



TIME REQUIRED: Two
sessions @ 40 minutes

Notre Dame *At Night*

LINE, CONTRAST & BALANCE

Notre Dame *At Night*



On April 15th, 2019, a fire swept across the top of the Notre Dame Cathedral, collapsing its spire and damaging its roof. The French President has stated that the cathedral will be rebuilt, calling it "a part of us".

I just love this fun lesson that is a unique take on the beautiful architecture of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. With a background of the night sky, this project highlights the light shows that are occasionally projected on the cathedral of Notre Dame. During the light shows, the normally gray building shimmers in a rainbow of colors that really emphasize the beauty of this 700 year old church.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- ✿ 9" x 12" 90 lb. watercolor paper
- ✿ 9" x 12" black sulphite paper
- ✿ Liquid watercolor
- ✿ Medium round paintbrush
- ✿ Toothbrush
- ✿ White liquid tempera paint
- ✿ Pencil and eraser
- ✿ Black permanent marker
- ✿ Scissors and glue

ABOUT NOTRE DAME

Notre Dame is a famous cathedral in Paris, France. "Notre Dame" means "Our Lady" in French. It is an example of Gothic architecture that was popular during the 13th century. Notre Dame's unique features include large circular stained glass windows called rose windows and water spouts called gargoyles, which look like scary creatures.



Notre Dame light show in 2017. image found [here](#).

Wet-on-Wet Technique



This piece starts by creating the paper that Notre Dame will be drawn on. This paper is the fun part of the project, in my opinion!

This project works best with 9" x 12" 90 lb watercolor paper. Watercolor paper is able to absorb a lot of water, which makes the colors blend well together and the paper less susceptible to tear when wet.



WET-ON-WET WATERCOLOR TECHNIQUE:

Start by painting the watercolor paper with just water. Make sure the paper is soaked with water and every part is covered with clean water.

Use liquid watercolor paints to drop color into the wet surface. This part is so fun! It's interesting to watch the colors blend and spread on the wet surface.

You can also paint the wet surface with broad brushstrokes, blending the colors as you go.

There is no wrong way to complete the step! Have fun with this part of the process.



Drawing Notre Dame

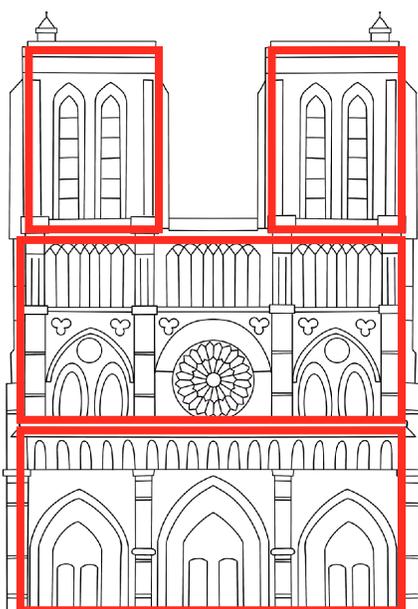
Using the Notre Dame handout on page 7 and a pencil, sketch the basic outline of Notre Dame. Notice how the cathedral is made up of a series of rectangles.

You could sketch the building without templates, but I like to offer simple, pre-cut rectangle templates to give students a successful start at drawing the proportions of the church.

Provide two rectangle templates cut from tagboard or cereal box cardboard.

- 2" x 3.5"
- 3.5" x 7"

Notre Dame is basically two large rectangles on the bottom and two small rectangles for the towers.



Place the larger rectangle across the bottom of the paper. Trace.

Slide the large rectangle up so that it is stacked on top of the traced rectangle. Trace again.

Use the small rectangle tracer vertically to add a tower to each side of the structure.



