



# Dancing "Fude"

**Grade Level:** 8th Grade

**Art Content Standard:** Historical , Cultural and Social Syntax: Benchmark B  
Creative Expression and Communication: Benchmark E  
Ensuring equity and opportunity for all students  
through differentiated instruction, cultural  
competence and respect for the needs of at-risk  
or marginalized students.

**Vocabulary/ Concepts:** Sumi-e (Ink and wash painting; or, a brush used for  
this style of painting.)  
Impressionist  
Composition  
Negative Space  
Realistic  
Abstract  
Haiku  
Fude - (Fude brush, a Japanese calligraphy brush)  
The Four Gentlemen (Traditional subject matter incorporating  
basic brushstrokes.)  
Action painting  
Sumi Ink  
Bamboo - leaf stroke  
Bamboo - node stroke  
Accent line

**Background/ Key Ideas:** Impressionistic influence  
Calligraphy, Calligraphy as beautiful writing  
Letters to pictures  
Introduction to Japanese seventh century

**Materials:** Sumi-e or Fude Brushes, Rice Paper, India Ink, Newsprint

**Procedure:**

1. Have all supplies ready: ink in cups, brushes and newsprint distributed.
2. When students come in, have lights dimmed, very quiet.
3. Students begin with a traditional Japanese bow, then they can get their supplies.
4. Find a spot to sit on the floor.
5. Three-minute meditation, then ask students to recall the demonstration of "bamboo stroke;" strokes are built on each prior stroke, 25 minutes for each class.
6. Five-minute journal entry.
7. Papers collected by students, final project.
8. Two main strokes used to illustrate their Haiku.

**Assessment:** Performance-based assessment of student projects.

**Enrichment Activities:** Printmaking  
Woodblock  
Positive/Negative Space  
Haiku written to their own Sumi-e paintings  
Origami  
Clay pinch pots with Sumi-e painting on them

**Resources (Books, websites, etc.):**

*The Sumi-e Book*, Yolanda Mayhall, Arrow Book of Poetry- Ann McGovern  
Woodblock Printing - Wikipedia,  
Sumi-e Philosophy ([www.silverdragonstudio.com](http://www.silverdragonstudio.com))  
Haiko – Wikipedia  
Master Basho's Spirit ([www.haiko.insouth.sea.co.uk](http://www.haiko.insouth.sea.co.uk))  
Koto World - Japanese music/stories to nourish/inspire  
Haiku Society ([www.haikusociety.com](http://www.haikusociety.com))  
Poetry and Quotations ([www.poemofquotes.com](http://www.poemofquotes.com))  
Origami History ([www.paperfolding.com/history](http://www.paperfolding.com/history))  
Japanese Woodblocks ([www.intermonet.com/japan](http://www.intermonet.com/japan))

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