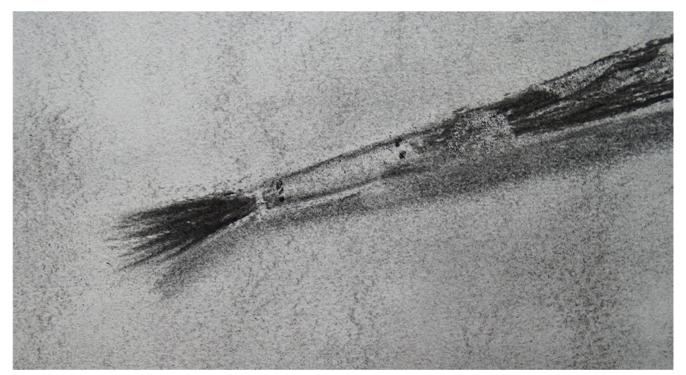
Sketchbook Exercise: Drawing Brushes with Charcoal

By Paula Briggs



Capturing different qualities of a brush with charcoal

Each week during the AccessArt Art Lab for ages 11, 12, and 13 at Wysing Arts Centre, students will be working in their sketchbooks undertaking a five or ten minute exercise.

The sketchbooks have been kindly donated by Pink Pig International and as well as filling them with the drawing exercises, children are also encouraged to use the books to help explore ideas related to the main session. Creating sketchbook content like this which is a mixture of exercises and personal study should help fuel creativity and ownership.

<u>See all the sketchbook exercises undertaken during these</u> sessions here.

To Begin

I wanted to give children the opportunity to begin an exploration of charcoal. In <u>last weeks exercise</u> we explored how we can use different grades of pencil to add interest and expression to our drawings. This week I wanted them to experience how they can use different parts of the charcoal (i.e. side, end) with different amounts of pressure (light medium, hard) to create varied and exptessive marks.

The challenge to the children:

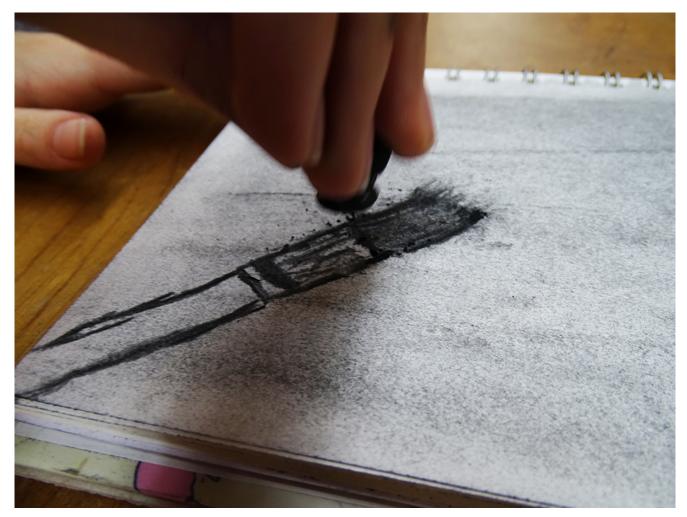
Make a five minute drawing using different pressures and different parts of the charcoal to help communicate the particular qualities of a brush (the soft bristles, the metal, the wood)

Children were also encouraged to create a "ground" by laying down charcoal and knocking it back with their fingers. Children also used putty rubbers to craete white space amongst the grey tones.

Working to the five minute limit meant children did not overwork their images, which is easy to do with charcoal.

