



SONOMA VALLEY MUSEUM OF ART

Art Rewards The Student

ARTS@Home



A Poppy Pop-up Card!

Teaching Artist: Sarah Parker

Lesson Overview:

Project Description: Need a special springtime gift? Take a closer look at a California poppy and then turn it into a beautiful card for someone special.

Medium or Technique: Cardmaking, Pop-up

Materials Used: Pencil, Scissors, Drawing or Construction Paper, Glue or Paste, Coloring Supplies (optional)

A little bit about Georgia O'Keefe: *(Poppy image courtesy of [O'Keefe Museum](#))*



Georgia O'Keefe was an American artist. She grew up in Wisconsin and studied art in Chicago and New York. She had her own unique style of painting and drawing, and is known all over the world for her images of flowers, skulls, skies, landscapes, buildings, and many other things. She made art about the things that she found interesting and lived her life in a brave and unique way. She once said, "I've been absolutely

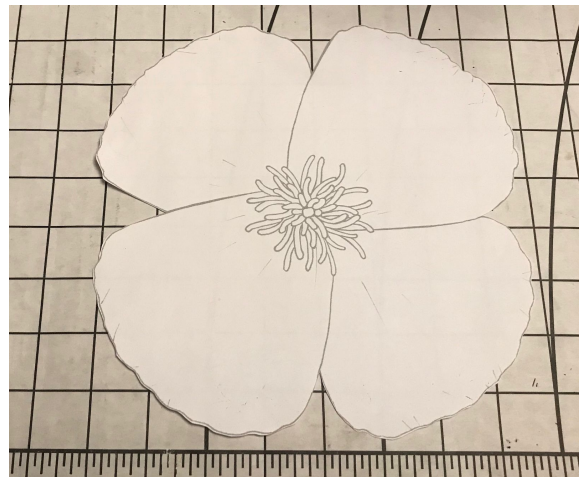
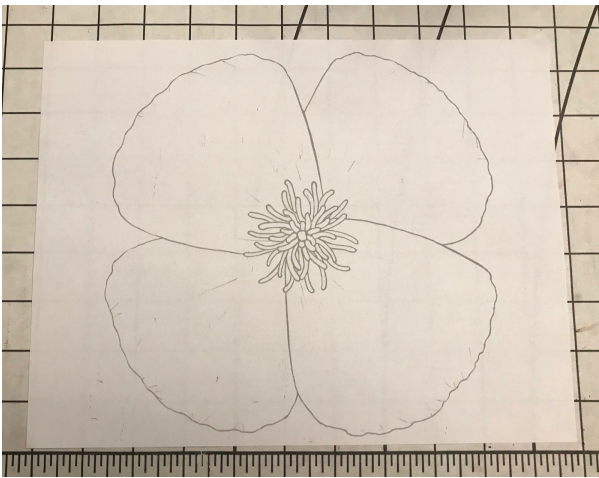
terrified every moment of my life - and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do." She painted all the way until she died at the age of 98, even though she had lost most of her eyesight. Can you dare to be a brave and bold artist like Georgia O'Keefe?

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Instructions:

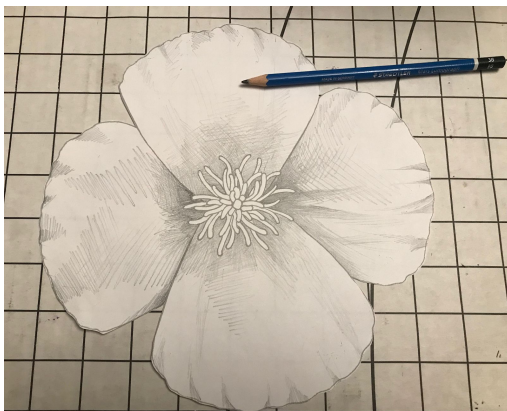
Step 1: Print, Draw, or Trace Your California Poppy

At the end of this lesson, you'll find a drawing of a poppy. You can use it as a guide to draw your own poppy, you can cut it out and trace it onto colored paper, or you can just print it and color it. If you go outside and take a walk, see if you can find a California poppy and spend a moment looking at it deeply. California poppies don't like to be picked and will wilt quickly, so maybe take a picture if you want to remember what it looks like later. Sometimes it is easier to color your flower before you cut it out. You decide.



