

## Text Set to Accompany

# The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art

### Primary Sources & Research Materials

These texts tell readers more about the life and work of Vasily Kandinsky.

[Guggenheim Artist Profile: Vasily Kandinsky](#)

This artist profile from the Guggenheim Museum has over 40 Kandinsky works for viewers to explore, including many of his abstract works. Viewers can click on each painting to enlarge it and see its title. The page also includes a brief biography of Kandinsky.

[Photos: Wassily Kandinsky](#)

This collection of photos of Kandinsky includes shots of Kandinsky at many time periods detailed in *The Noisy Paint Box*, from his childhood to his time working as a teacher.

### Content Connections

These texts and resources explore topics such as abstract art and synesthesia.

[Google Music Lab: Kandinsky](#)

This online experiment turns visitor's art into music. Visitors can try using the tool to draw different shapes and scribbles, then press play to hear their art come to life.

[Article: Tasting the number seven?](#)

What is the connection between synesthesia and art? This article explores what synesthesia is and shares information about some famous synesthetes like Billy Joel and Pharrell Williams.

[Interactive Exhibit: National Gallery of Art BRUSHster Tool](#)

This tool allows website visitors to create abstract art using a color palette and various painting tools. Visitors can explore abstract art effects such as fragmenting, rippling, and smudging.

[Video: Art With Mati & Dada | Kandinsky](#)

This fantasy cartoon introduces viewers to the art of Kandinsky, as well as his belief that art can be listened to in the same way as music. Kandinsky's paintings come to life in magical ways. Viewers can explore the ways the cartoon aligns with the true story of Kandinsky's life.

[Synesthesia Experiment & Information: University of Washington](#)

This webpage for kids provides information on synesthesia, its diagnosis, and research. The page also includes an experiment children can do to see if they associate numbers with colors.

[Video: The Case for Abstraction | The Art Assignment | PBS Digital Studios](#)

Older students may enjoy learning more about how abstract art came to popularity. This video from PBS Digital Studios shares quotes and artwork from multiple artists while sharing the history of abstract art. For more about Kandinsky and his contemporaries, skip to 1:45.

[Video: What color is Tuesday? Exploring synesthesia](#)

This video, created by neurologist Richard E. Cytowic as part of the Ted-Ed initiative, explores how synesthesia looks for people who have it, as well as how elements of sense connection are present for all of us. The video also discusses how synesthesia happens at the DNA level.

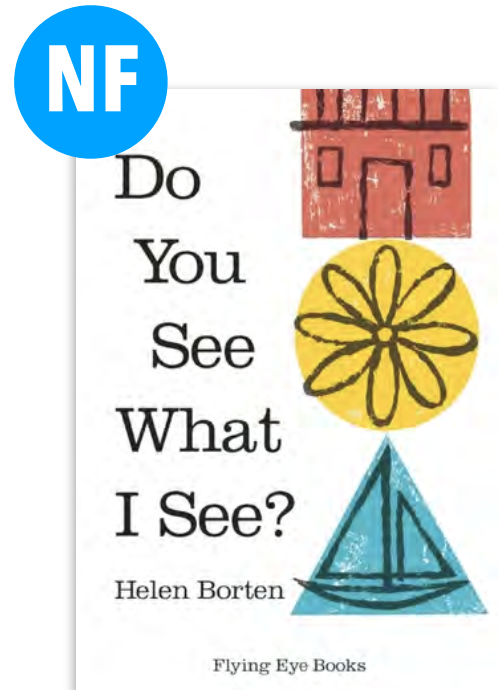


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# The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art

### Texts to Pair with *The Noisy Paint Box*

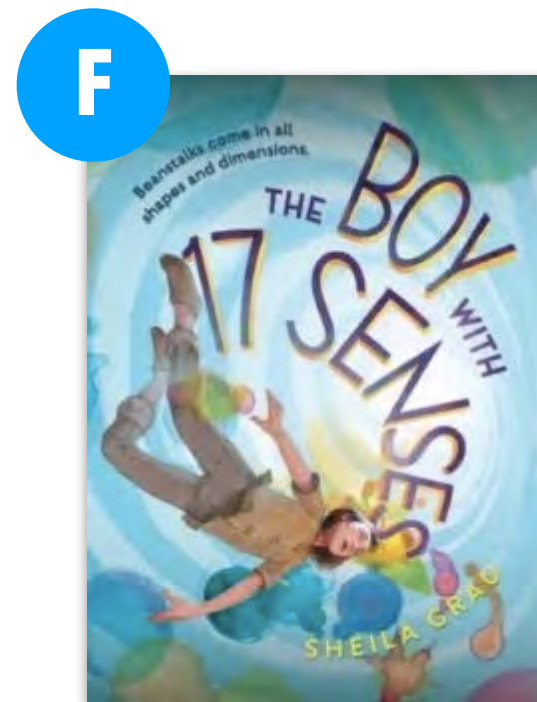
These fiction and nonfiction texts can be read alongside *The Noisy Paint Box* for deeper exploration of art and synesthesia.



