

A Taste for the Three Perfections

Middle School Lesson

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

DIRECTIONS: Your goal is to develop a unique recipe for a successful work of art that includes both calligraphy and painting. Consider the subject matter and themes you have seen in the works at the museum and decide what objects you would like to include in your piece.

Title of Work:

Format for the Work: album page, hanging scroll, or handscroll

Serving Size: finished size of the artwork

Ingredients: list objects that would be seen in this piece, with specific numbers and sizes

Develop a list of three to five steps explaining how and where to arrange the ingredients in your work. Make sure to describe the objects you are including, providing not only general locations such as foreground, middle ground, background for the placement of each object but also specific details like left/right, in front/behind. Finally, classify your work as either an appetizer, main course, dessert, or just a snack and explain why. Be prepared to defend your recipe as the best tasting in class!

EXAMPLE

Title of Work: *On a Stroll Home*

Format for the Work: Hanging Scroll

Serving Size: 10 cm wide x 30 cm high

Ingredients:

3 large coniferous trees, 1 small house
6 smaller deciduous trees, 5 boulders
1 mountain peak, 3 small shrubs
1 growing stream, 3 small stepping stones
1 small person
Calligraphy and seal stamp

Directions

1. Begin by placing the mountain peak in the upper left hand corner of the background and start the stream coming out from the base of the mountain, working its way diagonally across the paper to the foreground in the lower right hand corner.
2. Add the three large coniferous trees, one on the right-hand side in the background, another just in front of that tree in the middle ground, and the third in the lower left hand corner in the foreground. Fill background and middle ground areas on both sides of the stream with the six smaller deciduous trees, three on each side of the stream. Add the three small shrubs to fill in negative spaces.
3. Finish the painting by setting off the stream with three dark boulders on the right side and two on the left side, starting in the middle ground with the smallest boulders and placing the largest in the foreground near the end of the stream. Put three small stepping stones mid-way up the stream, and place the small person jumping from one stone to the next, from left to right across the page. Finally, nestle a small house in the background to the right of the stream where the person is heading.
4. Finally, in the sky on the right side, add a few lines about traveling home : "In just a few steps I will be where I am meant to be, at home among the mountains and trees." Finish with a red seal stamp.

Classification: This is a delicious main course because . . .

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NAME _____

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Title of Work _____

Format for the Work (circle one) Hanging Scroll Handscroll Album Page

Ingredients

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Serving Size _____

Directions

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Classification and Reasoning

NAME: _____

FISHBONE DIAGRAM

DIRECTIONS: Select one handscroll, hanging scroll, or album page to examine for each diagram. Write the title of the artwork in the circle. Include specific details of what you see in the background on the lines near the tail of the fishbone diagram, what you see in the middle ground of the artwork in the center of the diagram, and what you see in the foreground on the lines furthest to the right of the diagram. Details may include specific objects, geographical features, writing, stamps, or other items.

