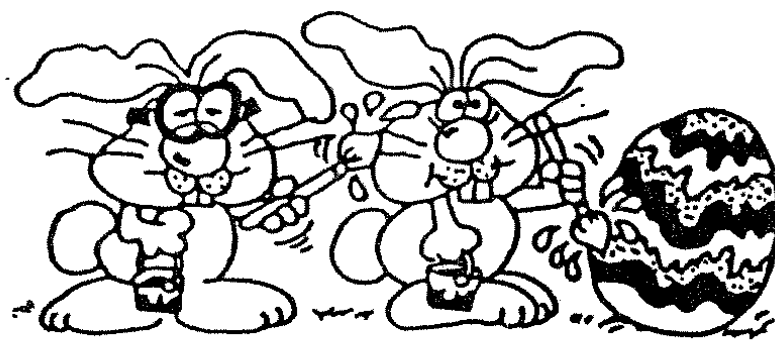


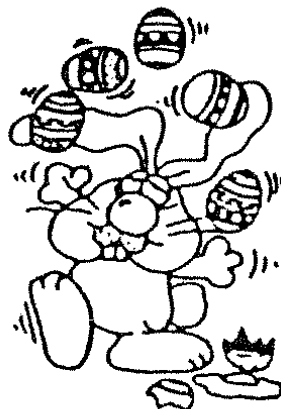
This Pysanka Unit is dedicated to all who are adventurous and interested in sharing new learning experiences.

Happy Pysanky Painting!



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STUDENT DIARIES

The following are samples of how the students can set up their diaries (these are excerpts from actual student diaries).

Easter Greetings from the Ukrainians

Pysanky

by Kristin - Grade 2

The decorated Easter eggs are Pysanky. This comes from the Ukrainian word Pysata which means to write.

Day 1: We saw a film today.

A Ukrainian lady was making a Pysanka.

I'm going to try to make the same design as the lady on the film.

I brought a candle today.

Day 2: We mixed the dyes.

This is how you do it.

Dissolve 1 package of dye with 125 ml boiling water and 1 tbsp. vinegar.

The colours are:

yellow	purple
orange	black
red	brown
blue	

Day 3: The eggs must be

raw
fresh
smooth
at room temp.
not cracked
white

HOW TO MAKE A UKRAINIAN EASTER EGG

The Eggs

Several kinds of eggs can be decorated. Duck, goose and chicken eggs can be used as long as they are fresh and raw. The shell should be smooth and unblemished.

If the eggs need to be cleaned, rinse them very carefully in a solution of 1 quart of warm water with 1-2 tablespoons of white vinegar. Blot gently, do not rub the eggs dry. Use a clean, white, soft cloth or a paper towel to dry the egg.

Using a raw egg for decorating is a tradition and the decorated egg, or Pysanka, is not meant to be eaten.

Boiling the egg causes a small amount of water to seep under the shell. This can spoil the design in a few weeks. The decorated Pysanka will keep indefinitely if the shell is in good condition. Eventually the inside of the egg will turn to dust.

When you begin, the egg should be at room temperature because the wax will not adhere to the surface of a cold egg.

The eggs are dipped into the dye baths from the lightest to the darkest colour:

YELLOW, touches of **GREEN**, **ORANGE**, **RED** and **BLACK**.
BROWN, **VIOLET** or **BLUE** may be used instead of **BLACK**.

The dyes need to be replaced when the colours begin to look washed out.

Symbolism of the Colours Used

Yellow is the symbol of *light, youth, happiness and the harvest.*

Green symbolizes *hope, health and renewal as seen in spring.*

Orange represents the *sun and strength.*

Red represents the *joy of life and love.*

Black symbolizes *long life and remembrance.*

Brown is symbolic of *mother earth.*

Blue signifies the *blue skies.*

Purple signifies *patience and trust.*

White symbolizes *purity, innocence and birth.*

PLANT SYMBOLS AND DESIGNS

Flowers are the most common in plant designs.

Flower designs often mean charity, a wish for friendship or love.

Sunflowers suggest the warmth of the sun's rays.

Roses symbolize love, caring, beauty and wisdom.

The **periwinkle** design gives a wish of love.

Evergreen trees symbolize eternal youth, life and health.

Trees mean rebirth of nature.

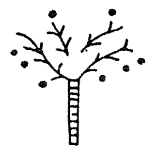
Grapes, vines, cherries symbolize health and wisdom.

Oak leaves symbolize strength.

Wheat symbolizes wishes for a bountiful harvest.

There is a rich variety of plant motifs.

apple trees



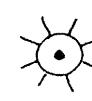
oak leaves



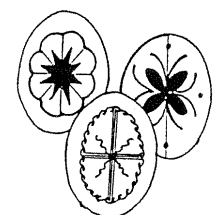
pussy willows



poppy



branches



MATERIALS READY?

The Fun Begins!

Your hands must be very clean and free from perspiration. Your working area should be well lit and the table should be covered with a plastic sheet.

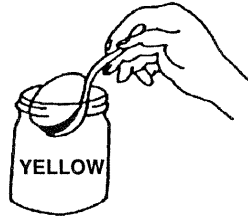
Hold the kistka in your writing hand and the egg in the other hand. Heat the tip of the funnel in the candle flame. Scoop tiny bits of beeswax into the funnel. Heat the tip again. This may need to be done several times at first. Reheating the kistka keeps the wax flowing.

Draw on the white egg by using long strokes. Do not press the funnel tip into the shell. Scoop up more beeswax as you need it. Overheating the kistka will result in the blotting of wax drops on the egg. The craft of Pysanky Art lies in controlling the flow of the wax.

The lines or designs you make on the white egg will result in white designs and lines on your Pysanka. When you have all the white you think you want, you are ready for the first dye.

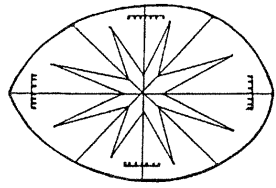
Yellow for happiness!

Using a large spoon, dip your egg into the yellow dye. When you have the shade of yellow you want (5 to 10 minutes) remove the egg from the dye. Pat the egg dry with a paper towel.



DO NOT RUB!

When the egg is completely dry, you are ready to cover the lines and designs that you wish to be yellow on your egg with beeswax. Warm up your kistka and begin to write!



DISPLAY YOUR PYSANKY

Your decorated eggs or Pysanky can be displayed in baskets, egg cups, glass bowls, egg trays or shot glasses.

Do not leave the Pysanky:

1. in air-tight containers
2. in the refrigerator
3. in a warm place where they may be exposed to sunlight or heat

THE EGGS

Unscramble the letters to spell words that tell about the kind of egg you use.

1. awr _____
2. shfre _____
3. ogsoe _____
4. ta orom pmetretaeu _____
5. ukcd _____
6. nekccih _____

The shell should be:

1. oosmht _____
2. ont rccakde _____
3. etihw _____

When I am done, my egg is called a _____

PREPARATION OF MATERIALS

The Eggs

Several kinds of eggs can be used: _____ ,
_____ , or _____ .

The eggs must be _____ ,
_____ and _____ .

If the egg needs to be cleaned, it should be rinsed in a
solution of _____ .

Why are raw eggs used? _____

I would like to make a _____ because _____

