**Masterpiece:** “I and the Village”  
**Artist:** Marc Chagall (Mark Shah-GALL)

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**Concept:** Fantastic Imagination Art  
**Lesson:** Images of a Dream

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**Objectives:**
- To draw a picture in a “dream-like” state about personal things such as pets, objects, family in a silly way as if one is looking through a window at these fantasy-like but real images.
- To create a drawing using images from a dream
- To overlap images and give the impression of something floating.
- To experiment with multiple media.

**Vocabulary:** “fantastic Art”, “dream-like”, symbol, hidden meaning, distort, imagination, shape, color, line.

**Materials:** (one per student unless otherwise noted)
- 8” x 10” white drawing paper - use copier to preprint windowpane design.
- Oil pastels (use sets sorted into individual Gerber babyfood containers)
- Q-tips for blending pastels (fingertips work well too but will stain)
- watercolor paints
- large brushes
- small individual water dishes or larger containers to share among a group.
- 9x12 construction paper for mounting. Attach artist blurb in advance.
- Paper towels for blotting brushes

**** Helpful Hints **
There are many ways to do this project! Remember the sky is the limit! Encourage them to draw meaningful things in a funky way. When they are done with their picture(s), have them fill in any white background with watercolor paints. The more colors of the rainbow they use, the more “dream-like” the art will appear.
Process:

1. Look at the paintings of Marc Chagall. Discuss what makes his art so unusual. Talk about dreams and memories. In the spirit of Marc Chagall, the students will create a brightly colored work of art.

2. Hand out one per student 8” x 10” white construction paper with window panes photocopied on it.

3. Have the students pretend they are looking out the window in their dream and something really weird floats by...

4. They should continue to draw scenes and objects they value from their life in different areas on the paper using a variety of different-sized drawings, overlapping some, turning the paper upside-down or sideways.

5. When they are done with their pencil drawing, pass out the oil pastels and have the students color their picture. They will be able to blend their colors since they are using oil pastels. (Show them how to do this using their finger or the Q-tips provided.)

6. As they finish coloring their artwork with the oil pastels, hand out the watercolor paints and the large brushes. (Collect the oil pastels and put them in the box.)

7. When the students are using the watercolor paints, make sure they fill their page with color using only the lighter paints (avoid black and brown) so it looks like stained glass or prism like. (See example) No white should be seen! Fill the page with color and creativity!

8. Make sure they sign their name on the front and title their artwork if possible.

9. Let the artwork dry (may need to press under a stack of books if edges of paper are curled.)

10. Mount on colored 9” x 12” construction paper and hang in main hallway for all to see! (Ask your coordinator for details about this.)

11. You may also want to put the teacher’s name on the back of artwork since it will going up in the main hallway...
3rd GRADE--PROJECT #4

Artist: Marc Chagall
Masterpiece: I and the Village
Lesson: Images of a Dream/ Fantastic Imagination Art

Project Samples:
“Art Masterpiece” was presented in your student’s classroom. We discussed the Russian Jewish artist, Marc Chagall (1887 - 1985), who is best known for his Cubist-influenced paintings that resemble stained-glass windows and include dreamlike images. His work is rich in the imagery of the folklore of his native Russia and Jewish life, and often takes on the appearance of a dream-like fantasy. Children created their own Chagall-inspired fantasy collage using mixed media. We enjoyed sharing with your children. Please take the time to ask them to share what they learned and created!
Marc Chagall
1887-1985

Marc Chagall was born into a poor but lively Jewish family and grew up in the Russian village of Vitebsk (VEE-tepsk).

Instead of paying attention in school, he spent hours daydreaming. He imagined the animals and characters in the Bible stories he loved. Soon, only drawing and painting held his attention.

When he was twenty-three, Chagall received a small scholarship to study art in Paris, where he learned many new techniques and styles. But he always returned to memories of Vitebsk. Thousands of miles from home, Chagall gave life to his dreams. In bright, sweet, and tender paintings, his uncle fiddled on a rooftop, goats and cows smiled, tailors sewed, and peasants danced.

Chagall returned to Russia in 1914 and had to stay there because World War I had begun. He married the love of his life, Bella. The happy couple moved to Moscow, and Chagall began to paint huge scenery for the Jewish Art Theater, where Bella was an actress.

By 1922, the Chagalls had returned to Paris, but during the persecution of Jews in World War II, Chagall and his family had to escape from Europe and flee to the United States. When Bella died in 1944, Chagall could no longer dream. For almost a year, he did not pick up his paintbrush.

In the 1950's, Chagall returned to Paris, remarried, and once again, blossomed as an artist. He created magnificent stained-glass windows for churches, synagogues, and buildings such as the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City. Until his death at ninety-seven, Chagall continued to share the private world of his imagination with art-lovers everywhere.