

# Drawing Small

Relax into this drawing exercise and don't put pressure on yourself to make an amazing drawing. Sometimes making a drawing can feel like a big ask, especially if you think that drawing is not your thing (we'll prove that wrong!). The aim of this exercise is to help you tune in to drawing as an activity. This exercise is suitable for children aged 4/5 and upwards through to adult.

So let's start small and take it one tiny drawing at a time!

## You Will Need:

- Paper
- Pen or pencil
- Collection of small objects (see below)



## Selection of small objects



### To Begin

Your challenge is to draw a collection of tiny objects – by tiny we mean things which are roughly the size of a five pence piece – things like small shells, pebbles, leaves, beads, screws. Popcorn also makes a good subject matter and even dead flies if you can find a few ☐

Start by scattering the objects over a large, clean sheet of paper. Take a pen or sharp pencil, and make sure you are near to the objects so that you can really see all their detail.

Begin by making sketches on the page, amongst the objects themselves. You should be making tiny movements with your fingers and hands – drawing from the wrist, but other than that draw however you feel most comfortable. This exercise is just to help you focus, relax, and begin to coordinate hand

and eye, so don't worry too much about results or technique.

Make as many sketches as you like, on as many sheets as you like.

As you draw, become aware of the relationship between looking and drawing. Let your eyes flit between looking at the object and looking at your sketch – it's easy to concentrate more on your sketch and to forget to keep looking at the object. Ideally you should look at the object for a few seconds, then your drawing for a few seconds, then the object, then the drawing...

Also begin to become aware of how you can change the the marks you make in response to what you see. For example experiment with how much pressure you use, in different parts of the drawing.

There will be no mistakes and you can't really go wrong. You are just making quick sketches. Each sketch should only take a couple of minutes.... Enjoy drawing small!

Repeat this exercise over a few days, each time choosing a different "small" object, and you'll soon see how the marks you make change and improve.



Small drawing by Zak

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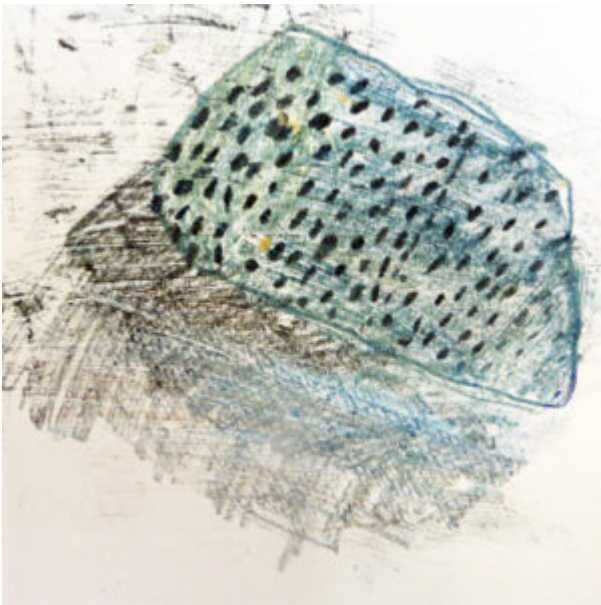
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**We believe everyone has the right to be creative and by working together and**

sharing ideas we can enable everyone to reach their creative potential.

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[This is featured in the 'Exploring The World Through Mono print' pathway](#)

**Drawing Large**



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## Inspired! 'The Tree' by Year One and Two at Hauxton Primary School

In this post, Pamela Stewart shares the submission by Hauxton Primary School, Cambridgeshire for Inspire: A Celebration of Children's Art in Response to Jacopo del Sellaio's Cupid and Psyche by Year One and Two pupils in 'Owl Class'.

It shares the pupils' Inspire journey and all that they learned in response to looking at the Renaissance painting at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.

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# Unesco: Celebrating the Power of Making!

Inspired by Paula's recent rousing film, 'It's in Our Hands', artist Jan Miller pulled images together from her own teaching to illustrate the things the children in her classroom do with their hands

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## Nib & Ink Mark Making Still Life

Many thanks to accessArt Young Artist Rowan Briggs Smith



Young Artists



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# Japanese Sushi Inspires Our Art

Jan Miller leads a project enabling children to explore materials and learn from another culture by creating colourful, large-scale mixed media drawings inspired by food from Japan. This activity is suitable for older KS1 and KS2 children.

