



Brush Strokes



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A NEW CHALLENGE!

Have you ever thought about how you would paint a full edge to edge painting that was only 2" x 3" in size? This was my latest assignment for my students and these were a tremendous success. I've always encouraged my students to paint on a large sheet of paper since this is challenging. Most of them never got bigger than a half sheet 15" x 22" or a more favorite size was a quarter sheet 11" x 15" and now suddenly they have to go down in size to credit card size.



The results have been amazing. And the enthusiasm with which they tackled the new assignment as also amazing. In the painting shown at the right above Sandy White decided to paint a lighthouse and this was her second lighthouse. She has planned this piece very carefully, paying attention to the balance of each object with the one next to it. Also her colors are so well thought out. Since the house is further away, the roof becomes a much lighter red, and with the building being the center of interest, it still is offset so it is not in the middle of the painting. She even managed a flag flying from the roof.



Another student, Susan Bedwell, decided to paint a vertical so she chose sunflowers. When you look at the two pictures here you think how in the world could you get so much detail in such a small piece. Both of these students have always painted much larger pieces, but I think they were enchanted with this assignment.



And now here is another one by Elizabeth Offringa. This one is of carnations and delightfully painted. The use of darks and lights along with good composition reflects what they have learned and the directions I handed out which are shown below.

This has been a worthwhile experience and everyone enjoyed it!

FINAL PAINTING SIZE 2x3

Purpose: Ability to draw

Design: Critical to painting size

Color: Direct eye to focal point

Growth: Versatility with sizes

Learning to See: **Everything**