



Activity #4:

Cubist Clover: Mary Swanzy Abstract Art

Creative Thinking, Art Concepts

(Preparation: 5-10 minutes / Activity Time: 30-45 minutes)

PROJECT:

[Cubist Clover: St. Patrick's Day Abstract Art For Kids](https://www.woojr.com/st-patricks-day-abstract-art-for-kids/)

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ABSTRACT ART- MARY SWANZY

In honor of the Irish St. Patrick's Day holiday in March, we'll be exploring the art style of Mary Swanzy!

Who is Mary Swanzy?

Mary Swanzy, born in 1882, was an abstract artist from Dublin, Ireland. She studied art in Ireland, Germany, and France- she became fluent in German and French! While in France, she was exposed to the artwork of Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso. The work of these prominent artists inspired her.

She applied abstract styles to her paintings, which were usually of landscapes, village life, and other scenery. Many of her paintings depicted Irish landscapes. Other artists celebrated her for her bright colors and the cheerfulness and positivity in her artwork. She traveled to many interesting places during her life, such as Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hawaii, London, Samoa, and even nearby in Santa Barbara, California! During her travels, she discovered new people, villages, and exotic plants to paint.

Her artwork has been displayed in galleries all over the world and has been used to teach art students about abstract art and cubism. She is known as one of Ireland's very first abstract painters.

What is Abstract Art?

Abstract is art that does not attempt to represent external reality, but seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, forms, colors, and textures.

What is Cubism?

Cubism is an early 20th-century style and movement in art, especially painting, which utilizes simple geometric shapes, interlocking planes, and collage concepts to produce images.

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