

The Lady with the Lamp



Grade: 2nd – 5th Grade

Summary: An stained-glass chalk pastel and marker drawing of a lantern

Historical Figure: **Florence Nightingale (1820 – 1910)**

Objective: Learn about Florence Nightingale, founder of modern nursing

Level: Beginner /Intermediate

Art Project Time: 45 - 60 minutes

Meet the Historical Figure: Florence Nightingale was the founder of modern nursing. Nightingale came to fame during the Crimean War, where she improved the care for wounded soldiers. She gave nursing a good reputation and became an icon of Victorian Culture. In 1860 Nightingale laid the foundation of professional nursing with the establishment of her nursing school at St. Thomas' Hospital in London, England. It

was the first non-religious nursing school in the world, today it is part of King's College, London. Her social reforms included improving healthcare for all sections of British society, advocating better hunger relief in India and expanding the acceptance of female participation in the workforce.

Nightingale was born into a wealthy and well-connected British family at a villa in Florence, Italy. In 1837, at the age of 17, she believed to have had a calling to devote herself to serving others. In 1844 she made the decision to educate herself in the art and science of nursing. Her family was very opposed to this due to the restrictive social codes of women in the times. Florence Nightingales most famous contribution came during the Crimean war. Reports got back to Britain about the horrific conditions for the wounded. Improving the conditions became her central focus. Nightingale implemented the simple rule of hand washing and other hygiene practices in the hospital where she was working. By improving these practices, she and her staff of 38 women volunteer nurses reduced the death rate from 42% to 2%.

In 1859 she wrote **Notes on Nursing**. The book served as the cornerstone of the curriculum at the Nightingale Nursing School and all other nursing schools. It was the first book of its kind to be written for professional nurses and those nursing family members at home. The book sold well to the general public and was considered a classic introduction to nursing. In the 1870s, Nightingale mentored Linda Richards, "America's first trained nurse" and enabled her to return to the United States with training and knowledge to establish high-quality nursing schools. Richards went on to become a nursing pioneer in the US and Japan.

Fun Facts

- Florence Nightingale traveled to Greece and while there rescued a little owl from a group of children who were tormenting it. She named the owl Athena and carried it in her pocket. The pet died soon before she left for the Crimean War.
- She was known as the "Lady with the Lamp" because of her habit of visiting wounded soldiers at night after the physicians had gone to sleep.
- National Nurses Week is May 4 – May 12, ending on her birthday. May 12th is International Nurses Day.
- There are statues, plaques, hospitals, stained glass windows in churches and even a museum dedicated to Florence Nightingale and her contributions to modern day nursing.



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Discussion Points: Florence Nightingale dedicated her entire life to nursing and serving others. What are your thoughts on being that dedicated to your chosen career? What do you think about her being the first to tell doctors and surgeons to wash their hands regularly? Do you wash your hands? Do you think she did a lot for modern day nursing? Do you know any nurses?

Art Supplies:

- 8 x 10 white watercolor paper or cardstock
- Pencils (optional)
- Permanent black markers
- Chalk pastels (optional)
- Colored Markers (variety of colors)
- Rulers (if familiar with using)
- Stained-glass template
- Liquid starch (if using chalk pastels)
- Small cups for starch (if using chalk pastels)
- Paper towels
- Small cups for water
- Q-tips (optional)

Prep Art: Print the stained-glass template on watercolor paper or cardstock

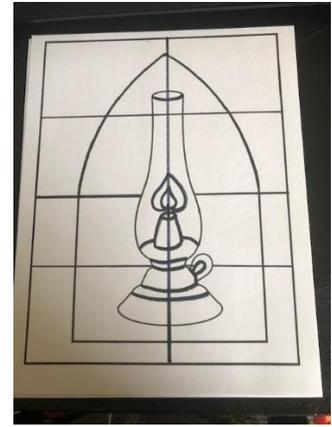
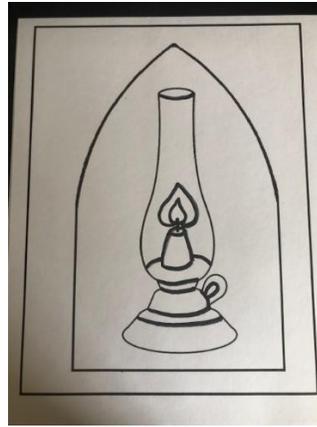
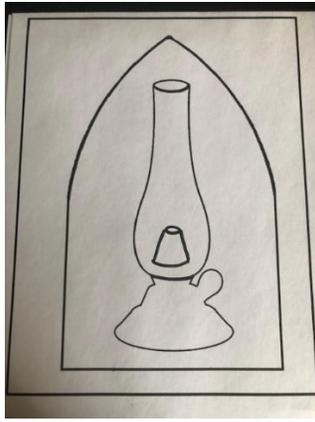
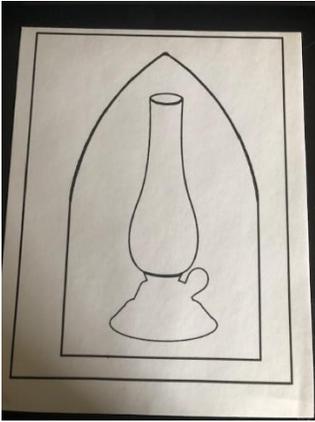
Art Directions:

1. Use your permanent black marker to add a curved line on the top and bottom of the glass globe of the lantern.
2. Draw a curved line to the top of the lantern.
3. Draw a small curved line, like a smile above the line that you just drew at the bottom of the globe.
4. Draw two slightly angled lines, approximately an inch high. Add a shape like an eye on the top of this. This is your candle.
5. Add a small line for a wick and add a flame. Flames should look like tear drops.
6. Add curved lines for the top of the lantern base and handles. The curved lines are again, like a smile.
7. Use your ruler to add lines to the stained-glass window. If you are not comfortable using a ruler, draw the lines free hand. Draw a vertical line down the center of the window.
8. Use the ruler to draw 3 horizontal lines across the stained-glass image.
9. Draw 2 more vertical lines on the sides of the stained-glass image.
10. Add a few lines at an angle from the lantern.
11. Take a look at your drawing and consider add some more lines.
12. Start with one section behind the lantern and use the chalk pastels to color it in.
13. Next use a little bit of starch and your finger or a Q-tip to blend and seal the chalk pastels. Use a variety of different colors for the other sections behind the lantern.
14. Use the markers to color in the lantern. Use oranges and or yellow for the lantern.
15. Consider using a little bit of water or liquid starch to blend the markers.

Tips and Art Tricks

- To save on time you can do the entire art project with a large variety of art supplies. You can use watercolor paints, crayons or markers.
- If not comfortable using rulers, the lines can be done freehand.
- This can be done first with pencil and then traced with a permanent black marker.
- To prevent smudging their artwork rotate the paper so the section you are working on is closer to you.
- If you do not have access to liquid starch, you can use your finger to blend the chalk pastel. Use aerosol hairspray to seal the art project when finished.

Art Project in Progress:



Sample of The Florence Nightingale Stained-Glass Window



Stained-glass window of Florence Nightingale at Museum of London

