

A close-up photograph of a person's hands painting a watercolor landscape on a white sheet of paper. The person is using a brush to apply blue paint, creating a soft, blended effect. The background is blurred, showing a light-colored surface and a person's arm in a blue sleeve.

# Exploring Watercolor and self care

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# “Paint for Peace, Not Perfection”

## Materials: ([video 1](#))

- Watercolor paper (90+lbs)
- Medium round watercolor brush
- Watercolor paint
- Flat pans
- Water to blend
- Water for cleaning brush
- Paper towel

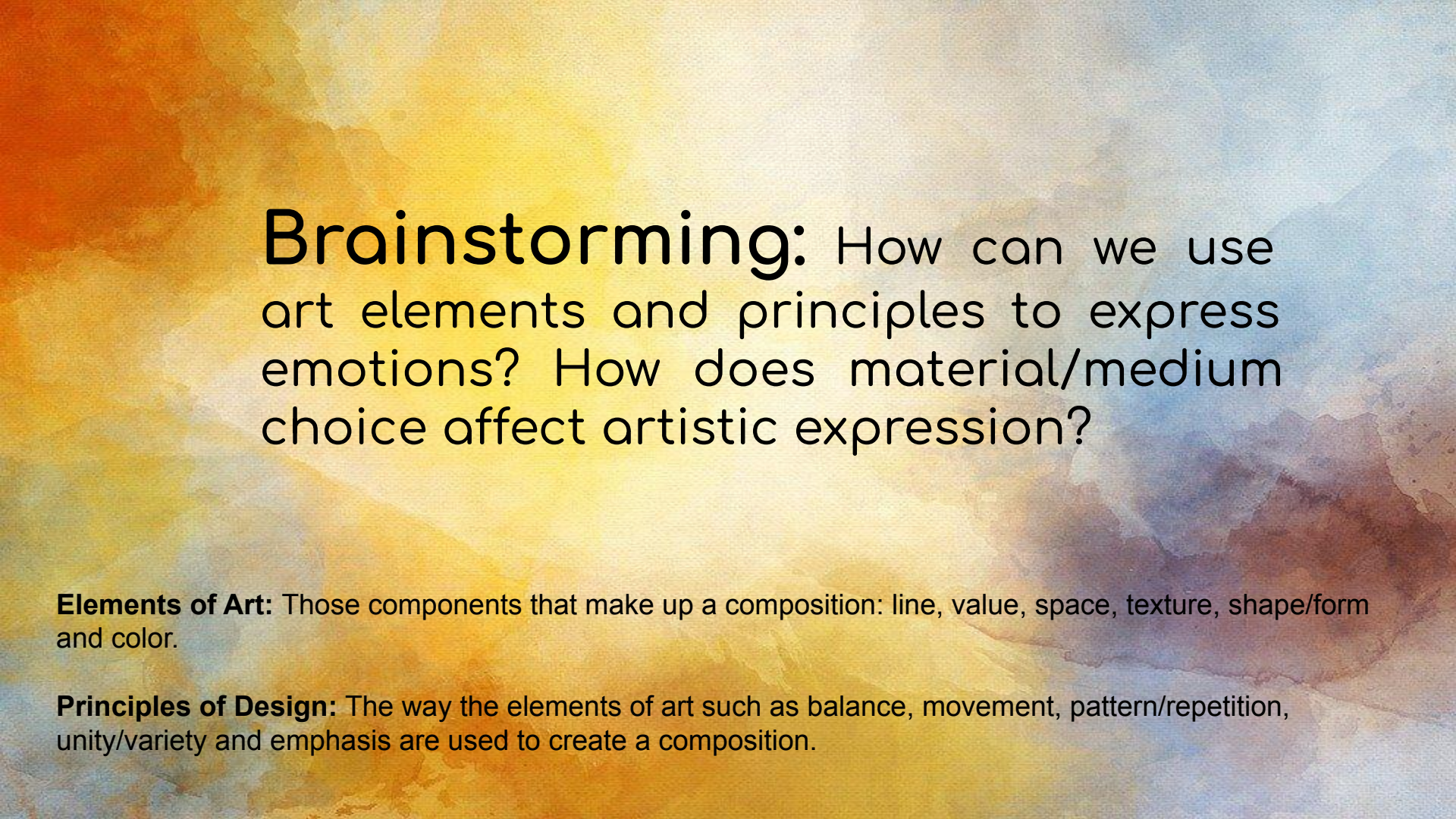
## Additional Materials Needed

- Drawing pencils