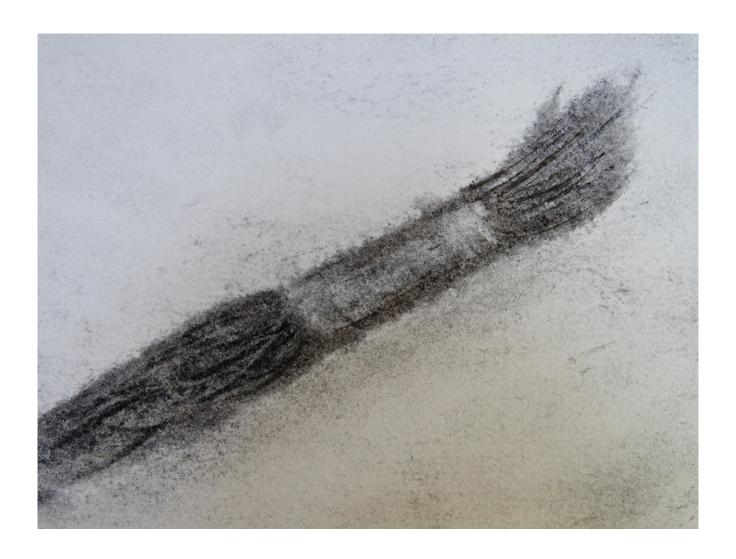


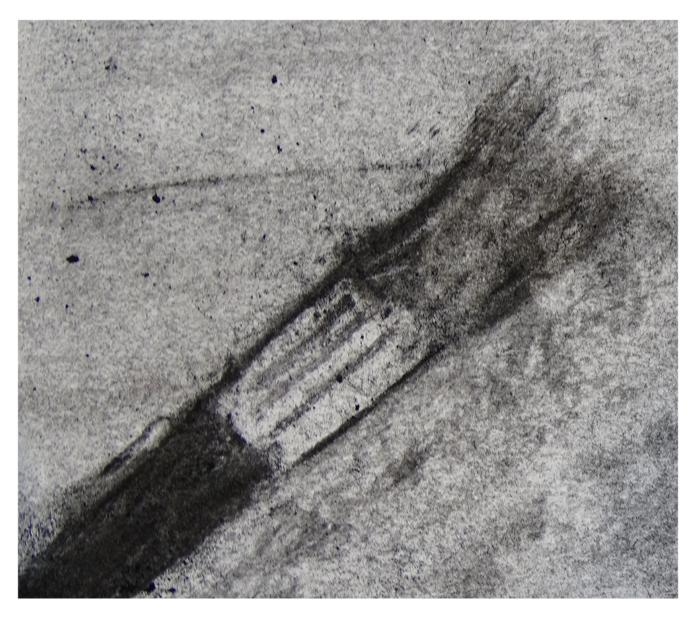
Laying down a ground

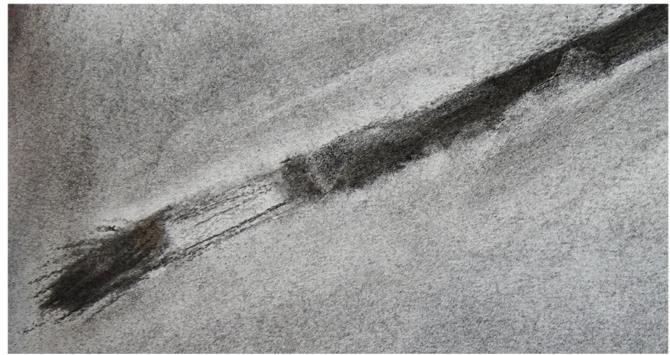


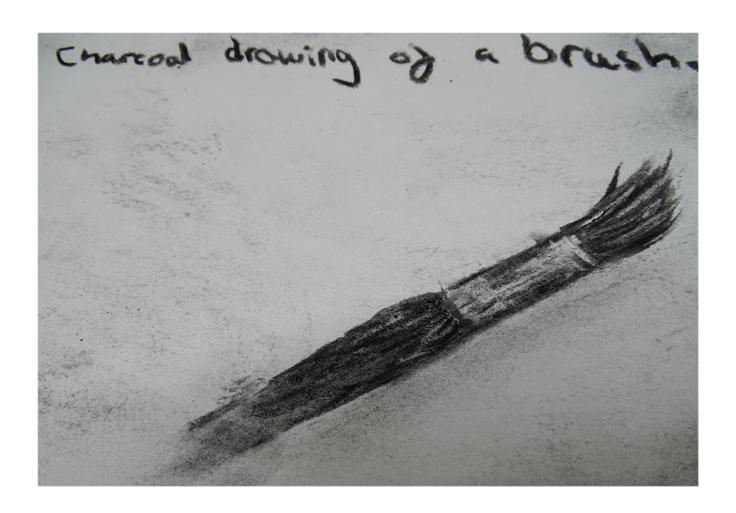
Using the charcoal in different ways



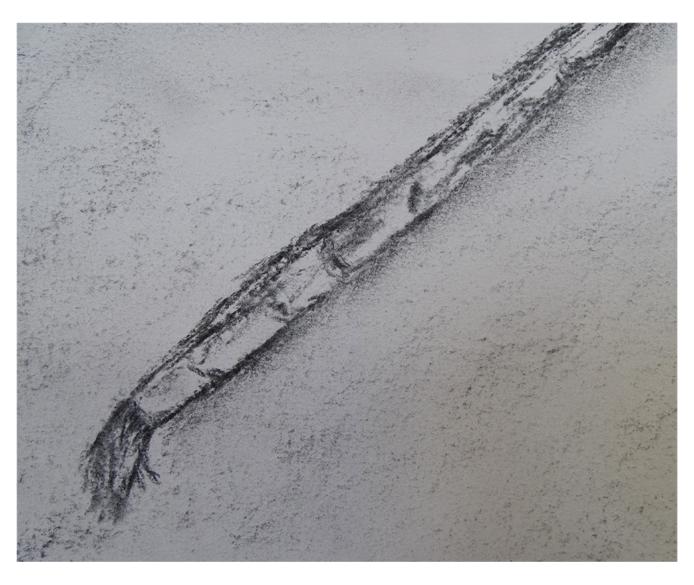


