Elements: Color & Shape
Principles: Contrast
Materials:

☐ 12” x 18” colored construction paper
☐ Tempera paint
☐ Paint brushes
☐ Paper plates
☐ Paper towels
☐ Jar/Cup of water
☐ Newspaper (for under paintings)
Instructions:

1. Read a book (see below for suggestions) on gardens or flowers. Highlight the use of color in the illustrations.

2. Explain to students that they will be painting a garden today using circles as the primary shape for the flowers. Use an art piece from Kandinsky (see below) whose colorful art showcases the use of circles, to provide inspiration for the art.

3. Remind students of the differences between warm colors and cool colors. Let the students select several colors for their gardens.

4. **Mixing colors** is allowed as long as students keep at least 3-4 colors to use for their gardens (this way they don’t mix their entire paint plate into one color).

5. Explain to students that the water is to **rinse their brush** between each color. After rinsing they can blot the brush off onto a paper towel.

6. Have students **paint their own garden creations using concentric circles.** Varying between warm and cool colors will provide contrast.

7. Have students help clean their desks and return brushes and water to the sink.

**BOOK SUGGESTIONS:** The Tiny Seed, The Curious Garden, Plant the Tiny Seed, The Honeybee, OR a book of your own choosing.
Russian artist **Wassily Kandinsky** – *Squares with Concentric Circles* - 1913