- Color pencils
- Permanent Marker

**Tip:** *Your paper will curl up as it gets wet. You may need to let it dry and then put pressure on it.*

## Technique: ([video 2](#))

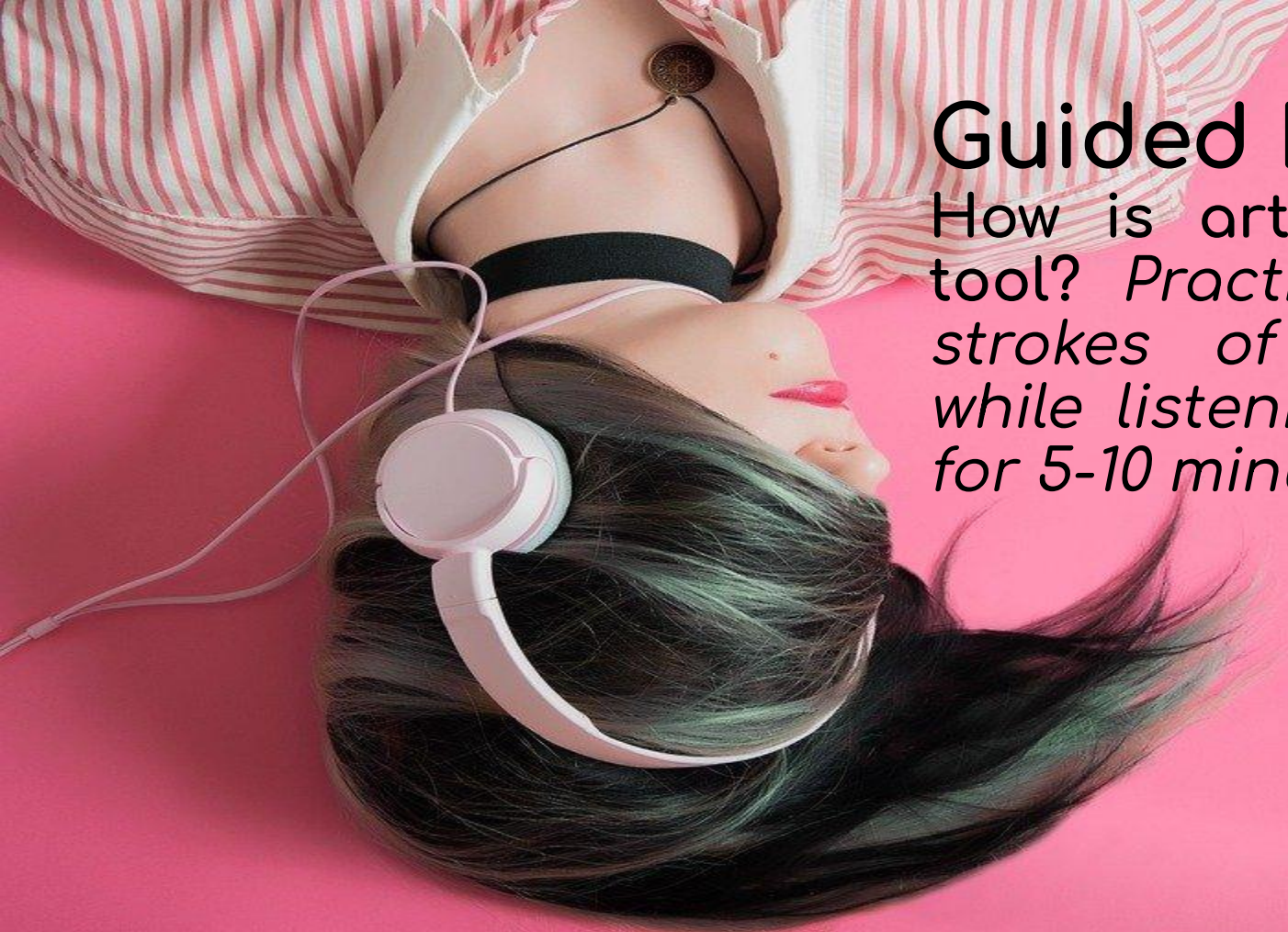
1. Load your brush with water, tap excess off.
2. Load color from tray, tap and stroke color on flat pan/tray.
3. Apply paint to the paper:
  - a. Experiment with long and short strokes.
  - b. Experiment with holding the brush at different angles.
4. Add water to dilute the color.
  - a. More water = Lighter color
5. Clean brush before changing color.
6. If your stroke feels dry, add water.
7. If your stroke feels bland, add color.