Step 2: Color Your Poppy

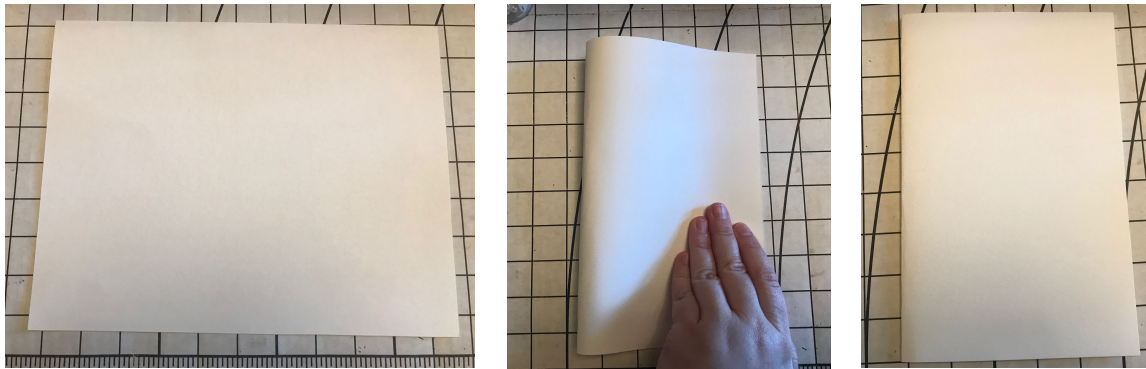
Most California poppies you see are orange, but they also come in white, yellow, peach, pink, and even red! Use anything you like to add color to your poppy. If you don't have anything to color with, you can still make your poppy beautiful and special by adding shading, patterns, and even secret messages.



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Step 3: Fold Your Card

Decide what kind of paper your card will be made out of. 8.5"x11" or 9"x12" size paper works well. Thin paper like copy paper will work, but something a little heavier is good if you have it. Your paper can be white or colored and you can print leaves on it before you fold it, or you can add them later. Fold your paper carefully in half (hamburger fold) and give it a nice crease.

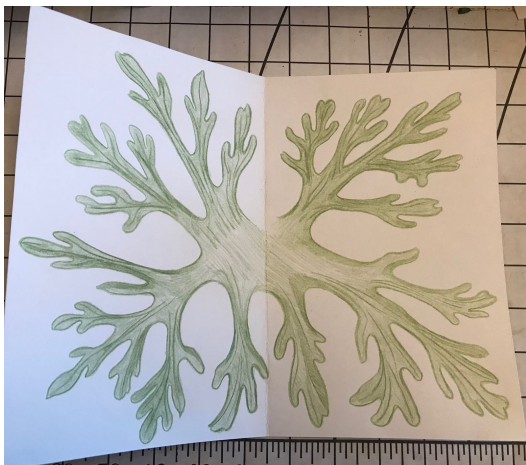


Step 4: Add Some Leaves

Here are some fun ways to add leaves to your card:

- Print the leaves at the end of this lesson on white or colored paper. Then add color, patterns, or messages to it.
- Cut out your own paper leaves and paste them inside of your card. California poppy leaves are kind of fine and lacy, but you could have a "Bouquet" made out of any kind of leaves!
- Draw or color your own leaves on one side of your paper with whatever materials you have around.

Making my own leaves with colored pencil:



Coloring in the printed leaves with a pencil:

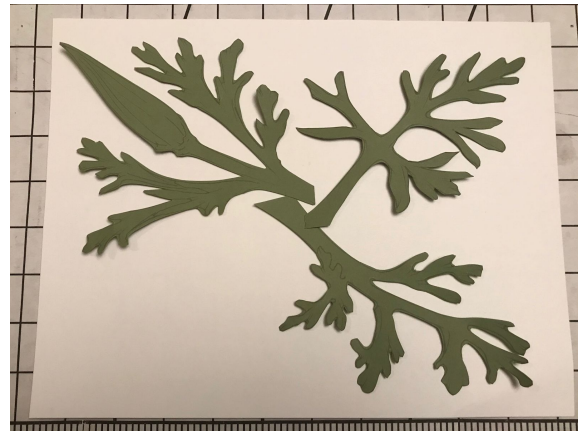


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Leaves printed on colored paper:



Leaves printed on colored paper and cut out:



