

Introducing: PICASSO – Intermediate Level



INTRODUCING PABLO PICASSO

Spanish 1881-1973 (pee-KAH-soe)

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

PROPS

AUDIO: Flamenco Guitar Music

SUPPLIES: Large Paper/Board and Marker

PRINT – Large Picasso Poster

CARD: Artist Name – Date

VOCABULARY

Realistic, Abstract, Blue Period, Cool Colors, Rose Period, Warm Colors, Cubism, Pattern, Profile, Classical Period

SLIDES

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Artist Name/Date</i> | 10. <i>Warm Colors</i> |
| 2. <i>Paul and Paloma</i> | 11. <i>French Circus</i> |
| 3. <i>Spain</i> | 12. <i>Two Rose Period Paintings</i> |
| 4. <i>Art School</i> | 13. <i>Cubism</i> |
| 5. <i>Self-Portrait</i> | 14. <i>Pattern</i> |
| 6. <i>Blue Period</i> | 15. <i>Profile</i> |
| 7. <i>Cool Colors</i> | 16. <i>Classical Art</i> |
| 8. <i>Two Blue Period Paintings</i> | 17. <i>Classical Period</i> |
| 9. <i>Rose Period</i> | 18. <i>Pablo Picasso/Vocabulary</i> |

1. SLIDE – ARTIST NAME/DATE

MOTIVATION

Today let's pretend that you have a father who is a famous artist. He wants to paint your portrait, so you pose for him in his studio. He is going to paint you twice. In the first portrait you will be sitting in a chair wearing a clown costume. The second one also has you sitting in a chair, but this time you will be holding an orange, which is your favorite fruit. Do you think the portraits will be similar in style, because the same artist painted them? Let's see how this famous artist painted his children.

DEVELOPMENT

2. SLIDE – PAUL AND PALOMA

Does this look like the same artist painted both portraits? (NO) Are the styles different from each other? (YES) The same artist painted BOTH pictures. Are you surprised? The left portrait is a **REALISTIC** looking painting of the artist's son, Paul. Does the right portrait look realistic? (NO) He painted his daughter, Paloma, in an **ABSTRACT** style, which means it does not look real; it does not look like a photograph.

The styles are different, because he kept on changing the way he painted. He was never content to stay with what was successful. His painting styles would become popular, and other artists would begin to copy him. Then he would be off trying something completely new. That is one reason why he is one of the most famous artists of the 1900s. Let's meet today's master artist and find out how and why his work changed.

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3. SLIDE – SPAIN

Let me introduce Pablo Picasso. He was born in Spain, but lived in France most of his life. He was introduced to art very early, because his father was a painter and an art teacher. He learned to draw before he could even walk or talk!

4. SLIDE – ART SCHOOL

He was so good at drawing that he entered an art school at age thirteen. Most of the other students were over twenty years old, but young Picasso was more talented. The directors allowed young Picasso to attend after seeing samples of his excellent work, like the painting of the girl in the red dress. He showed great talent and completed the art course in record time.

5. SLIDE – SELF-PORTRAIT

Picasso had two sides to him that we can't see in this self-portrait. One side was fun loving and silly. But he had many unhappy times in his life, too. Which side is he showing us here? (SERIOUS, SAD) After he left art school, he had some hard years as an artist. He was unknown, he was hungry, and he was lonely. The paintings he did during this time showed how he felt. He was unhappy.

6. SLIDE – BLUE PERIOD

Have you ever heard the expression, "feeling blue?" Does that mean you're feeling sad or happy? (SAD) When Picasso painted this he was feeling lonely, poor, and depressed. When Picasso arrived in Paris, he spent some unhappy years there as a struggling, young artist. Do those feelings show in this painting? (YES) This time in his life is called his BLUE PERIOD.

7. SLIDE – COOL COLORS

What colors did he use most? (BLUES, DARK COLORS) Is blue a warm or cool color? (COOL) During the Blue Period, Picasso used a lot of darker shades of blue. What color would he have mixed with his blue paint to get this palette? (BLACK)

Look closely at this man in the painting. Can you tell me what is physically wrong with him? (BLIND) Look how his fingers nervously reach out for the pitcher on the table. Picasso emphasized the sense of touch so important to a blind person. The title of this painting is *The Blind Man's Meal*. Picasso had a real fear of losing his own eyesight, even though there was nothing wrong with him on which to base this fear.