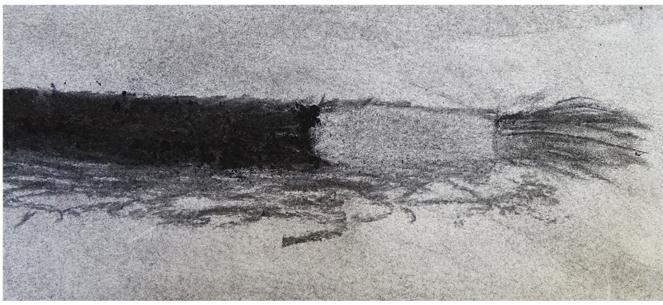


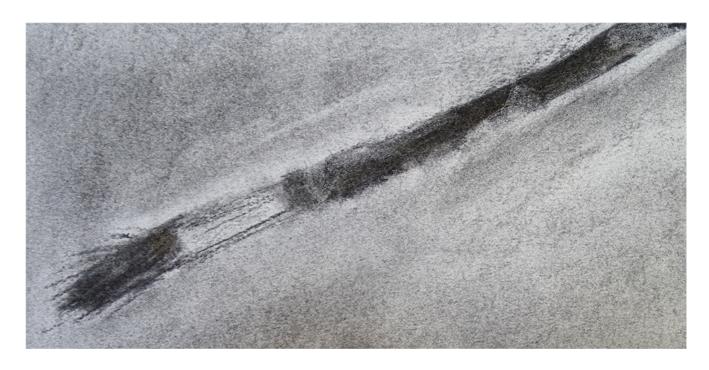














Many thanks to the children from the AccessArt Art Lab

Many thanks to Pink Pig International for the Sketchbooks



Filling a Sketchbook: Sketchbook Exercises

What is a Canvas?



