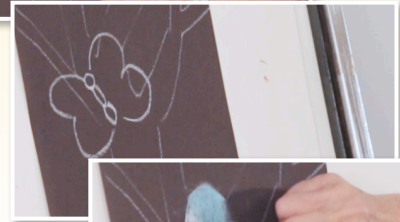
- Black Paper (9" x 12")
- White Oil Pastel
- Oil Pastels (colors)

### Let's get started...

1. With your paper vertical, take the white oil pastel and draw the outline of the tree incorporating several "Y" shapes for the branches.
2. Draw 3 aligned circles for the first butterfly body and 2 "B's" for the wings. One will look backwards. Then fill half of the wings with white starting at the body and moving out across each wing. Then color the other half of each wing light blue. Use your finger to blend the oil pastels together.
3. With bright colors, add dots and patterns to the butterfly wings. Make sure to place the same mark on both wings to keep symmetry. Continue to use your finger to blend and soften the designs on the wings.
4. Continue drawing more butterflies on your paper in white. Then add the same colorful patterns to both butterfly wings for symmetry. Have fun making the butterflies colorful and bright.

**Art Tip:** To make light colors such as yellow appear bright on black paper, apply a layer of white first before applying yellow.

5. Finish the butterflies with a black oil pastel. Add detail lines, spots and designs evenly to both wings and fill in the bodies with black. Don't forget to add little butterfly antennae to their heads!
6. Once butterflies are done, fill in the tree with brown, then black lines for the bark texture. For added fun, add some white dots in the sky for stars.



### Sharon's Sample Artwork:





Project 1: Sharon's Finished Artwork





Project 1: Students' Finished Artwork

West • Age 7



Haven • Age 9





*Project 2:* Sharon's Finished Artwork





Project 2: Students' Finished Artwork



West • Age 7



Haven • Age 9