

# Light through Leaves

Students will learn about the life and art of artist John Leslie Breck, whose work will be on view at the Dixon Jan 22, 2022 - Mar 27, 2022. Inspired by his landscapes, students will create a tree collage with transparent leaves and experiment with how the colors change when overlapped.

## TN VISUAL ARTS

### STANDARDS:

PK.AL.CR.1  
PK.AL.CR.4  
PK.AL.SR.5  
PK.AL.SR.6  
PK.AL.SR.7  
PK.AL.SR.9  
PK.AL.CO.11  
PK.SPC.SA.8  
PK.PS1.01.d  
PK.CA.1.  
PK.CA.2.  
PK.CA.3.  
PK.PD.5.  
PK.PD.6.

## MATERIALS

- Transparency sheet
- Die cut tree
- Cellophane leaves in multiple colors
- Glue sticks
- Half sheet of paper
- Coloring materials

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. First, students will glue their tree to their transparency sheet
2. Next, students will glue their leaves to the tree branches. As they glue, students will see the colors change where the leaves overlap.
3. While their glue dries, students will decorate a background for their tree on a separate sheet of paper.
4. Finally, students will hold their tree up to different lights and also place it on their background to see how additional details and changing light alters the appearance of their tree.

GRADE LEVEL

Pre-K



VISUAL ART

In the Classroom:



At Home:



## DISCUSSION

**About the art:** John Leslie Breck was one of the founding artists who brought the Impressionist style to the America. With impressionism, artists used their brushstrokes and colors to showcase changing light. Although he died at just 39, he is credited with being the first artist to exhibit his Impressionist work in Boston and has many notable works of art. *John Leslie Breck: An American Impressionist* will be on view at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens from January 22<sup>nd</sup>-March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Dixon Gallery and Gardens was founded in 1976. American and French Impressionism make up the majority of the museum's permanent collection.

### Guiding questions:

What new color does yellow and orange make?  
Red and blue? Blue and yellow?

Where does light shine through on your artwork?  
Why does light shine through some parts and not others?

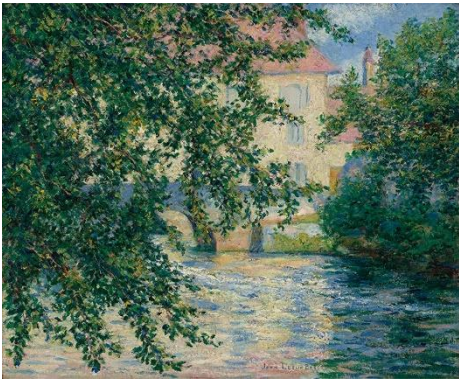
## LEARNING AT HOME

(For virtual students)

- Paper
- Drawing materials

After learning about the life and travels of John Leslie Breck, students will create their own drawing of overlapping leaves. Then, they will color in their leaves using primary colors for the main shape of the leaves and the appropriate secondary colors where the leaves overlap.

## INSPIRED BY:



John Leslie Breck  
(American, 1860–99).  
Millstream in Midsummer  
(The Mill Stream, Limetz),  
ca. 1891, oil on canvas,  
18 x 22 inches. Private  
Collection, Courtesy of Martha  
Richardson Fine Art, Boston

## EXAMPLES:

### In the Classroom:



### At Home:



## Art to Grow Spring 2022

4339 Park Avenue Memphis, TN 38117

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