Make Your Own American Gothic

American Gothic is the name of this famous painting. Have you seen it before?

- This painting was made over 90 years ago!
- The man who painted it is called Grant Wood.
- The woman in the painting is based off of Grant’s sister and the man is based off of his dentist! How funny!!
- They are standing in front of their farm house.
- What else do you notice?

What you will need to complete this project:
- Glue Stick
- 3 Sheets of Paper (6 included)
- Scissors
- Any type of Paint or Coloring Materials (colored pencils included)

Also included in this month’s kit:
- Pencil Sharpener
- Applesauce Snack & Spoon

START THINKING!

WHO would you put in your version of the American Gothic Painting?
WHERE would your painting take place?

**NOTE: Your painting can be imaginary, or based on real life! Whatever you want!
For example, you could have your painting take place under the sea with 2 silly sea monsters!
OR You could draw you and your best friend at the park! Allow yourself to be creative!!

LETS GET STARTED!

STEP TO FOLLOW

Step 1:
Begin by grabbing your first piece of paper and sketch out the background you want for your characters.

Once you have your background drawn, gather your coloring materials!

Step 2:
Color in your background with whatever materials you want! You can use paints, markers, colored pencils, etc!
Step 3:
Grab your other 2 pieces of paper. On each piece of paper, draw one character. Once you have your characters drawn, you can color them in and cut them out. Be careful when cutting with scissors! You may want to ask an adult for help.

Step 4:
Grab your background paper. If it is dry, begin gluing your characters on top of the background with your glue stick!
And VIOLA!
Your masterpiece is completed!

LET'S WRAP UP!
COMPARE AND CONTRAST YOUR PAINTING TO GRANT WOOD'S
• How is your painting different than Grants?
• What do you feel when you look at your painting and what do you feel when you look at Grants?
• What do you think Grant Wood would say if he saw your painting?

ABOUT THE ARTIST MENTIONED

Grant Wood (1891-1942) was an American artist and leading figure of the Regionalist movement. Known for his smoothly rendered paintings of the American Midwest, Wood’s iconic work American Gothic (1930), has become one of the most recognizable paintings of the 20th century. The slightly unsettling work depicts a male and female farmer standing side-by-side before their Gothic Revival house.
“Technique does not constitute art. Nor is it a vague, fuzzy romantic quality known as ‘beauty,’ remote from the realities of everyday life,” Wood once explained. “It is the depth and intensity of an artist’s experience that are the first importance in art.”
Born on February 13, 1891 in Anamosa, Iowa, Wood studied arts and craft at the Handicraft Guild School in Minneapolis, Minn. and went on to attend the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.