8. SLIDE – TWO BLUE PERIOD PAINTINGS

During his Blue Period Picasso always painted in blue colors, and all the people appeared very sad to match his own mood. He also showed the people being very tall and thin as the *Old Guitarist*, who was also blind. Picasso changed the way they really looked to make them appear even more sad and lonely.

9. SLIDE – ROSE PERIOD

Are Picasso's colors getting warmer or cooler in this painting? (WARMER) That's correct, Picasso started to use warm colors as his own life became happier. Have you heard the expression "life is rosy?" Are things good or bad when "life is rosy?" (GOOD) Picasso was beginning to gain notice as an artist, which made it possible to sell some of his paintings, so he wasn't so poor. Picasso's ROSE PERIOD followed his Blue Period.

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10. SLIDE – WARM COLORS

Picasso started to use somewhat happier, lighter, warmer colors like you see here. What warm colors do we find in this painting? (ORANGE, ROSE, PINK, RED, BROWN) Picasso still used blue colors, but he made the painting happier looking by adding warm colors like rose.

11. SLIDE – FRENCH CIRCUS

Do you like to go to the circus? Picasso loved the circus, just like you. He became friends with some of the circus performers and traveled around with them as they went from town to town doing their circus shows. Most of the Rose Period paintings were of circus people. This painting shows a circus family wearing their costumes.

When you go to a circus, how does it make you feel? (EXCITED, HAPPY) Did Picasso show the circus family that way? (NO) Did he show them performing? (NO) Maybe he wanted to show that circus life was not always happy and exciting behind the scenes when they weren't performing.

Can you guess which tall, serious man in this painting is Picasso's self-portrait? (MAN ON LEFT) Do you think he secretly wished he was a circus performer too?

12. SLIDE – TWO ROSE PERIOD PAINTINGS

Are these Rose Period paintings? (YES) How can you tell? (USED WARM COLORS, CIRCUS COSTUME) The mother and son and the two brothers are looking a little bit tired after their acrobatic performance in the circus.

I think you will be surprised at how Picasso changes in this next painting. Create a picture of three musicians in your mind. Ready?

13. SLIDE – CUBISM

Was this a surprise? (YES) Did Picasso change his style of art *completely* in this painting? (YES) Why does it look so strange? Imagine we are looking at these musicians from the front. Then we walk all around and see them from the back, the sides, the top, and the bottom. Picasso took all those possible views and combined them in one composition. This style of showing things from all different views is called CUBISM, named after the cube.

Picasso didn't paint his musicians in regular clothes. He painted them in circus clown outfits. Look closely at the painting for answers to my questions. Show me your answers by holding up the correct number of fingers. How many musical instruments can you find? (THREE) How many music books are there? (ONE) How many violins can you find? (ONE)

That's very good! Can you identify the three instruments? (VIOLIN, KEYBOARD, HORN) Picasso mixed up all those shapes and lines to make it like a puzzle we have to put together.

Let's solve the puzzle with one more search: Can you find the side view of the clown's face somewhere other than on his face? (ON THE CLOWN'S CHEST, PART OF THE INSTRUMENT - POINT IT OUT IN THE SLIDE)

14. SLIDE – PATTERN

Raise your hand if this is a Cubist painting. (YES) What do you see that is similar to *Three Musicians*? (MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS) Picasso loved music, and musical instruments can be found in many of his paintings. The musical instruments you see here are a guitar and mandolin. What color is the guitar? (WHITE)

Another feature of Cubism is showing all sides of objects, and if you look carefully at the yellow mandolin, you will be able to see this. Can you find the top, side, and bottom view of the instrument? (POINT OUT ON SLIDE)

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Let's turn our attention to the bright colors Picasso used. He keeps our eyes exploring the painting by repeating the design and colors. Let's go on a color search! Notice the blues in the sky. Can you find where Picasso repeated that same blue? (WALL, UNDER TABLE, WITH INSTRUMENTS) That's good color searching.

Are you ready for a PATTERN search? How would you define PATTERN? (LINE, SHAPE OR COLOR THAT REPEATS) Find where he repeated the checkered design above the window. (FLOOR, UNDER TABLE) Picasso was talented at making our eyes explore every detail!

