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DAKOTA ART PASTELS
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APS Adventures in Pastel Adventure AAAA-5: "Breakers"

Welcome to our FIFTH Pastel Adventure in Series AAAA called "Breakers." In this adventure, the challenge will be to portray a breaking ocean wave as a prominent feature in your painting.

Ocean waves can be a very complex subject to sort out. The colors of the water in the wave have many variables, for example, the height of the wave, the light source, water turbulence and water temperature to name a few. You will notice the base of the wave is usually thicker and darker, while the thinner crest is typically significantly lighter and a different color. Foam below the wave and spray above the crest may form tiny bubbles that often reflect the light differently from the wave itself. Needless to say, there is a lot going on in what looks to be a simple wave breaking on the shore! Here's the challenge:

Step 1: Take some time to study waves from still photos, as the constant motion is difficult to follow. Also, look at other paintings and see how different artists render waves. (See the illustrations below for inspiration.)

Step 2: There are numerous online videos that demonstrate painting waves using soft pastels. There are many different techniques for creating the wave, as well as the spray of water above it. We encourage you to explore these resources to take advantage of what other artists have learned.

Step 3: The challenge of this Adventure is to feature a breaking wave in your painting. Any style is acceptable be it realistic or something created from your wild imaginings. The colors, size and type of surface are totally up to you the artist.

Step 4: Send **the photo of your artwork, your comments, and the title and size** of your painting to Kay Gordon (jkaygordon364@gmail.com) by **May 25th at 6 PM.**

Step 5: Remember, this deadline is firm and nothing can be posted that is received after 6 PM on **May 25th.** Your painting does not need to be in its finished form! The adventure is so we can be painting together. This means exploring and experimenting with new ideas and techniques using pastels and then sharing the results of our learning with each other.

ON YOUR MARK, HOLD YOUR NOSE, AND JUMP IN THE WATER!

Here are various examples of how artists have depicted waves:



Walter Crane (1845-1915), *Neptune's Horses*, 1892



detail from Andreas Achenback, *Clearing up – Coast of Sicily*, 1847

For some wonderful examples of waves in pastel look up contemporary artist, JEANNE ROSIER SMITH



Print at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (JP1847)

Artist	Katsushika Hokusai
Year	1831 ^[1]
Type	color woodblock
Dimensions	25.7 cm × 37.8 cm (10.1 in × 14.9 in)
Location	Numerous

Stock photos of breaking waves are available online if you don't have a photo of your own for a reference. There are many free sites...one example is, <https://pixabay.com/images/search/waves%20breaking/>