

Painting *en plein air*

Let's paint *en plein air*!

Many artists throughout history have enjoyed painting outside surrounded by nature. Artists call this *en plein air*, which is a French term that means "in the open air." Painting this way allows the artist to capture what they see as it is happening. They can capture a moment in time in their artwork.

Materials

Paper
Pencil
Paintbrushes
Paint
Water cup

1



Go outside and look around.
Find a scene that you would like
to capture with paint.

2



Using the pencil and paper, lightly draw in
the features of the scene that you see. These
marks are guidelines for your painting.

3



Paint in the biggest areas of color first.
Don't worry! It doesn't have to be perfect.

4



Allow the paint to dry a bit before adding
another layer of paint.

5



Add details like trees, flowers,
or light posts.

**You painted
en plein air! Beautiful!**