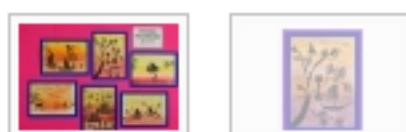


Crafty Ideas: Chinese Houseboats

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Chinese Houseboats by Year 6



This project involves creating a serene picture of a boat at sea using techniques from Chinese art. The houseboat is based on the Chinese junk, which was developed during the Han Dynasty as far back as 206 BC. These boats were used to explore the oceans from China to India as well as Africa. For inspirational sunsets, how children work by artists William Turner and Claude Monet, who used violets to hot reds and bright yellows. Also look at Chinese art painted with brush and ink in their colour palettes, of images such as cherry blossom trees and fish.

You will need:

- Brushes
- A3 cartridge paper
- Watercolour paints, black, red, orange, yellow, pink, fluorescents if possible
- Black paper
- Drawing pencil
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Black paint and water

Make

- ➔ Using a large paintbrush, spread water across the cartridge paper and then lightly brush sunset colours, for example, of pink, yellow and red onto the damp surface, taking time to let the colours spread naturally across the paper.
- ➔ On black paper, draw and cut out a silhouette of a junk boat hull and sails separately. Once the sunset background is dry, glue the junk boat on or below the horizon line.
- ➔ Thin some black paint with a little water. Use a fine brush to add birds, blossom trees and fish.

Tip

Cross-curricular links

- ➔ Geography: draw a map of Marco Polo's travels.
- ➔ History: research the journey of Marco Polo to China.
- ➔ Literacy: give a first-person account of a trip in a junk across the sea to Africa.
- ➔ Maths: use a map scale to measure the distance by sea from China to Africa.

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