

Step 1

Open up your paint kit and spread everything out in front of you. Be sure to pop a table cloth down to stop paint staining your table top.

Step 2

Using water to thin the paint, commence painting the top two corners in dark blue using an arching shape as you do, join the top two corners in the middle to create a blue arch across the top of your canvas..

Step 3

Leaving approx 2 inches at the bottom of your canvas, repeat the process, By now you should be left with a white rectangle at the bottom of your canvas and a white circle towards the top.

Step 4

Using white paint, start to create a circle blending the darker blue colour from your arch into the white. Work your way into the middle gradually getting lighter and lighter until you get 2 inches from the center,

Step 5

Once at the center, wash uyour brush thoroughly and create your moon using white paint. Your moon can be as large or as small as you like.

Step 6.

Take a moment to make your corners slightly darker and more vibrant before moving onto the next step. What you should at this stage be looking at is a circular gradient with a white circle in the centre, and a white rectange at the bottom.

Step 7

Using white paint, start to add stars into the darker parts of your picture (namley the outside 2 inches of the blended blue circle. Make your stars alternate between large and small, Light or darker. You can have them closer in towards your moon, but make fewer visable to ensure that you are painting stars rather then snow. Too many in the lighter part of your work will leave you looking like snow. Feel free to add curved 5-8cm fine lines following the circular shape in white paint, they will appear as star trails / shooting stars when applied to the background.

Step 8

Your background is compelte, time to tackle your tree, outline your tree using a fine tapered brush.

When you consider your tree remember a few key things:

- 1) Always make your branches larger at the base and finer at the tips of each branch.
 - 2) create forks off forks and dont be afraid to wind branches behind each other.
 - 3) Make the trunk of your tree wider than the top
 - 4) Make sure you have at least one branch that spans the witdth of the canvas
 - 5) Keep your tree to the right hand side and leave lots of room for your swing.

Step 9

Once outlined you need to block in your tree using black paint until your tree appears to be a silhuette standing infront of the moon and stars.

Step 10.

Now using a fine brush and black paint, create a line starting at the base of the tree and running to the ecge of the canvas, be sure ot overlap your blue blending so that there is no white canvas betwen the blue and the black line. Block in the white rectangle left with black paint.

Step 11.

Using a fine tapered brush and black paint, and an upwards brush motion add blades of grass along the line you created in the previous step.

Step 12.

Almost there! Time to paint your swing. Draw a black rectangle for the base of the swing. Connect this top the tree using fine black lines to represent the rope. Add a few loose lines at the top where it connects to the tree and again where the rope connects to the seat

Step 13.

Time to decide what you want to paint on your seat! No Matter what you decide simply break it down into shapes and block in your shapes. We have included a template below for the girl and cats!