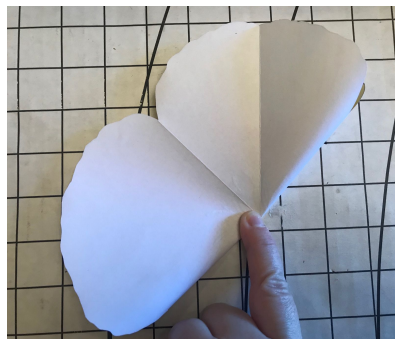
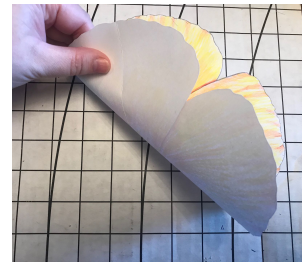
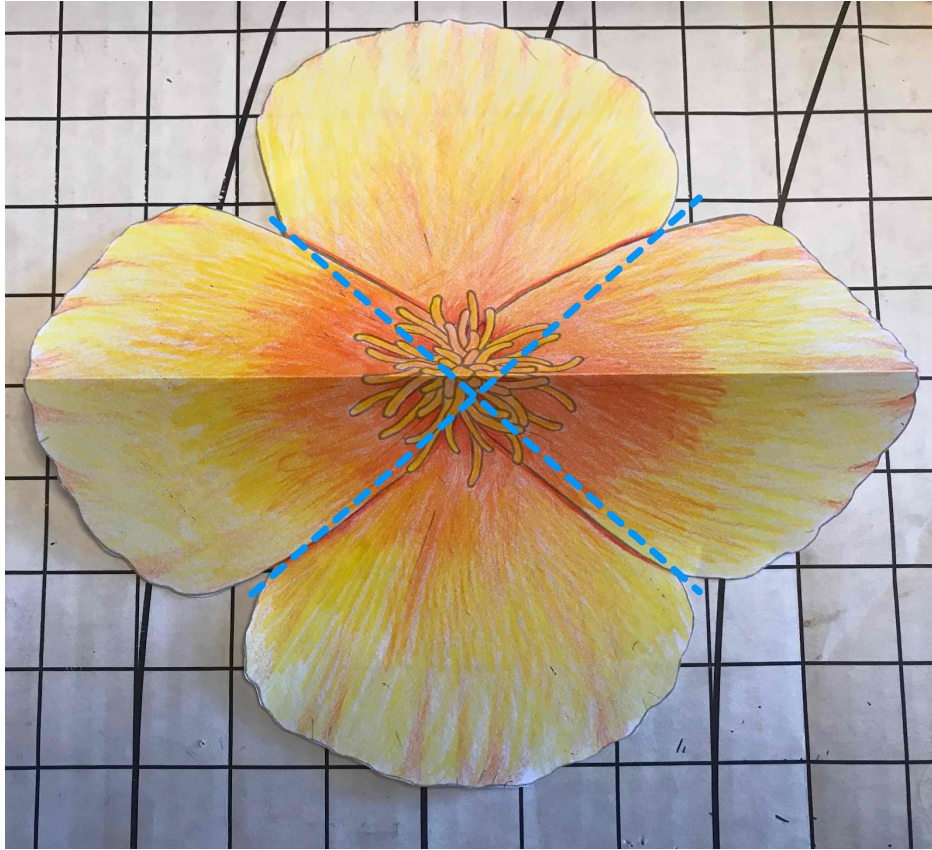
Step 5: Fold Your Poppy

Here is how to fold your poppy:

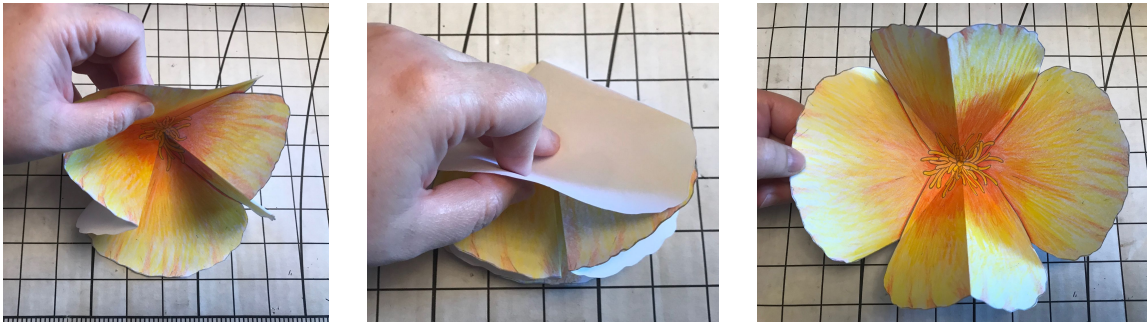
Turn your poppy over so that the colored side is down. Fold the bottom leaf up so that it is even with the top leaf. It doesn't have to be perfect. Press and fold. Give it a nice crease.



