LOTUS FLOWER DRAWINGS

By Fahimeh Amiri

Summary:
The lotus flower appears as a stylized motif in Islamic Art. Comprised of plant-inspired, arabesque lines that form symmetric patterns as they grow from a single point, the lotus is an important element of Islamic design and ornamentation.

Grades: All

Terms:
• Lotus flower
• Arabesque
• Symmetry
• Islamic Art

Materials:
• Paper
• Pens/Pencils
• Colored Pencils/Markers

Activity:
• Begin with one of the three lotus templates (included at the end of this lesson) that will outline the basic shape of your flower.
  o More advanced artists can fold their paper in half to create a vertical line through the middle of their paper, and draw a dot anywhere on this folded line. The dot will be the center or base of the lotus flower, and the folded line is the line of symmetry.
• On just one side of the paper, draw an organic line or shape that fills in an area of the lotus outline or stems from the central dot. This could be inspired by leaves, vines, flowers or other plant elements.
• Reflect this line or shape across the line of symmetry onto the other side of your paper by drawing its mirror image.
• Repeat this process, growing your lotus flower however you wish, as long as each added element is joined by its symmetric mirror image on the other side.
• Add further detail and ornamentation by using small shapes and lines to fill in spaces inside larger shapes or to create interest in the background.

• Color in your lotus design.

• Expand this concept by using the lotus flower to explore different kinds of symmetry, such as radial symmetry or even fractals. How can you layer the use of many kinds of symmetry in a single lotus artwork?
Template 1:
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings

Template 2:
Template 3:
Visual Resources:
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Lesson Plan by Fahimeh Amiri: Lotus Flower Drawings
Artwork by Fahimeh Amiri: