Elements: Color & Line  
Principles: Emphasis  
Materials:

- 9” x 12” white construction paper (two per student)
- Tempera or acrylic paint (5 colors in all, listed below)
- Newsprint or table covering (for mat under art)
- Brushes
- Black oil pastels
- Scissors
- Glue
- One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish (by Dr. Seuss)
Instructions:

1. Show the students the art sample. Talk about the shape of the fish, the shape of the eyes, and the shape of the fins. Ask students if these fish are realistic or stylized, have them explain the difference. Students can choose to make horizontal or vertical fish.

2. Let students choose 2 or 3 colors from a selection of: yellow, red, green, medium blue, and light blue (may have to mix this one up ahead of time... medium blue plus white).

3. Have students paint stripes on one paper, making sure to spread the paint thin to ensure a fast dry time (*see photo below).

4. Also have students paint the basic body shape of their fish leaving white oval shapes on their paper for eyes. Have them add fins in the same color or a new color (*see photo below). Make sure they spread any globs of paint out so that it is a thin layer overall.

5. Have the students put their paint brushes into a water pitcher in the sink to soak and pause the art making process to read a Dr. Seuss book, to allow paint to dry.

6. Before reading the book, tell students to pay attention to the use of black line and color in Dr. Seuss’ illustrations. After reading, draw the eye pupil shape on the board so kids can understand it’s a thick lined U shape.

7. Have students return to their art and add black oil pastel lines to the outside of their fish to add emphasis. Also have them add oil pastel U-shaped pupil, outside of eyes, eyelashes (optional), smiles, and whatever other lines they would like to make.

8. Have students cut out their fish. Tell them to try and cut out their fish along the outside of their black oil pastel outline (so they don’t cut it off). Some may need help cutting around smaller fin areas.

9. Have students glue their fish down onto their striped paper.
10. Have students put name on back of art and clean up supplies.

*Here is a sample photo of the paintings done prior to the book reading – which will allow for dry time, as long as the paint is spread thin. Some students may request to make two smaller fish, instead of one large fish. The addition of black lines really make the fish look more Seuss-like.