Unfold it and lay your poppy right side up. Now you are going to make two diagonal folds: one folding up to the right, and one up to the left. See the blue dotted lines? That's where you will fold. Do one fold, then press your poppy flat before you do the other.

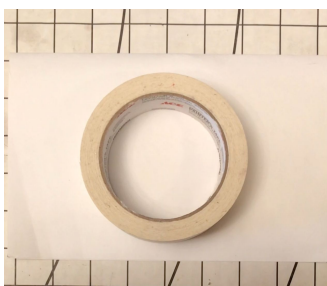


Your poppy will start to want to fold up and look like this. Go ahead and help your poppy finish folding together by pushing in the two folded petals and pressing it flat.

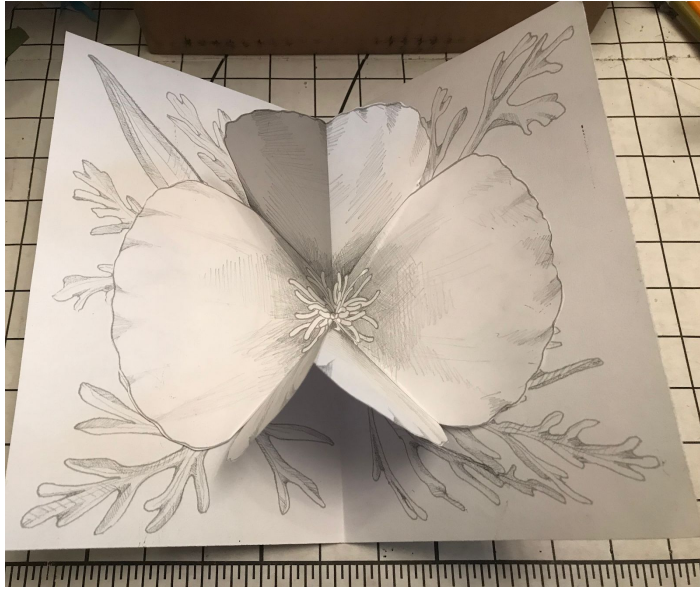


Step 6: Glue Your Poppy

You can use glue or paste, double-sided tape, glue dots, or even hot glue (if you have help!) to put your card together. You only need a little spot of glue on each side of your folded poppy to make it stick. See the little blue dotted circle? That's all you need! Try to glue your poppy in straight and tuck the pointed end right up to the crease. Don't go too far or your card won't fold!



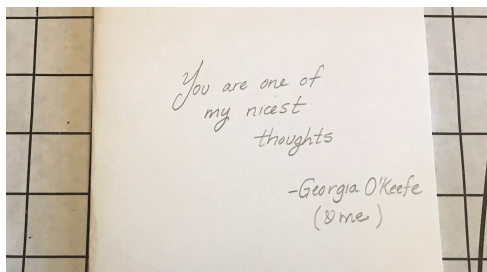
Once you've put the glue on both sides and have closed your card over it, put something heavy on it (like a book or this roll of tape) and let it dry for an hour, or even overnight!



Step 7: Give Your Card to Someone Special

Now that your card is finished and it POPS, why not put a message on it, sign it, and give it to someone special?

California poppies are tough, beautiful, and resilient. They can grow with almost no water and hardly any soil. Here are some quotes from **Georgia O'Keefe** about flowers and people:



"You are one of my nicest thoughts."

"If you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for a moment."

"Nobody sees a flower - really - it is so small it takes time - we haven't time - and to see takes time, like to have a friend takes time."

Additional resources:

- Here is a website where you can learn more about Georgia O'Keefe: <https://www.okeeffemuseum.org/about-georgia-okeeffe/>
- Printable Poppy
- Printable Poppy Leaves
- **Georgia O'Keefe Warm-up Sheet** (for practicing your drawing skills). You can copy each part of a leaf or flower, finish the shape, or even trace it! No matter how you do it, it's a good exercise for your brain and your hand!

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