

Mulan's journey leads her to battle through a multitude of iconic natural landscapes. China is home to a variety of landforms and ecosystems which make up a rich natural history. In the Chinese language, the term landscape consists of two Chinese characters meaning 'mountain' and 'water.' Mighty mountains, raging rivers, thick forests and dry sand deserts are just a few of the diverse natural landscapes found within China's borders. The importance of nature within Chinese culture is evident by the portrayal of natural spaces in landscape paintings, as well as other Chinese art forms.

SPIRIT OF NATURE

No matter where you live, there are many beautiful and unique natural landscapes to explore and be inspired by. Natural spaces are ever-changing as seasons transform the earth, and lands are altered by weather, continuously providing new displays to capture our imaginations.

Have you noticed the variety of colors and textures found within your surrounding landscapes? From the sparkling white hills created by freshly fallen snow to the colorful mosaic of changing leaves lining an autumn sky, the wonders of nature have inspired artists for centuries. Have you ever been inspired by nature to create a piece of artwork? Head to the next page to begin exploring the natural landscapes around you and create your own artwork inspired by the beauty and diversity of nature.



YOUR OWN UNIQUE LANDSCAPE

Head outdoors with an adult and find a landscape in your own backyard or community that catches your eye. Observe the elements of nature around you and focus on the details. Can you find a landscape that possesses a variety of colors and textures?

Using the beauty of nature as inspiration, create a piece of artwork showcasing the nature setting near you. First, in the box below, map out your ideas by writing or drawing the elements of nature you would like to include in your landscape drawing. Are you inspired by a tree, river or patch of flowers?

Example:



Map your ideas.

Next, in the space below, by drawing, painting or even using pictures found in recycled magazines, develop a unique design that captures your own interpretation of the landscape scene in front of you.