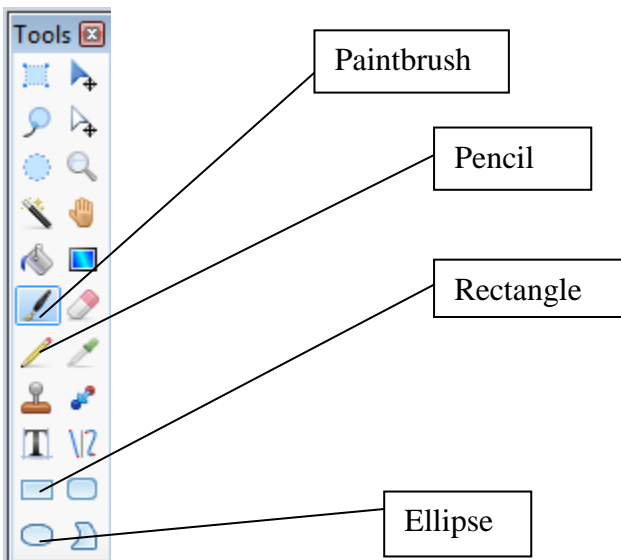


# Using Paint.net

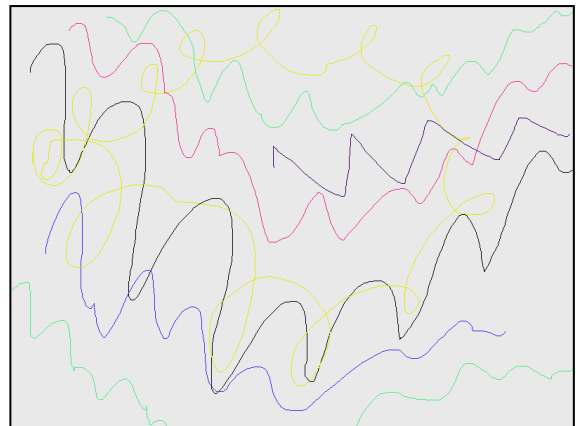
## Becoming familiar with tools and layers

View interactive Flash tutorial @ <http://eulogy-dignity.deviantart.com/art/Paint-NET-Interactive-Guide-71790584>.

1. Open Paint.net (on Desktop).
2. Make sure that the **Tools, Colors, Layers, and History** boxes are present. (If not, select *Window* in the menu bar and turn each of these on.)
3. Quickly scan the tools in the toolbox by holding your mouse over each tool to see the tools' names.



4. Select the **pencil** tool in the **Toolbox**. Practice using different colors from the color palette to create an image on the "canvas".

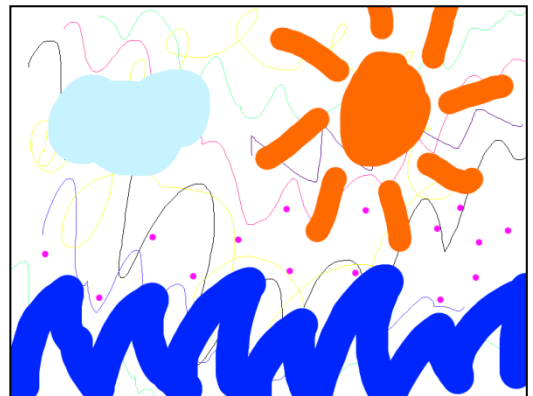


5. Click on the **Layers Box**. Click the button that says *Add New Layer*. You should now see two layers in the box – one that says *Background*, and one that says *Layer 2*.

6. In the layers box, double-click the word *Background*. The *Layer Properties* box should open. Change the name of the layer to *Pencil*, and click OK. Change the name of *Layer 2* to *Paintbrush* by following the same steps.

7. In the Layers box, click once on the *Paintbrush Layer* to select/activate it (the layer should be highlighted blue). In the **Toolbox**, select the **Paintbrush**.

8. Practice using different colors to add to this new layer of your image. Adjust the size/**width** of the brush, as well as the **fill** using the options in the toolbar at the top of the screen.

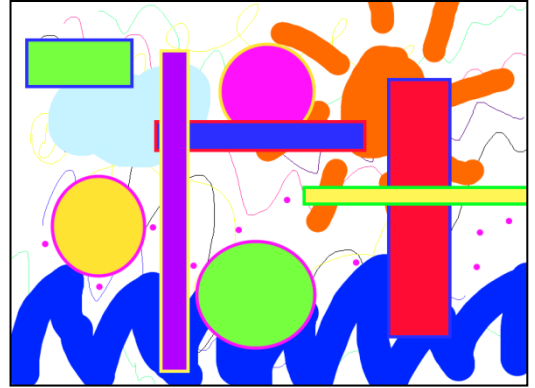


**\*\*LAYERS** allow you to have more control over your artwork, so that you may change, erase, or move just one object at a time without affecting your entire project!\*\*



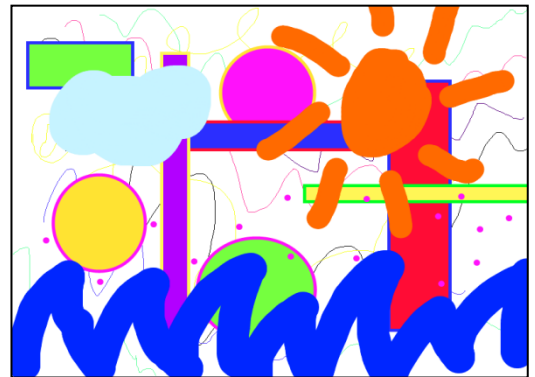
9. Using the *Add New Layer* button, create a third layer and name it *Shapes*. Practice using the **Rectangle** and **Ellipse** tools to add to this new layer of your canvas. Adjust the brush width and fill with the tool options at the top of the screen.

**\*Note:** You will need to choose both the *Primary* and *Secondary* colors to draw shapes with fills!



10. Return to the Layers Box. Experiment with the *Move Layer Up* and *Move Layer Down* buttons. Notice that only the artwork that you put on the selected layer moves when you click these buttons.

The *Move Layer Up* and *Move Layer Down* buttons are used to move objects in front or back of other objects!



Continue practicing with layers and the tools that we used in this lesson.

Start a new document, and create a landscape. Draw your grass, trees, clouds, mountains etc on separate layers. Practice moving the layers and watch how objects move behind and in front of each other.