

Drawing in the National Curriculum

AccessArt advocates:

- Access to varied [drawing materials](#) from the outset. There is no reason why children should not be introduced to a varied range of drawing materials from Year One. The more experience children have of using a wide range of material the more they will feel able to make independent, confident drawing decisions.
- Traditional drawing skills, including drawing from [observation, should be balanced alongside more experimental drawing skills](#). Drawing comes in many forms, and each form should be equally valued.
- Children should be given the opportunity to work on a variety of scales. Drawing can be physical as well as studious. Drawing should be an adventure.
- Use of Sketchbooks as a Creative Tool. See [The AccessArt Sketchbook Journey](#).
- Use warm-up exercises - please see [Why Warm Up Exercises?](#)

- Teachers should embrace the "[journey](#)" and consider the process as important (sometimes more) than the outcome. Working from a "display-backwards" mentality (where a teacher has an idea of an end result in mind) often jeopardises the true creative journey.
- Children should be encouraged to understand the value of taking creative risks in their work. See more about [Understanding Risk here](#).
- [Assess gently](#) and understand the key concepts you might explore through our Resonating Statements.

You May Also Like...

the drawing journey



all accessart drawing resources



planning a creative curriculum



THE ACCESSART primary CURRICULUM



Teenagers Explore Expressive Drawing with Charcoal and Soft Pastels

Students intuitively respond to marks, allowing forms and rhythmic lines to emerge. [Full Access Art Members Only](#)

Clay Slab Work by Andy Cairns

Andy Cairns, sculptor, works with year five children to make a 'demon dog head' using self hardening clay formed around a simple armature.

Murals in Schools by Tracy McGuinness-Kelly

Minibeast Artwork by Tracy McGuinness-Kelly

Fun MiniBeast collage project by Tracy McGuinness-Kelly. Aimed at primary school children. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Drawing Clouds and Mark Making

Mark-making exercise for children which encourages them to push their drawings, and their imaginations out of their safe zone. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Drawing to Music

Teenagers work on shared drawings to help each other and push

a drawing to the limit. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Taking Creative Risks

Is it important to get children to take risks in their artwork?

Drawing Out of Your Comfort Zone

Exploring how we can encourage children to push their work and take a few risks...

Using monoprint to Create a Textured Collage: Toy Farmyard and Woodland Animal Still Life

Teenagers use acrylic paint to monoprint and create a textured collage. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Minimalising: Using Simple Line Drawings to Explore Sculptural Form

Teenagers explore a 'reductive' or 'minimalising' approach to drawing, as a tool to study form. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Seasonal Drawings: Observation, Composition and Colour

From careful line drawings to full colour collages – rich and evocative imagery by primary-aged children. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Set Design with Primary Aged Children

Beautifully illustrated resources shares how year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children at Bourn Primary Academy explored set design through drawing and making.

Winter Still Life

Many thanks to students of AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class for sharing their process and finished results with AccessArt.

Many thanks to Pisces for generously supplying pastels, pens, charcoal and scissors used in this session to AccessArt.



Drawing Stories: Illustrations by Children

Using small toys, charcoal and text to create drawings rich in narrative. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Skull Sculptures: using Paper and Tape to Interpret Form

Teenagers sculpturally explore animal skulls, by making three dimensional interpretations of the forms in heavy, white paper and coloured tape or masking tape. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Which Artists: Faith Bebbington

What We Like About This Resource...

“Faith’s work creating sculptures using recycled or discarded plastic is really beautiful, and exceeds expectation of what we might consider scrap plastic being able to do. The processes she uses, particularly with the dancing figures, are all easily accessible to a school setting, with tape, card, wire being relatively inexpensive and simple to use. Delivering an Art project using waste plastic has cross curricular links with other subject areas, particularly PSHE and

Geography where children may be learning about the environment and how to protect it” – Tobi, AccessArt.

You Might Also Like...



[Sea Sculptures from Plastic Bottles](#)



[Transformation Project](#)



[Visual Arts Planning: Our Natural World](#)

Drawing Skulls in Candle Light

Teenagers learn about chiaroscuro drawing zoological skulls, on loan from University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge, illuminated by candle light. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Drawing Skulls in Black Pen

Using black pen and line to explore skulls on loan from the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge

Designing Wallpaper!

Using photocopied drawings to design wallpaper! [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)