

O'KEEFFE, GEORGIA Name

Primary Focus: Women artists.



The Southwestern United States played a huge roll in both Georgia O'Keeffe's life and art. In her work, O'Keeffe investigates and rethinks the natural landscape that so inspired her.

Georgia O'Keeffe's deep connection to the Southwest is an undeniable part of her art. The serene landscapes and still-lives she depicted convey a sense a beauty in a unique way. Recently, O'Keeffe's early work in abstraction has been rediscovered.

Discuss the women as artist. The reasons for such an inequitable amount of women artists is two fold. The social constraints of prior eras did not allow women the freedom of artistic expression. And those who write history control the outcome. History was recorded and written about mostly by the male gender until very recently in our history.

Discuss the Southwest as students are studying the various regions of the U.S. in this grade.

Discuss O'Keeffe's connection to New York City (slide 7), her relationship with the famed photographer Alfred Stieglitz (slide 3), and her studies at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Some questions to pose:

- Have you seen any other artists that are women?
- Why do you think there have not been many women artists presented in Art Appreciation?
- Do you see any abstraction in her paintings? Why? (show slide 10 to discuss this question).
- In Slide 10. What is O'Keeffe painting here? What type of lines and colors describe this painting?
- O'Keeffe uses **found objects** from the landscape to create a type of still-life. (like in slide 5). How does she express the Southwest by doing this?
- What is a still-life painting? (it is one of the many genres of painting)
- Can you name any other genres of painting? (Portraits, landscapes, history painting...).