



Middle School *Homeschool Days*: April 2024

# American MASTERS

*Georgia O'Keeffe*: Mother of American Modernism



## What We Learned:

- Georgia O'Keeffe was born in 1887 in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin and died at age 98 in 1986.
- She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and the Art Students League in New York.
- O'Keeffe was influenced by precisionism and abstract art, but her style was unique.
- She is known for her distinct flowers, dramatic cityscapes, glowing landscapes, and images of bones against a desert sky.

## Art Activity: Landscape

O'Keeffe's landscapes are abstract and impressionistic. Her paintings capture nature as she saw it. The first picture is Georgia's landscape, *Lake George Reflection*. To experience the abstract style and explore a new art medium, the students copied her landscape using acrylic paints on canvas.



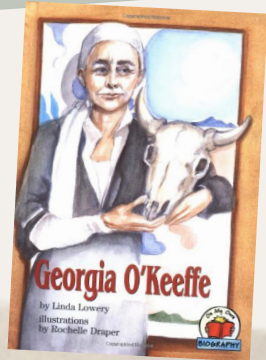
To review the steps to this project, go to: [Learn how to draw A GEORGIA O' KEEFFE INSPIRED MOUNTAIN LANDSCAPE: STEP BY STEP GUIDE \(Age 5 +\) \(youtube.com\)](#).

## Book Nook

*Georgia O'Keeffe?*  
By Linda Lowery



*Who Was Georgia O'Keeffe?*  
By Sarah Fabiny



# Abstract & Vibrant Coloring

Georgia liked painting flowers magnified and colorful like this flower, Pink Tulip, 1926. Look at some of her other flowers to choose vibrant colors for the one below. Use crayons, markers, or paint to finish the picture.



Art by Mariya Kovalyov [www.happyfamilyart.com](http://www.happyfamilyart.com)

# For Parents:

Georgia O'Keeffe spent the first 15 years of her life on a dairy farm in Wisconsin. She would later move to New York City, spend much of her time in New Mexico, and eventually travel the world. Each of these places would influence her art. She knew she wanted to be an artist at a young age, but in the early 1900s women were expected to only teach art. Georgia did teach art at several different colleges while continuing her own art education. When she was introduced to modern art, she started to develop her own style which was based on her view of the world and her feelings. O'Keeffe is known for her large, magnified flowers, dramatic cityscapes, colorful landscapes, and images of bones with desert backgrounds. Her art became popular during her lifetime, and her works were exhibited at many well-known art museums and galleries. Georgia O'Keeffe is known as the "Mother of American Modernism."

## Additional Resources

To learn more about Georgia O'Keeffe, click on the links below:

- For learning all things O'Keeffe make plans to visit the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in New Mexico. Learn more about her and the museum collection here:  
**[The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum \(okeeffemuseum.org\)](http://okeeffemuseum.org)**
- View a video, *Georgia O'Keeffe for Kids!*:  
**[Georgia O'Keeffe for Kids! | Art History for Kids \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)**
- To view another short *Georgia O'Keeffe for Kids* video, click here:  
**[Georgia O'Keeffe for Kids \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)**
- To learn more about using acrylic paints through an O'Keeffe study watch this video:  
**[How to use Acrylic Paint - Georgia O'Keeffe Artist Study \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)**
- Georgia O'Keeffe talks about her art in the following videos:
  - Part One: **[Georgia O'Keeffe talking about her life and work \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)**
  - Part Two: **[Georgia O'keeffe talking about her life and work - part 2 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)**
- To read interesting information about O'Keeffe and to see many of her paintings, go to:  
**[Georgia O'Keeffe Facts for Kids \(kiddle.co\)](http://kiddle.co)**

Due to the changing nature of web resources, M&G strongly urges you as the parent to preview these sites before your child accesses them. The fact that these sites are available on this handout does not imply that M&G endorses their content from the standpoint of morals, philosophy, theology, or scientific hypotheses.

### M&G Educational Mission:

Through tours, events, and publications, the Museum & Gallery seeks to partner with educators in fulfilling all of the National Visual Arts Content Standards. By integrating art into the core curriculum, M&G's goals are to teach children to value the arts, to communicate through the arts, to become creative problem solvers through the inclusion of STEAM-related concepts and fully-developed STEAM units, to understand history and culture in light of the arts, to improve literary interest and understanding through visual storytelling, to critique the arts, and to develop an aesthetic awareness of the arts. Through fulfilling the mission, M&G is able to help develop citizens who have the ability to think, feel, and understand the world in which they live.

