



# Vincent Van Gogh

A Starry Night

Art Appreciation Lesson

# Vincent Van Gogh



- Born in the Netherlands on March 30, 1853
- Died July 29, 1890 at the young age of 37
- Van Gogh's brother, Theo, suggested he become a painter after Van Gogh had attempted careers as an art dealer, book seller, teacher, and pastor.
- In his late twenties, he began his painting career and produced over 2100 artworks in a period of just over ten years.
- Only sold ONE painting in his lifetime

# Vincent Van Gogh

- In 1886, Van Gogh moved to Paris, France to study the impressionist painters, and later moved to Arles, France to live with other artists and devote his days to painting.



# Vincent Van Gogh

- Characteristics of impressionist painting are: bold vibrant colors, visible brush strokes, depictions of ordinary life scenes, use of light reflection, and the inclusion of *movement* in the painting.



A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte, George Seurat impressionist

# Vincent Van Gogh

- In his early career, his paintings were dark but after moving to France and studying with the impressionists, he began to use the bright, vibrant colors for which he is known.



The Potato Eaters, 1885



Sunflowers, 1888

# Vincent Van Gogh



- Pointillism – a technique of painting in which small dots of pure (unmixed) color are applied in patterns to form an image
- Here is a Self Portrait, created in 1887 by Van Gogh using the Pointillist technique.
- He used oil paints.

# Vincent Van Gogh

- 1889 - Van Gogh decided to go to a hospital in Saint-Remy, France. There, he would look out the window at the view and paint.



The view today from Van Gogh's hospital room at Saint-Paul Hospital, Saint-Remy, France.



Starry Night, Van Gogh, 1889, Oil Paints on Canvas



# A Starry Night

- Movement, energy and light in the painting – by using color, swirling images, lines of color in rings and circles, and outlining the images in black
- Lots of bright yellow and orange color against the blue sky. Thickly applied paint creates a rhythmic effect, called Impasto Technique.
- Depth
  - Massive flame-like cypress tree or bush structure in the foreground is near
  - Town with church and steeple is smaller, far away

# Vincent Van Gogh, Starry Night



- Starry Night resides at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.
- Although he created over 2100 works of art, he sold only one in his lifetime.
- In 1990, Van Gogh's painting, Portrait of Dr. Gachet, sold for 82.5 million dollars.

# Create your own Starry Night

- Step 1 – draw your landscape scene
- Step 2 – add a small village or church scene (small=faraway)
- Step 3 – add the large tree like shape – large=near
- Step 4 – add your stars and moon, either draw them or use stickers
- Step 5 – add your swirls and rings and color!