Henri Rousseau: Jungle Cut-Outs

Grades: 1+  
Time: 60 minutes

Final Product: Students create a collage out of construction paper pieces that resemble Rousseau’s famous jungle scene paintings.

Instructional Objectives:  
The students will be able to...  
1. create a collage inspired by Rousseau’s jungle scenes

Materials:
1. Various colours of construction paper (lots of greens, browns, oranges, reds, and black)  
2. Scissors  
3. Glue  
4. One large piece of paper per student  
5. National Geographic Magazines

Keywords:
1. Post Impressionism  
2. Primitive  
3. Naive

Lesson Process:
Introduction (art style, artist, keywords):  
Using information provided on smartartforteachers.weebly.com...
1. Introduce the Post Impressionist art movement  
2. Introduce Henri Rousseau  
3. Look at different examples of Rousseau’s jungle paintings and discuss the common elements of each painting: bright colours, thick jungle leaves, combination of strange animals

Body (art project):  
1. Give students the option to chose from a variety of different construction paper colours and National Geographic magazines  
2. Students must cut out shapes and images from the magazines and construction paper and glue them onto their large piece of paper to create a collage  
3. Students glue together their cut out pieces to create a jungle scene full of foliage, animals, and other natural landscape and wildlife elements  
4. Students should practice layering their different cutouts to create a textured and layered surface

Suggestion for display:  
- Display student artwork on a bulletin board with the following title:  
  - Who’s Who in Rousseau’s Zoo?