Painting Like Pierre-Auguste Renoir

✓ Introduction to Renoir's Work

Pierre-Auguste Renoir was a French Impressionist painter known for his soft, colourful brushstrokes and joyful outdoor scenes. He loved to paint people enjoying picnics, gardens, music, and sunshine. His artwork often shows dappled light, warm colours, and peaceful, happy moments.

You could create something like this



Materials You'll Need:

- A4 or A3 watercolour paper or canvas
- Acrylic paints (recommended colours: white, light blue, sky blue, pale green, yellow, peach, pink, light brown)
- A palette and water pot
- Brushes (large flat brush, medium round brush, small detail brush)
- Pencil and eraser
- · Paper towel or cloth
- Apron or old shirt

Step-by-Step Tutorial

Step 1: Lightly Sketch Your Scene

Use a pencil to sketch a gentle outdoor setting. Include:

- · A tree or two in the background
- Arts Award Initiative Ltd

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- A grassy area with a few wildflowers
- A person or child sitting or walking in the park
- A picnic blanket or bench

t Keep the lines soft and simple. Don't worry about perfect details—Renoir's style is all about feeling and movement!



Step 2: Paint the Sky and Background

- Use a mix of white and sky blue with your large brush.
- Add soft brushstrokes for the sky.
- Let the paint blend gently on the page no harsh lines!

Step 3: Add Trees and Distant Background

- Mix green, yellow, and a little white.
- Dab and swirl your brush to paint tree shapes—don't outline them!
- Add pale brown or grey to suggest tree trunks in a very soft, blurry way.

Step 4: Paint the Ground and Grass

- Use a mix of pale green and light yellow.
- Use short, wiggly strokes and dabs to give a soft grassy look.
- Leave space for flowers, people, or blankets.

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Step 5: Add the Figures or Details

- Use peach and light pink for skin tones.
- Dress the figure in light colours, like pastel blue, soft red, or white.
- Keep brushstrokes soft and flowing.
- Add hints of movement by blending a little of the background colour into the edges of the figure.

😭 Step 6: Add Flowers and Final Touches

- Use your smallest brush to dot little pinks, reds, or yellows into the grass.
- Add some white or pale yellow highlights to brighten the whole scene.
- Gently soften any hard edges with a damp brush to give a dreamy effect.

Additional Art Ideas to Explore

- Create a scene of children playing under a tree in soft afternoon light.
- Paint a sunny riverbank with people sitting by the water.
- Try painting just flowers or trees using Renoir's soft dabbing brushstrokes.
- Use pastels or crayons instead of paint to try a "Renoir-inspired" drawing.