**NF**

*Do You See What I See?*  
By Helen Borten

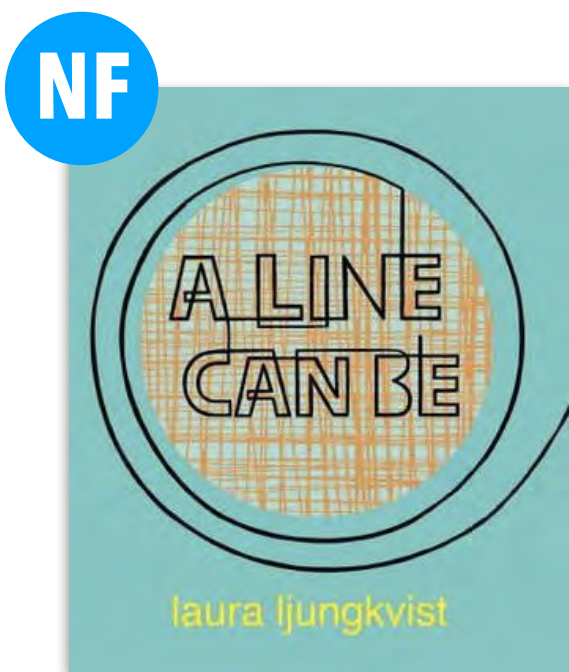
This 1960s classic has been rereleased by Flying Eye Books. Helen Borten introduces readers to shapes and colors by connecting the senses of seeing and feeling.



**F**

*The Boy with 17 Senses*  
By Sheila Grau

In this middle-grade book, the main character lives in a world where everyone feels, tastes, and sees sound. This retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk explores synesthetic ability through fantasy.



**NF**

*A Line Can Be*  
By Laura Ljungkvist

This board book explores the different feelings lines can capture - softness, messiness, etc. After reading, students can talk about the feelings evoked by lines in Kandinsky's work.



**F**

*The Girl Who Heard Colors*  
By Marie Harris

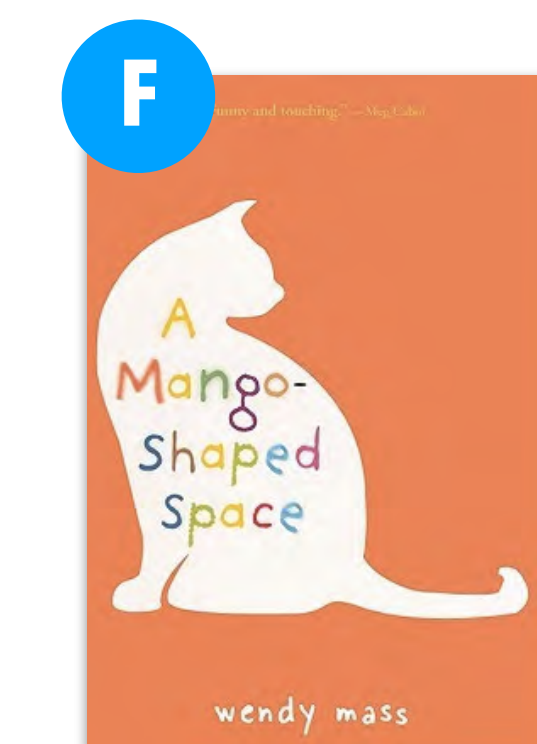
When Jillian hears sounds, she also sees colors. This picture book explains synesthesia for young readers and celebrates the differing abilities that make us who we are.



**NF**

*Paul Klee for Children*  
By Silke Vry

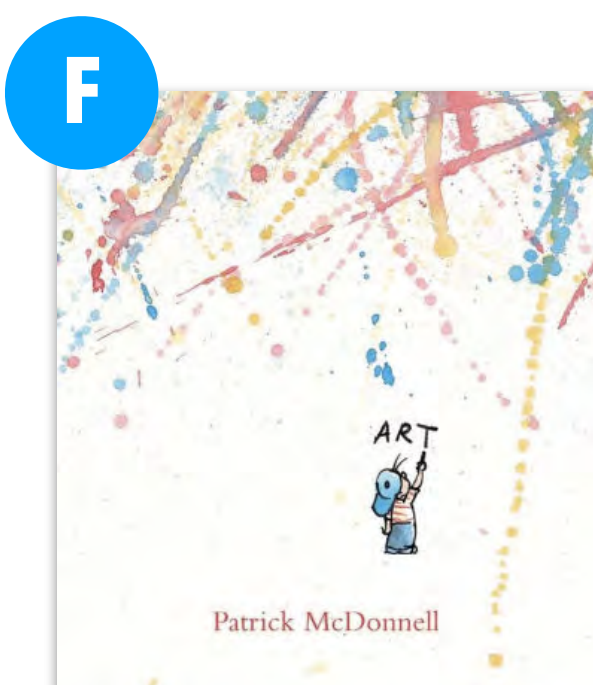
This biography captures the life and work of Paul Klee, who was a friend and contemporary of Kandinsky. Klee and Kandinsky taught together at the Bauhaus.



**F**

*A Mango Shaped Space*  
By Wendy Mass

This young adult book, which received the American Library Association Schneider Family Book Award in 2004, follows a girl named Mia as she learns to embrace her synesthesia.



**F**

*Art*  
By Patrick McDonnell

This book pairs well with *The Dot* as a text to encourage all to find their inner artist. A boy named Art explores the power of art through exploration.



**F**

*The Dot*  
By Peter H. Reynolds

What is art? Who can be an artist? *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds answers these questions through a charming story with a memorable life lesson.

**F** = Fiction

**NF** = Nonfiction