The Noisy Paint Box
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Book Summary:
This story takes place in mid to late 1800’s in the country of Russia. A young boy describes how he is a proper little boy. He studies, practices his instrument, sits up, dresses up, and is polite. When he begins to paint, he is expected to do it properly. When Vasya opens his paint box, a multitude of colors become an orchestra to his ears. Vasya must figure out if he should be the perfect little boy or explore a more unconventional way of doing things.

Learning Invitations:
1. How do you feel? Listening for colors
2. Compare/Contrast the Kremlin & the White House
3. Write a letter to Vasya
4. Writing in Russian

Social Studies Themes/Standards:
Power, Authority, & Governance
Culture
Time, Continuity, and Change

English/Language Arts Standards:
1.RN.2.3 Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.
1.W.3.1 Write logically connected sentences to make a proposal to a particular audience and give reasons why the proposal should be considered.
1.W.6.1 Conventions of writing
1.W.2.1 Write all uppercase (capital) and lowercase letters legibly, and space letters, words, and sentences appropriately

Cross-disciplinary Themes:
Art
1.2.1 Recognize that art from one artist has a similar look or style.
1.3.1 Describe sensory, formal, technical, and expressive properties in works of art using appropriate vocabulary.
1.3.2 Construct possible meanings in works of art and support opinions with personal response, properties found in the work, and background information

Music
1.6 Students identify similarities and differences in music and qualities of various sounds. They identify and demonstrate appropriate listening behavior.
How do you feel?
Press play and listen to a Russian ballet.
Decorate the side of the page with colors the music makes you see.
Write down how you feel.

I feel
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Options – download a CD and play on computer/CD player

- Find on youtube
- Play over PA

Suggested video: https://youtu.be/NzSGBGWO3r4
Learn about the Kremlin
The Kremlin is a big building in Moscow, Russia and the president of Russia lives there. The Kremlin was built in the same spot over 800 years ago. The spot where the Kremlin is at is about 90 football fields! The Kremlin means “fortress” or “a safe place”. The biggest bell in the world is inside the Kremlin. The Kremlin has a lot of towers around it. People are welcome to travel to the Kremlin and visit it. The Kremlin is painted with many colors. The Kremlin was once made of wood, but now it is made of stone.

Learn about the White House
The White House is a big building in Washington D.C., United States. This is where the president of America lives. The White House was made over 200 years ago. The White House yard is about 18 football fields. The White House is white because it was meant to protect the stone from freezing. There are 132 rooms, 32 bathrooms, and 6 levels. There are 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, 7 staircases, and 3 elevators. Not many people are allowed to come visit the White House. The White House is made of stone.
Write a Letter to Vasya

Vasya’s mom and dad did not want Vasya to paint the way he wanted to paint. Many people wanted Vasya to be proper and follow the rules. What is your advice to Vasya? Do you think he should paint the way he wants to or should Vasya paint the way others tell him to?

Write a letter to Vasya telling him what you think he should do and tell him why in 2 ways.
Do you know Russian?
Spell the story’s color words in Russian.

Crimson

Navy

Violet

Canary

Scarlet

Cobalt

Coral