Watercolor Solar Systems

About the Artist:

Sarah Fox’s multi-media narratives and characters are created from embodied female experience. Stories of life, loss, love are told through hybrid creatures. The resulting collages, drawings, sculptures and animations suggest a childlike fairytale but with an undercurrent of dark symbolism. Her work has been shown throughout Texas, as well as in the Kinsey Institute (Bloomington, Indiana), Field Projects Gallery (New York, New York), Espacio Dörffi (Lanzarote, Canary Islands), Bedsetter Art Fair (Vienna, Austria), Atelierhaus Hilmsen (Hilmsen, Germany) and Casa Lu (Mexico City, Mexico).

Project Overview:

This project serves as an introduction to watercolor painting and color mixing. We will discuss the planets and the solar system. Students will make watercolor solar systems using a variety of watercolor techniques.

Objectives:

* Students will be introduced to watercolor.
* Students will learn how to mix colors.
* Students will learn about patterns and create a simple pattern to put on their pot.

Discussion:

* We will discuss color, the primary, secondary colors and how to mix them.
* We will discuss different watercolor techniques including crayon resist and salt leave ins.
* We will discuss the solar system and the order of the planets.
Materials:
* Watercolors
* Watercolor paper
* Black paper
* Paint brushes
* White paint pens
* Crayons
* Salt
* Scissors

Process:
Day 1:
1. Discussion the solar system and planets.
2. Demo and discuss primary versus secondary colors and how to mix them.
3. Students trace a circle on their watercolor paper, cut their first planet and paint using primary colors

Day 2:
1. Demonstration of watercolor resist using crayons.
3. Demonstration of leave ins (salt, feathers, etc)

Day 3:
1. Glue white watercolor circles on their black paper.
2. Draw stars and star clusters on black paper.

TEKS:
Science:
- 112.15. (B7) (B8)

Fine Art:
- 117.114. (A1) (A2) (B1) (B3)

Vocabulary:
1. Primary Colors: Red, Yellow, Blue, Colors that cannot be created and are used to make all other colors.
2. Secondary Colors: Orange, Green, Purple, the colors that are created from mixing the 3 primaries.