

## Cézanne Lesson Plan

“I will astonish Paris with an Apple!” — Paul Cézanne

**5 minutes:** Let students hear the **story** “An Apple A Day” from the web link ([http://www.metmuseum.org/explore/cezannes\\_apples/apple.html](http://www.metmuseum.org/explore/cezannes_apples/apple.html))

**5 minutes:** Play the Quiz **Game** (from the online link, or printed)

**5 minutes: Discussion.**

Cézanne said that to paint nature, you’ll use mostly cylinders, cones, and spheres. Can you find these shapes in the world around you? (Use photos to help them)

**30 minutes: Still Life Art Project.**

1. Project: Gather • Paper • Pencil • Crayons • Apples • Flashlights
2. Set an apple on each table grouping, preferably with a cloth or plain piece of paper under it. Then give each student a piece of paper to draw on.
3. Tell them they’re going to create their own Astonishing Apple! Encourage them to start just like Cézanne — using pencils, simply draw the basic circle shape of the apple. Make it a big circle.
4. Now add detail, in pencil, like the stem and any other markings.
5. Now put a flashlight on each table, casting a light on each apple. Explain how that adds special details to the apple. It’s not a plain apple anymore! It’s got shadows and highlights.
6. Using a dark crayon, try to shade in the dark parts of your apple drawing. Then, try the lighter parts. Keep adding different colors to add dimension until your apple is astonishing! Remember, even if it stops looking like a real apple, it’s your artistic version of an apple, so don’t worry about perfection. It’s art!
7. You can set up a more complex still-life after that if you want. Maybe there’s a bowl of apples, plus a vase of flowers or a stack of books. It’s important to shine a flashlight and show how the light is what gives the objects their dimension.

**5 minutes: Discussion.**

Do you think your picture looks exactly like what you were drawing? Probably not. But did you take a simple circle and make it have dimension? Is it artistic? Now “frame” your picture by pasting it onto a black piece of construction paper. Don’t forget to sign it!