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**Teaching Children to See  
Shapes Objectively by Hester  
Berry**

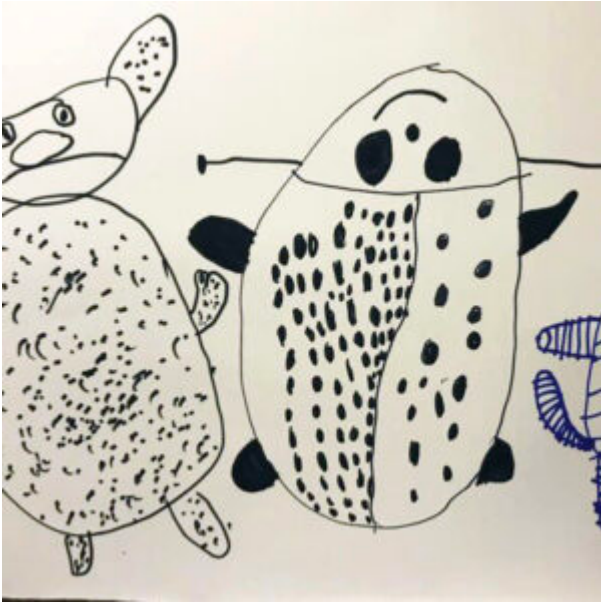
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**Introduction to 'Tone' by  
Hester Berry**

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**Drawing Soft Toys Inspired by  
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**Pathway: Drawing and Making Inspired by Maurice Sendak**



[This resource is featured in the 'Drawing and Making Inspired by Maurice Sendak' pathway](#)

**Visual Arts Planning Collections: Toys, puppets, dolls**



**talking points: maurice sendak**



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## **Composite Still Life Studies in Candlelight**

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**Wax Resist Autumn Leaves by  
Rosie James**

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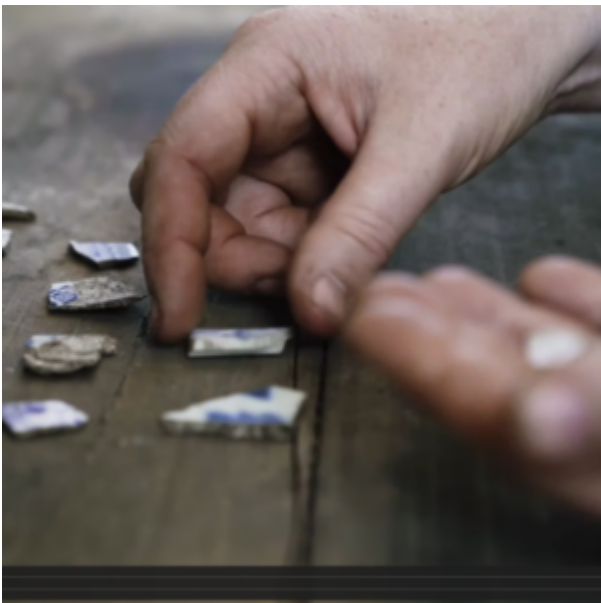
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## [Featured in the 'Explore and Draw' Pathway](#)

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**Talking Points: What is Composition**



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## Wave Bowls

In this session children make 'wave bowls' with Paula Briggs – a session where the pieces literally 'come together'.

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## Graphic Inky Still Life!

## See This Resource Used In Schools...





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**Pathway: Exploring Still Life**



[This is featured in the 'Explore Still Life' pathway](#)

**talking points: Flemish and Dutch Still Life Painters**



**Talking Points: Paul Cezanne**



**talking points: Contemporary still life**



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**Using Colour to Develop  
Gestural Drawing**

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# Sketchbook Exercise: Drawing Brushes with Charcoal

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## Thoughtful Drawing and Mark Making in the Armoury at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

This post shares how Paula Briggs and Sheila Ceccarelli from AccessArt and Kate Noble from the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, enabled teachers to explore armour through discussion, drawing and mark making.

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## 50 Minutes Looking and Sketching Autumn Leaves

With rich colours and shapes everywhere, a wonderful opportunity to use sketching to tune into this beautiful time of the year.

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# **Building and Drawing**

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## **Feeling Our Way Around Wool**

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## **Early Primary Sketchbook Exploration**

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## **Drawing with a Ruler**

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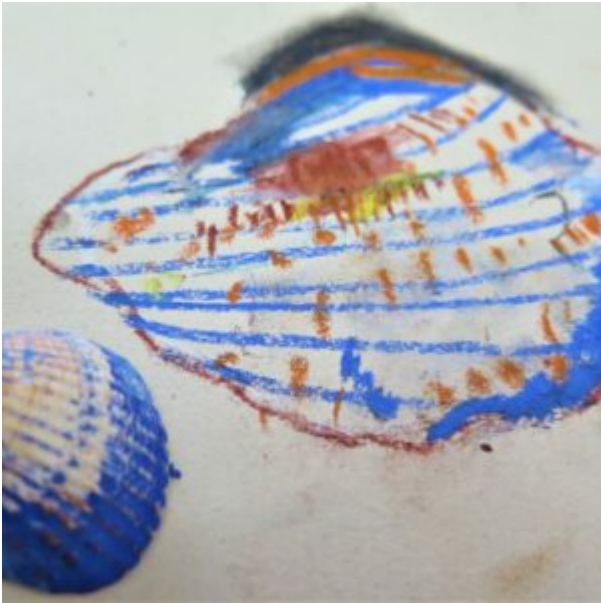
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**Pathway: Stick Transformation project**



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**The drawing journey**



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