Outlining with Marker

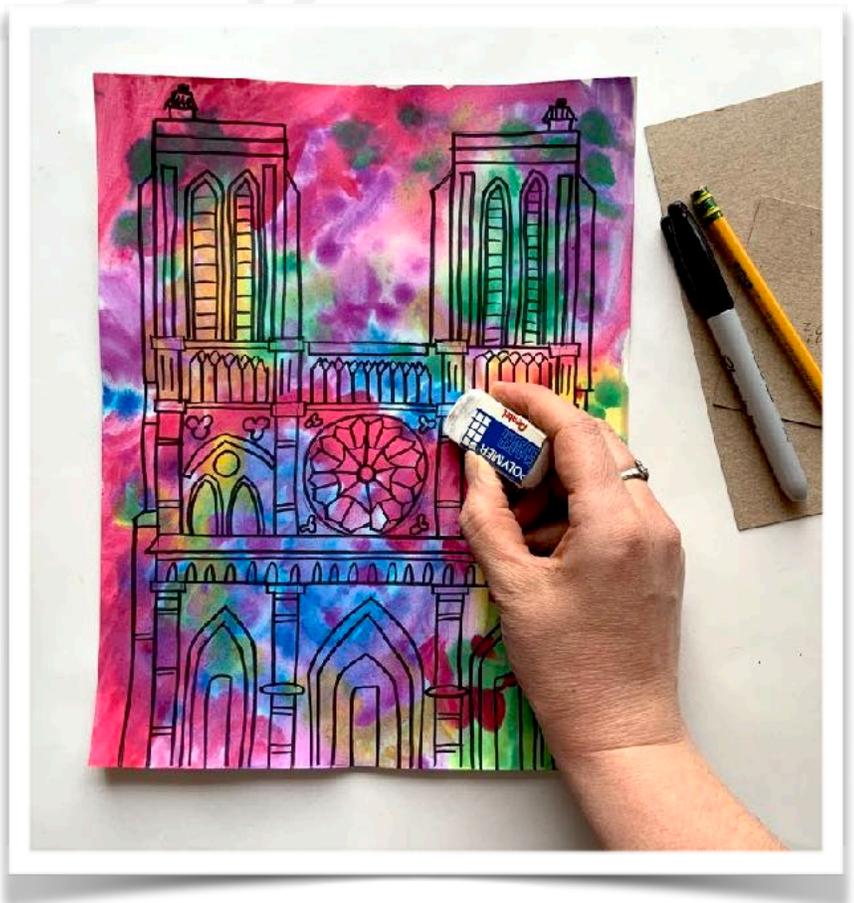
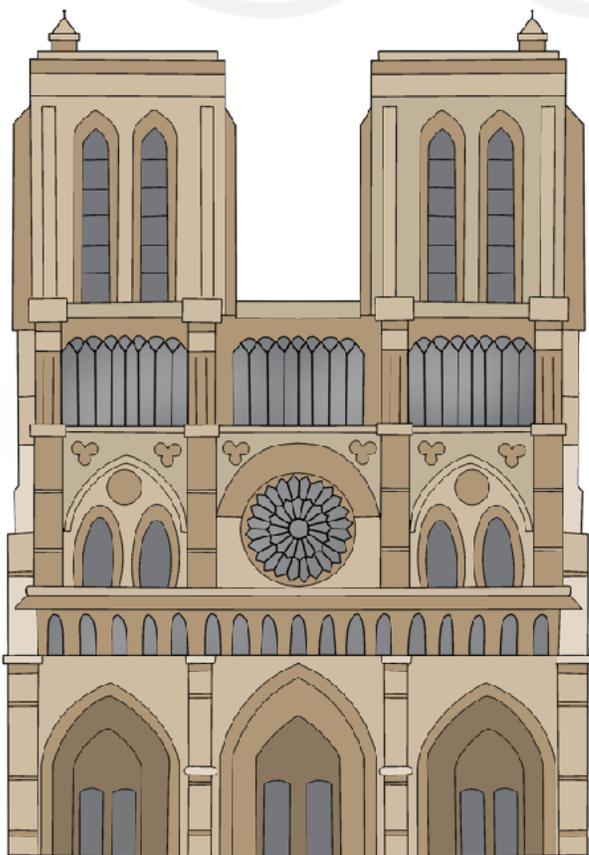


Now that you have the basic structure of Notre Dame sketched out, use the handout to start adding columns, windows, doors and details.

Use the large rectangle tracer as a straight edge wherever needed.

Before you add too many intricate details, switch from pencil to black permanent marker. Trace over all your pencil lines and add any small details with the marker.

When you finish tracing and adding details with the black marker, carefully erase all your original pencil lines.