**Brainstorming:** How can we use art elements and principles to express emotions? How does material/medium choice affect artistic expression?

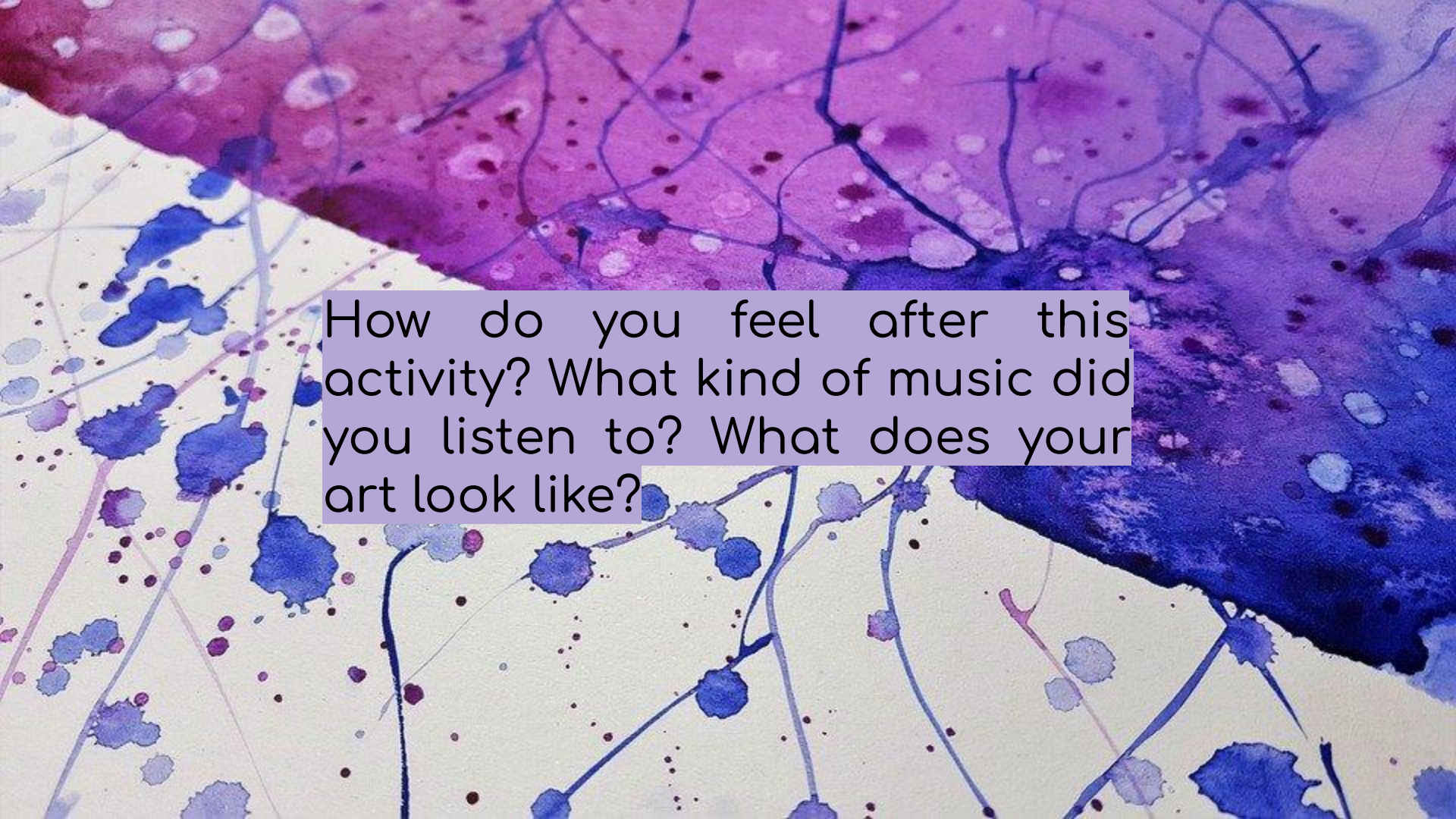
**Elements of Art:** Those components that make up a composition: line, value, space, texture, shape/form and color.

