Pearl at Home

This art project is designed for family fun, for suggested ages of 10 and up to be completed at home with easily-accessible art materials.

PALETTE KNIFE TREE

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MATERIALS

• Canvas, canvas board, bristol board, or cardstock
  (8x10" size recommended)
• Acrylic tube paint in various colors
• Palette knife OR a plastic spoon or tasting spoon
• Pencil
• Black or brown Sharpie
  Note: Other types of markers might bleed into the wrong areas of the painting.

DIRECTIONS

1 Create a tree outline:
   Draw the outline for your tree trunk with a pencil.
   Add branches, but not too many small ones. Erase any extra lines.
2 Fill in the tree shape:

Use a big Sharpie to fill in the tree trunk and branches. You can outline first with a thinner Sharpie.
3 Add paint dots:

Add pea-sized dots of each color directly from the tube onto your canvas along the branches of the tree. Use a variety of colors throughout. You can use your own range of colors, OR use the suggested colors below.

Note: The dots don’t need to be perfect!

Colors are listed from left to right:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Colors</th>
<th>Number of Dots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadmium Yellow Light Hue</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadmium Yellow Deep Hue</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Olive Green</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hooker's Green</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phthalo Turquoise or Light Aqua Blue</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cobalt Blue Hue</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dioxazine Purple</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet or Rouge</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarlet Red</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azo Orange or Cadmium Orange Medium Hue</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadmium Yellow Deep Hue</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Select your palette knife:

A palette knife is a tool used to mix paint on a hard palette. It can also be used as a painting tool. There are several shapes of palette knives. For this project we suggest using one that has an oval shape, or one shaped like a rounded tip arrowhead.

If you don’t have a palette knife, you can use the back of a spoon instead.

5 Dab your paint across the branches:

Lower the back of the palette knife or spoon into the yellow paint on the left edge of your painting, and use repeated short presses to dab the paint. Don’t smear the paint, but rather, lift your knife up and down repeatedly in the paint. Move towards the next color as you continue dabbing paint.

Leave gaps in the color here and there. WIPE your tool off when changing to the next color, or if colors are mixing too much. Dab back and forth between neighboring colors.

Wipe off your tool often.
Finish the leaves:

Keep working back and forth between the paint dots all the way across the tree branches. Let some of the white background show through the leaves. Be careful to not over mix.

If you need to add a bit more paint to certain areas, put some small dots on the back of the tool. Dab them into the area gently.