Elements: Line
Principles: Pattern
Materials:

- 9” x 12” white construction paper
- Pencil
- Black Sharpies
- Watercolor trays
- Water (in cups/jars)
- Brushes
- Paper towels
Instructions:

1. Look at the artwork of American artist, Georgia O’Keefe (featured below), a southwest artist who used nature as inspiration for her artwork.

2. Show students the sample art. Instruct students that they will be using bold lines and watercolors to create a cactus pot of their own design.

3. Review the different styles of line by having students name some of them and list them on the board (continuous, broken, zig-zag, wavy, curved, and so on).

4. Have students use pencil to sketch a partial pot top at the base of their paper about two inches worth. Tell them not to worry about making patterns, just sketch a symmetrical outline of the pot.

5. Next have them lightly sketch a few basic cactus outlines. Some students will want to add patterns with pencil, but discourage this as it will take too long to create the art – just have them finish their pencil sketch in 5-10 minutes, emphasizing keeping it simple.

6. Students will then use their sharpies to outline pots and cactus and add patterns and thorns.

7. After cactus is outlined, have students erase errant pencil lines.

8. Lastly, have students paint with watercolor to fill in their artwork. Remind them that the top tray is the area to mix colors.

9. When art is complete, have students wipe out the tray with a paper towel and clean the area. Also, have them add their name to the back of the paper.

*Oil pastels could be used prior to water-coloring leaves for added texture effect.*
American artist Georgia O’Keefe – Jimson Weed – 1934