**Principles of Design:** The way the elements of art such as balance, movement, pattern/repetition, unity/variety and emphasis are used to create a composition.



## Guided Practice:

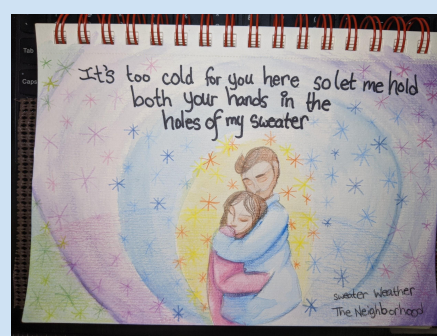
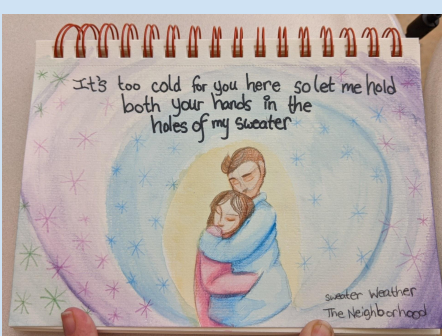
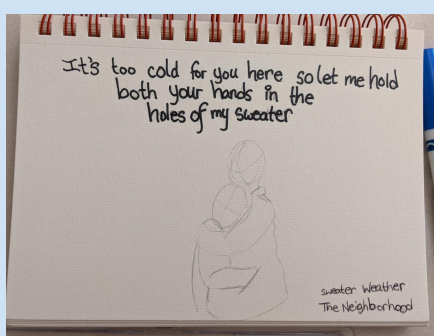
How is art used as a tool? *Practice different strokes of the brush while listening to music for 5-10 minutes.*

The background is an abstract watercolor painting. It features a mix of colors including deep purple, magenta, blue, and pink. The paint is applied in various ways, creating soft, blended areas and more defined, organic shapes that resemble veins or cellular structures. There are also small, scattered dots and splatters of color throughout the composition. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid in the center, containing text.

How do you feel after this activity? What kind of music did you listen to? What does your art look like?

# Activity:

1. Choose a lyric or set of lyrics from a song that are meaningful to you.
2. Make a **4-9 square set of thumbnail sketches** (1 page) of a composition that portrays the lyrics you chose.
  - a. This is a good time to sketch out thumbs for multiple lyrics if your heart isn't set on a particular choice yet.
  - b. Be considerate of where your song title and lyrics will go in the composition. You may use a block or line as a space saver.
3. Fold your paper in half - we are making a greeting card. **Draft a full composition on the front cover** that showcases those lyrics. \*Give credit to the band/artist(s) and provide the title of the song on your sketch.
4. Use your completed draft to start **your final artwork**. Finish details with color pencils and markers as needed.
5. Take pictures and make a **process board** so we can see your techniques and choices in material.
6. When you are done, write yourself a message on the inside of the card.
7. Create a **Google Doc or Google Slide Presentation of your final work with a title page** for a quick critique next class.



Taking different angled images close-up can help your viewer see finer details they may have missed while observing the artwork as a whole image from a distance.

# Your Final Presentation Document

**Students will present a digital document (Google Slides or Doc)**

1. Include a **title page** with student name, class, title for the project/artwork, and subtitle of “Watercolor”.
2. Include **thumbnail sketches** (4-9 images on 1 page).
3. Include **draft of composition** (1 page).
4. Include **process board** images in this document (up to 2 pages).
5. Include the **final image**. *\*Multiple views are encouraged.*
  - a. One full page image of the final.
  - b. Up to one additional page of close-up images for detail.

***We will have a quick informal critique/presentation during our next class.***