WATER COLOR

PAPER
Watercolor blocks cost a little but don’t require taping to a board and are the easiest to transport. The 9 x 12 size is nice to start with.

PAINT
Artist watercolors like Winsor & Newton, Sennelier, are very expensive, student watercolors are not as expensive and work well avoid the cheap kids brands. It is hard to get good results with poor paint. Tube or pan style paints are fine but no liquid watercolor. The little travel sets are nice they are easy to transport and less of an investment.

I use my Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolors Compact Set a lot, it has all the necessary colors in 14 half pans good size for traveling and priced under $20. If you choose to use tube paint you will need to get a red, blue, yellow, brown, green, black and white.

Red - Alizarin Crimson, Naphthol Red, Cadmium red, Permanent Rose
Yellow - Cadmium Yellow Light or Lemon Yellow
Blues - Phthalo Blue, Ultramarine Blue, Cobalt Blue
Browns - Burnt Sienna, Raw Sienna, Raw Umber, Yellow Ochre
Greens - Hookers Green, Viridian
Ivory Black
Chinese White

BRUSHES
It is nice to have several brushes in different sizes you will need at least three different sized brushes. If you want to use the brushes for acrylic paint buy synthetic bristle brushes that can be used for acrylic paint.
Round - small and medium
Bright – medium
Flat - large and medium
Fan – medium

PAINT PALETTE
Plastic paint palette for mixing colors a covered palette is a must for saving tube paints.

GOUACHE
Gouache is an opaque watercolor paint. Whereas transparent watercolors allow you to see the "white" of the paper below the paint, gouache can be applied in solid colors. This allows an artist to paint in layers from dark to light.

PAINT
Start with a good quality inexpensive paints this is a list of some of the ones I have used Opaque watercolor pan sets Pelikan Gouache Pan Set, and Grumbacher. Tube paint Savoir Faire French School Opaque Watercolor Gouache has a good mixing set with Primary Yellow, Primary Red, Primary Blue, Ivory Black, and Bright White will mix into any color you need.

BRUSHES
Same as for watercolor

PAINT PALETTE
Plastic paint palette for mixing colors
ACRYLIC PAINT

Canvas
Medium size primed canvas- A gallery wrapped canvas is one that the staples are on the back it can be framed but doesn’t need to be framed. If you are planning to frame your painting look for sizes that will fit into standard size ready made frames.

PAINT
You will need a good heavy body artist grade acrylic paint in several colors I have listed a few that are good for mixing a wide range of colors.
Yellow- Cadmium Yellow Medium Hue, Azo Yellow Medium or Hansa Yellow Medium
Red- Naphthol Crimson or Naphthol Red Light
Blue - Ultramarine Blue
Green - Phthalo Green or Permanent Green Light
White - Titanium White
Black - Mars Black
Brown - Burnt Sienna
Gloss Gel Medium

BRUSHES
You will need at least three different sized brushes it is nice to have several brushes in different sizes some soft and some stiff
Be sure that the brushes are good for acrylic paint if they are not they will not last very long.
Round - small and medium
Bright – medium and large
Flat - large stiff and medium
Fan – medium

PAINT PALETTE
Disposable paper palettes eliminates clean-up but you lose paint
I like a covered palette they have a sponge insert use sheets of acrylic film they keep the paint from drying out. The small Masterson’s Handy Palette measures 8-1/2” × 7” is about $10.

SUBJECTS TO PAINT
For you first painting chose a simple subject that does not contain a lot of detail, but it should be something that of interest to you. Bring several good photographs or magazine clippings of you subject.

Suppliers
Check prices on line for supplies but here are some local fine art supplies
Blick Art Materials- 1360 Tenth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 or dickblick.com
University Art - 2550 El Camino Real, Redwood City, CA 94061 or universityart.com