



THE NOISY PAINT BOX

AUTHOR: BARB ROSENSTOCK

ILLUSTRATOR: MARY GRANDPRÉ

See a video of the book read aloud here: [The Noisy Paint Box](#)

**** REMEMBER: HAVE FUN AND THE KIDS WILL TOO! ****

OVERVIEW

ABOUT THE BOOK

In this exuberant celebration of creativity, Barb Rosenstock and Mary GrandPré tell the fascinating story of Vasily Kandinsky, one of the very first painters of abstract art. Throughout his life, Kandinsky experienced colors as sounds, and sounds as colors—and bold, groundbreaking works burst forth from his noisy paint box. <https://www.amazon.com/Noisy-Paint-Box-Kandinskys>

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Barb Rosenstock loves inventing stories. Her award-winning picture books include: *Fearless*, *The Littlest Mountain*, *The Camping Trip that Changed America*, *Thomas Jefferson Builds a Library*, *The Noisy Paintbox*, and *The Streak: How Joe DiMaggio Became America's Hero*. She lives outside of Chicago with her husband, two sons, and two big poodles.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Mary GrandPré is an American illustrator best known for her cover and chapter illustrations of the Harry Potter books in their U.S. editions published by Scholastic.

Born: February 13, 1954 (age 63), [Aberdeen, SD](#)

Awards: Caldecott Medal, Quill Award for Children's chapter book/middle grade, Quill Award for Book of the year

Education: Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

THE READ ALOUD

BEFORE READING

Use these before reading the story to help students activate background knowledge and make predictions:

- I noticed that this book received a Caldecott award. What should that prepare us for?
- “The colors and sounds of abstract art” is a bit confusing to me, is there a connection to sound and art?
- What is the boy on the cover doing?
- Read the quote on the back cover.
- Introduce author and illustrator.

THE NOISY PAINT BOX

TOPICS & THEMES:

- Art
- Creativity
- Abstract art

Tips for every book!

POWER PHRASES:

I WONDER...

I NOTICE...

TELL ME MORE...

DIGGING DEEPER:

“Tell me more, why do you think that?”

“How do you know that?”

“Why do you think they feel like that?”

“Interesting, did you notice anything else?”

DURING THE STORY

Use these while reading the story to help students interpret the action and content.

Emergent Literacy: (Comprehension - connections to world/self - print referencing - open ended questions - phonological awareness)

- (p.1) Can you determine the meaning of proper?
- (p.6,7) Where have we heard about sounds and art? (title)
- (p.12) I wonder what Vasya's parents thought when they saw his paintings?
- (p.12) It seems that Vasya's family did not like his paintings because they did not show regular things. His art is called abstract.
- (12,13) Why did Vasya quit his job as a lawyer?
- (Pp. 16,17) Do you think everyone can hear art?
- (p.19) What do you think Vasya will do next?
- (Pp.22, 23) I wonder why the illustrator wrote each word differently. (Onomatopoeia copies the sounds of the words). Do you think Vasya wrote the words on his painting?
- (p.24) Was it a good idea for Vasya to name his paintings after musical movements?
- (p.26) How does Kandinsky's art make you feel?

AFTER READING

Use these after reading the story to help students understand what they just read.

- If the author separated this book in three chapters, what could he name each chapter? Let's share ideas.

BRINGING THE BOOK TO LIFE!

- Are you especially good at something?
- Is there something you would like to do but are not allowed to?
- Do you ever do things differently than others?
- Have you ever been someplace where grownups just talked and talked and talked?!

COOPERATIVE LEARNING

- Look around your classroom. Do you think it is calm or is it energetic and fun? Perhaps it is both. Tell a classmate how you feel or what you think about the colors in your room.

SMALL-GROUP IDEAS

1. DISCUSSION ACTIVITY

- This story is an example of historical fiction because the events in the story are true, but the author invented the conversation.
- What was the one main problem in the story?
- How did Vasya try to solve his problem?
- Identify 3 things that changed for Vasya once his problem was solved.
- Each picture in the book seems to tell a story. Let's look at some of them again.
- How did Vasya 's paintings tell stories?
- What was your favorite part of the story?

Suggested Optional Activity:

- Divide your paper in four sections. Using both sides of the paper, Label each section with the name of a color. Draw a picture of something that makes you "feel" that color. You may write why if you would like. This activity can be done with crayons if they are available.

2. WRITING ACTIVITY

- Write a book review about the story. Rate it from 1-5 stars with 5 stars the highest. \
- Or:
- Write about your favorite part in the story. You may draw a picture to illustrate this part of the story.

3. EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- Design a new cover for the book. Use some of the elements that you have learned about Kandinsky. Be sure to write an "About the Artist".
- If possible, play sections from Schoenberg <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-pVz2LTakM> while the children are working.

COMMON CORE LINKS

CCSS.ELA- Literacy.RL 3.1,3.2,3.3,3.4,3.5,3.7,3.8