

Station #3: Now you see it. Now you don't!
Why did artists hide their works?

This is a simple demonstration you can do using the overhead projector. X-rays are used to see if artists reused their canvases, altered their painting or if the artist's hid another work behind the one on the surface.

Aim: Students will

- Build a vocabulary list
- Observe and analyze the possibilities of hidden art

Materials:

Overhead projector

Selected transparencies

Protocols:

- 1.) By using the correct combination of pictures and transparencies (You will have to experiment with this yourself), you can show how you can reveal a transparency behind the one on top.
- 2.) First, use no light to see if students can detect the other picture behind the one you are showing them.
- 3.) Second, put the two transparency/picture combinations on the overhead and turn on the light.
- 4.) The light simulates x-rays, and students should be able to detect the bottom image.
- 5.) Have students do a web search to find famous painting that have other pictures underneath them.
- 6.) Make a display of tricks played by artists in this fashion.