

CALIFORNIA ARTISTS
Projects for Kids

Wayne Thiebaud

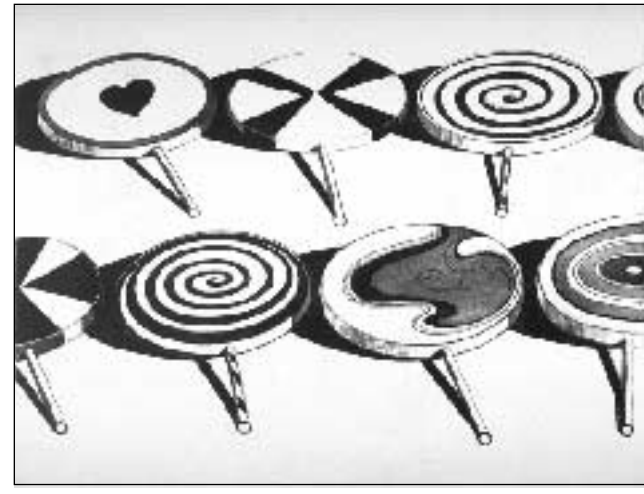
Wayne Thiebaud (b. 1920) is best known for his bright, luscious paintings of sweets, cakes & pies. Trained as a commercial artist, he gravitated towards subject matter that fascinated him: his favorite foods, toys & landscapes. An award-winning professor and a successful artist, Thiebaud's love for art has encouraged & inspired many people.



Wayne Thiebaud, *Display Cakes*, 1963, oil on canvas, 28 in. x 38 in. (71.12 cm x 96.52 cm) San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Mrs. Manfred Branstern Special Fund purchase Art © Wayne Thiebaud / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY

Sweet Shapes

As a child, Wayne Thiebaud loved comics, sports & ice cream. He loved to draw, later training & working as a cartoonist & commercial artist. As he designed posters, murals & comic strips, he used basic shapes in his work. Later, his paintings of sweets & desserts also emphasized circles, triangles & squares. Look for these shapes in your own sweet design.



Wayne Thiebaud, b. 1920 *Big Suckers (Black and White)*, 1971 Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Crown Point Press Archive Gift of Crown Point Press, 1991.28.1173 Art © Wayne Thiebaud / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY

- ◆ Cut the many shapes of your favorite desserts from colorful paper.
- ◆ Glue desserts onto cut shapes of dishes & trays.
- ◆ Arrange sweets on background paper. Move around for best arrangement. Glue down.

Portrait of a Sweet

Fellow commercial artists inspired Wayne Thiebaud to draw realistically, to look closely at the colors on objects & their shadows. He studied the old masters & adopted their techniques. Then he painted ice creams, pies & cakes with rich colors & lush brushstrokes that made the frosting look good enough to eat. Paint a portrait of a sweet.

- ◆ Mix an array of pastel colors by adding bits of color to dabs of white paint.
- ◆ Outline your sweet in yellow brush strokes. Observe & paint its lit & shaded sides with your colors. Let dry.
- ◆ Paint more layers with thick brushy strokes. Display your sweet art.



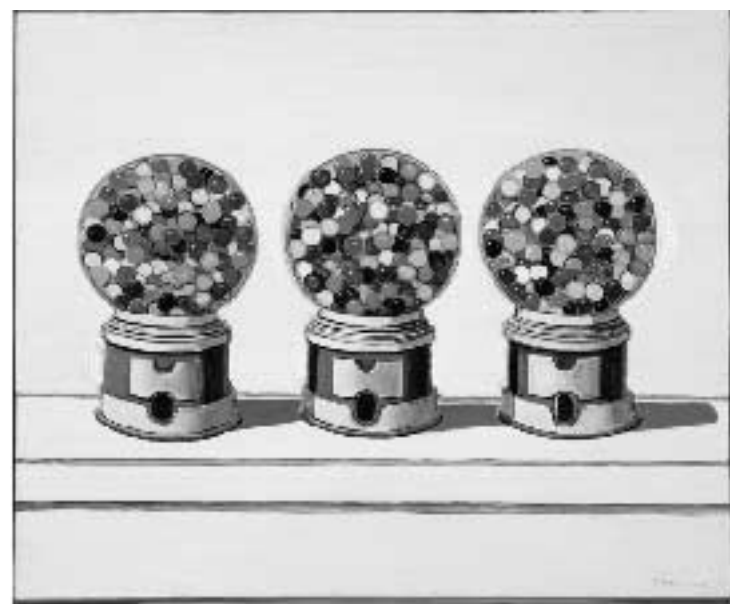
Student artwork, grade 6



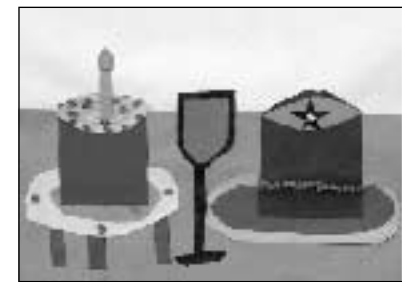
Student artwork, grade 9

Forever a Teacher

Wayne Thiebaud began teaching in 1951 & has taught ever since. He believes that art is important, providing a different way of seeing the world. Take out your pencil & open your eyes. Look for shapes & shadows to realistically draw everyday things.



Wayne Thiebaud, b. 1920, *Three Machines*, 1963, oil on canvas, 30 x 36 1/2 (76.2 x 92.7 cm), Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Museum purchase, Walter H. and Phyllis J. Shorestein Foundation Fund, the Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Income Fund, with additional gifts from Claire E. Flagg, The Museum Society Auxiliary, Mr. and Mrs. George R. Roberts, Jr. and Mrs. John N. Rosekrans, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Branstern, Mr. and Mrs. Steven MacGregor Read, and Bobbie and Mike Wilsey, from the Morgan Flagg Collection, 1993.18, Art © Wayne Thiebaud / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY



Student artwork, grade 3

Pop Colors

Wayne Thiebaud is often grouped with Pop Artists, painters who shocked Americans with flat bright paintings of everyday objects like soup cans & donuts. But Thiebaud leaned towards realism, drawing figures, landscapes & simple objects with his unusual sensibility. He loved color, mixing every hue & balancing color opposites in outlines to give his work extra life. Paint a gumball machine filled with bright colors.

- ◆ Use yellow paint to outline your gumball machine.
- ◆ Place several dabs of primary colors (yellow, red, blue) on a paper plate. Add another primary color to each dab. Stir colors & then paint gumballs. Use a different color for each. Wash brush between colors.
- ◆ Mix more colors. Use different amounts of primary colors to get various oranges, green & violets.
- ◆ Outline the machine with 3 different colors.