I want you to imagine asking Picasso to paint your portrait. And when you see it, surprise! It's done in a Cubist style!

15. SLIDE – PROFILE

How do you think this woman liked her portrait? Give me thumbs up or thumbs down. As you can see, he used solid colors, angles and shapes rather than realistic details. Let's see how he was able to show more than one view of a face in the same painting.

Hold up your hand in front of your eyes so that it blocks the right side of the woman's face. You should only be able to see the left side of the woman's face, the side that shows her hand. (POINT OUT ON SLIDE) Is that a front or side view of her face? (FRONT) That eye is looking forward. Now move your hand so that it blocks the side we were just looking at. You are now looking at the right side of her face. (POINT OUT ON SLIDE) Is that a front or side view of her face? (SIDE VIEW) Another word for side view is PROFILE. Notice that the eye, nose, and mouth are turned sideways.

16. SLIDE – CLASSICAL ART

Picasso took a trip to Italy and saw many beautiful museum sculptures that were made long ago. These sculptures were made of marble, which is a very hard stone. It comes in many colors, but the sculptures Picasso saw were mostly in white marble. Some of these sculptures are so old that only parts of them remain. This head is all that is left of a sculpture that was made more than 2,000 years ago. This kind of art made by the ancient Greeks and Romans is called CLASSICAL.

Picasso loved the smooth, very rounded shapes of these sculptures. When he went back to France, he was inspired to recreate what he saw.

17. SLIDE – CLASSICAL PERIOD

Instead of sculpting marble as the artists of long ago had done, he did paintings of very smooth, rounded people that look like they had been carved out of marble. He used warm, rich colors and sometimes dressed the people in the same clothing and hairstyles that he saw on the marble statues in the museums. Picasso's new way of painting was called the CLASSICAL PERIOD just like the ancient art he had seen.

CONCLUSION

18. SLIDE – PABLO PICASSO/VOCABULARY

Now we know Picasso through his paintings. Let's review his life through what we've learned about his painting styles. When he was a young, struggling artist he painted sad things, his Blue Period. We know he began to gain attention as an artist and his paintings began to sell. He was happier, got married, and his style changed to be called the _____ (ROSE PERIOD). Remember what came next? He broke things up into many views, showed shapes, and used his imagination. What was this period called? (CUBISM) Then he became interested in the art of long ago on a visit to Italy and changed again to his _____ (CLASSICAL PERIOD). Are all the styles very different from each other? (YES)

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Let's use all this knowledge of Picasso's styles by playing a game! I'm going to divide you into two groups and you will need to know the four periods of his art to help your team win. Say the four periods in order with me: **Blue Period, Rose Period, Cubist Period, Classical Period.**

I will describe something about Picasso's art. If you can identify to which period it belongs, raise your hand. For every correct answer, your team earns a letter of Picasso's last name. With an equal number of turns, the first team to complete his name is our winner. We'll call you our "Perfect Picassos!" Any questions? If one team answers incorrectly, the question goes to the other team. Let's see which group is the "Perfect Picassos!"

(USE LARGE PAPER/BOARD AND MARKER TO PLAY GAME. TO BEGIN, EACH TEAM WILL GET SEVEN UNDERLINING DASHES FOR LETTERS OF PICASSO'S LAST NAME. EACH TIME A CORRECT ANSWER IS GIVEN, THE INSTRUCTOR OR "TEAM CAPTAIN" CAN FILL IN THE CORRECT LETTER.)

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|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Blind Man | Blue | 8. Many bright colors | Cubist |
| 2. Mandolin & Guitar | Cubist | 9. People thin and sad | Blue |
| 3. Circus paintings | Rose | 10. Added reds to blues | Rose |
| 4. Views from all sides | Cubist | 11. Musical instruments | Cubist |
| 5. Poor, lonely | Blue | 12. Admired art of long ago | Classical |
| 6. Trip to Italy | Classical | 13. Rich like marble sculptures | Classical |
| 7. Had hope, married | Rose | 14. Puzzles | Cubist |

You listened well, and I declare the winning team our "Perfect Picassos!" Muy Bien! (MOO-EE BEE-EN -VERY GOOD) Adios!