

# MoNA

Museum of Northwest Art

Age: Fifth Grade

Lesson Duration: 1 hour

Subject: History

## Food Chain Watercolor Resists Inspired by Jaune Quick-to-See Smith

A HANDS-ON ART ACTIVITY  
DESIGNED BY MONA EDUCATORS



Image source: MoNA Educator example

### Materials

- Watercolor paper
- Liquid watercolors and containers
- Oil pastels
- Brushes
- Water cups
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Black Sharpies

### Description

Students will create a watercolor resist that depicts an accurate food chain of their choice. Their work will be inspired by the art of Jaune Quick-to-See Smith.

### Relevant Vocabulary

- Food chain
- Habitat
- Energy
- System
- Ecosystem
- Resist

## Instructions

1) Discuss food chains with students and ask what they already know. Then have them watch the video to continue discussing or clarify.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aesKZR7J2nl> or

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZhE2p46vJk> offer great examples!

2) Have each student plan a food chain with three links and sketch it out with pencil on watercolor paper. **Optional**--they can do these as a self-portrait, thinking of their favorite foods.

3) Show students the artwork of Jaune Quick-to-See Smith and discuss the way she shows the relationships between elements of nature. Students can then trace their design with black Sharpie and erase the pencil if necessary.

4) Next, they can use oil pastel to add touches of color and lay the foundation for the resist process. It would be helpful to model this part so they can see how the oil pastel will shine through the watercolor.

5) Finally, they can paint over their drawing with liquid watercolor to create the resist.

## Learning and State Standards

Fulfills **Washington State Arts Learning Standards:**

- **VA:Cr1.1.5** Combine ideas to generate an innovative idea for art-making
- **VA:Cr2.2.5** Demonstrate quality craftsmanship through care for and use of materials, tools, and equipment



# Meet the Artist

## Jaune Quick-to-See Smith

Known for her abstract paintings and collage, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith is an enrolled Salish member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Nation, Montana. She graduated from Olympic College in Washington in 1960.



Image Source: <https://www.jaunequicktoseesmith.org/>



Image Source: <https://www.artsy.net/artwork/jaune-quick-to-see-smith-i-see-red-10000-years>

In her work, she uses slogans and signage from commercial companies, as well as her own stories and knowledge of art history. Her art is not strictly focused on plants, animals, or humans, but rather the relationship they all have with each other, positive or negative. Her work highlights issues Native Americans face, the destruction of the environment, and addresses the myths of her ancestors.



Image Source:

<https://www.artnet.com/artists/jaune-quick-to-see-smith/>



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