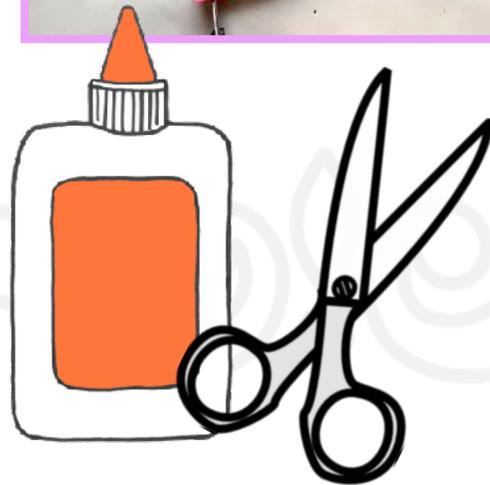


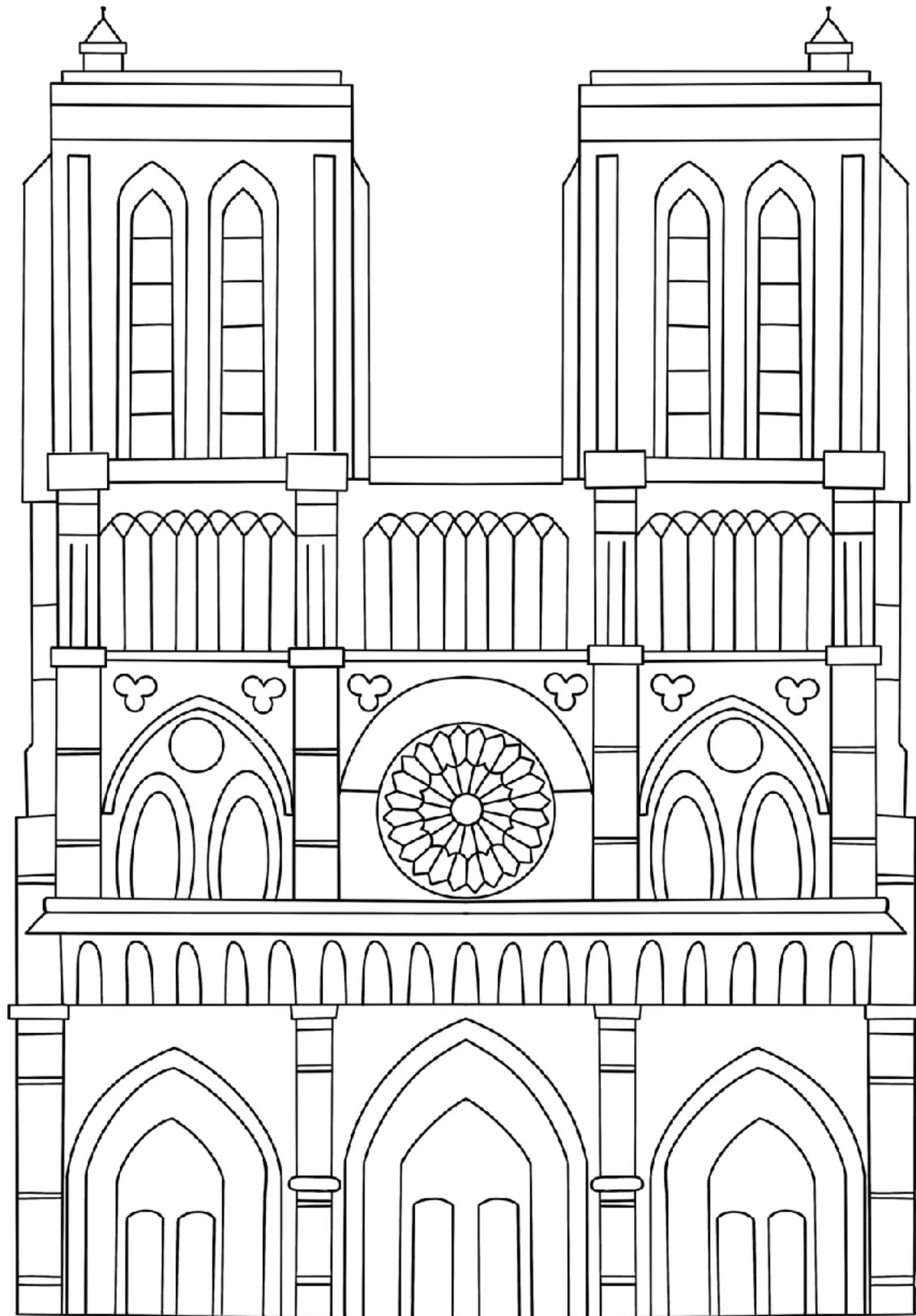
Putting it All Together

Use a toothbrush, small piece of cardboard and white liquid tempera paint to splatter a 9" x 12" piece of black sulphite paper with white splatter painted "stars." Let dry.

Carefully cut out your Notre Dame drawing with a scissors. Cut just outside your drawing rather than right on your line. This leaves a small border and keeps your drawing intact.

Glue your drawing to your star splattered background.





Notre Dame HANDOUT



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“Last March, I went in for my first Art teacher interview, and they unexpectedly asked if I could teach 5-7 year olds. I smiled and said yes because I had The Sparklers Club magic in my back pocket! Being a member gave me the confidence I needed in a low part of my life. I joined for the lessons and the teaching, but I had no idea I would find a family here as well..”

Laura

“Before I joined the Sparklers Club, teaching art was so lonely! After so many years of teaching, I felt like my lessons were getting stale and I had no support. But then I became a Sparkler! Being part of this group, sharing ideas, having the amazing lessons and this whole **community** has given me a brand new sense of joy and enthusiasm that I had when I first started teaching.”

PAMELA SAUNDERS