

# Life Drawing Inspired by "Where the Wild Things Are"

By Paula Briggs

This resource forms part of a series which enables primary-aged children to explore drawing and making inspired by Maurice Sendak's *"Where the Wild Things Are"*. [See all the resources in this series here.](#)

In previous sessions, we worked from our imagination to draw a fictitious landscape. In this session (the 4th in the series), the children use their observational skills to draw from life, with the twist that they are allowed to transform what they see into their own "wild thing"!



## You Will Need:

- Sketchbooks and A3 paper/drawing boards
- Handwriting pens
- Soft (B) pencils

- A life model (possibly dressed up as a "wild thing").

**Time:** 1 hr

**Outcome:**

- The experience of making quick studies from life, observing big shapes and making gestural marks.
- The opportunity to take ownership of their drawings by combining imagination with observation.
- Rough sketches which can be used to inform later artwork.

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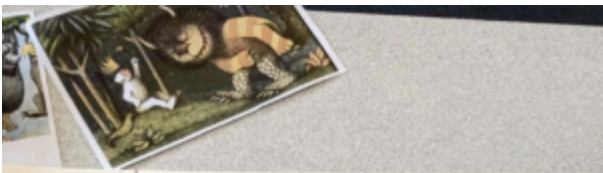
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## **Roseate Spoonbill Mixed Media Project**

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### **Beginning with Bones**

In a workshop led by artist Melissa Pierce Murray, teenagers make observational drawings of a 1/4 life size model of a skeleton to understand the structure of the human body. Students looked at how artists used armatures, including Alberto Giacometti and Henri Matisse.

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# Dancing Bones

Inspired by real anatomical drawings of human, ape, cat, lion, horse and dog skeletons, teenagers build 'life size' and 'oversize' collages of 'dancing skeletons' – This workshop was led by artist Melissa Pierce Murray

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# Animating Old Books

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# Day of the Dead Skulls

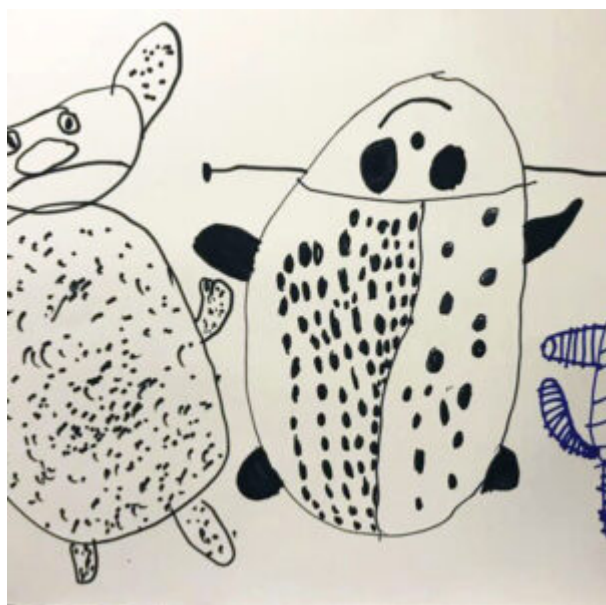
This workshop combined students' studies of the skull with ideas borrowed from the Mexican traditions for Dia de Muertos – The Day of the Dead.

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# Drawing Soft Toys Inspired by "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak



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## **Working with Ink**

In this one hour session, led by artist Melissa Pierce Murray, students explore techniques and properties of Quink and Black India Inks, and how to build up a drawing using the medium.

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# Magnets and Forces

Secondary school students are likely to study properties of magnets in their science classes, but in this workshop, artist Melissa Pierce Murray, encourages teenagers to explore playful and aesthetic responses to magnets, rather than analytic and quantifiable ones. Using artistic and scientific approaches together aid in developing curiosity and imagination.

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# The Opposite of Light

Teenagers work with artist Melissa Pierce Murray on a range of explorations looking at light and contrasts. This workshop explores contemporary themes around placement, object and meaning.

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# Draw, Paint, Build, Make: Gallery Project

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# **Composite Still Life Studies in Candlelight**

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## **The Winter Tree Challenge: A Combined Sculpture & Drawing Project!**

This post shares an hour long session at the AccessArt Art Lab, in which the young teenagers (12 and 13 years) worked on two projects simultaneously: a shared winter forest drawing in charcoal, and a sculpture challenge to make a winter tree. The time and material constraints resulted in an energetic and inventive session. By Paula Briggs

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## **Making an Ink and Wax Village with Pupils in Mansfield**

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### **Explore and Draw**

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# **Show Me What You See: Drawing Inspired by Anglo Saxon Architecture**

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**Wax Resist Autumn Leaves by  
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## Sculpture Project Inspired by Egyptian Wall Painting

This resource shares a project which explored mould making, casting and painting in the creation of a sculpture inspired



by Egyptian wallpainting, in particular Nebamun hunting in the marshes, Nebamun's tomb-chapel, which can be seen in the British Museum, London

The project can be adapted for use in KS 2 and 3, and can be used to accompany a study of Egyptian Art / Hieroglyphics.