



NORTON SIMON MUSEUM VAN GOGH COLORING SHEET

In the summer of 1888, Vincent van Gogh painted *Portrait of a Peasant (Patience Escalier)*, a portrait of a gardener and former goatherd who reminded Van Gogh of his father. Van Gogh painted this portrait—that is, an artwork that shows the likeness of a person—two times, using a different color palette for each work. Rather than making the portrait look exactly like Patience Escalier, Van Gogh used different colors to express himself. The orange and red-hot colors on the sitter’s face reveal the heat of the summer, his tanned, weathered skin shows his long years of hard work outdoors and his bright yellow hat represents the golden sun.

Portrait of a Peasant (Patience Escalier), August 1888, Vincent van Gogh (Dutch, 1853–1890), oil on canvas, 25¼ x 21½ in. (64.1 x 54.6 cm), Norton Simon Art Foundation

Color:

Explore how color can affect the mood of an artwork by coloring two different versions of *Portrait of a Peasant (Patience Escalier)*. For the first coloring sheet, choose colors that make you feel happy. For the second coloring sheet, choose colors that make you think of a different emotion, like sadness or anger. Then compare the two versions. How does color affect the mood of the artwork?

Reflect:

What are some ways you can tell the mood of a friend? When you notice that a friend is feeling sad or angry, what are some ways you can cheer up your friend?

Curriculum connections

- National Core Arts Standards
- Anchor Standard 3 – Refine and complete artistic work.

CALIFORNIA VISUAL ARTS STANDARDS

- K.VA:Re7.2 — Describe what an image represents.
- K.VA:Cn11 — Identify a purpose of an artwork.
- 1.VA:Re8 — Interpret art by categorizing subject matter and identifying the mood and characteristics of form.
- 3.VA:Re7.2 — Determine messages communicated by an image.

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