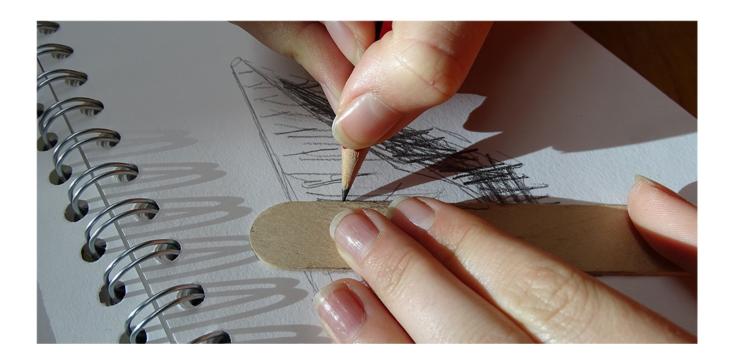
<u>Making drawings which compete with the background</u>

Making a Charcoal Animation



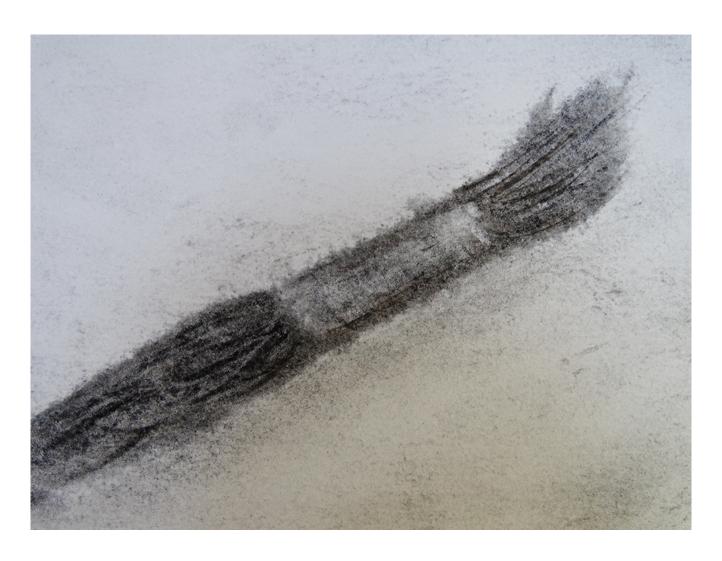
<u>Inspired by the animations of William</u> <u>Kentridge</u>

Making Ruler Drawings



<u>Using 2 grades of pencil and only straight lines</u>

Drawing Brushes with Charcoal



<u>Using varied marks to capture the</u> <u>qualities of brushes</u>

Many thanks to Pink Pig International for the sketchbooks



Introduction to Landscape by Hester Berry

What Are Drawing Skills?

Teachers Explore 'Line and Shape' at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge with AccessArt

In the spring and summer of 2016, Paula Briggs and Sheila Ceccarelli from AccessArt and Kate Noble from the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge to create and deliver a series of InSET sessions (in-service-training) for primary school teachers.

Teachers Play with Plasticine to Make Prints in the Education Room at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

This post follows on from Gathering Marks and Tearing Paper to Appreciate Prints by Goya, Turner and Cornelius at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge and Monoprinting Inspired by Goya, Turner and Cornelius in the Education Room, and shows how teachers used Plasticine to print textures. The session was facilitated by Paula Briggs and Sheila Ceccarelli from AccessArt and Kate Noble from the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.

Gathering Marks and Tearing Paper to Appreciate Prints by Goya, Turner and Cornelius 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 enter into the intricacies of prints made by Turner, Goya and Cornelius in a Temporary Exhibition at the Fitzwilliam Museum in summer 2016: 1816: Prints by Turner, Goya and Cornelius.

Making Sculptural Interpretations of 18th Century Portraits 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 making three dimensional interpretations of two dimensional 18th Century portraits.

Using Drawing to Get Closer to 18th Century Portraits at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

This post shares how Paula Briggs and Sheila Ceccarelli from AccessArt and Kate Noble from the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, used drawing exercises to take a closer look at 18th Century portraits

Making Sketchbooks 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 make sketchbooks and explore them as a physical space to connect and collect ideas and observations from museum collections.

Using Sketchbooks, Drawing

and Reflective Tools in the 20th Century Gallery 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 20th Century paintings and sculpture, through using sketchbooks & drawing as tools for looking and remembering.

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.

Making Giant Withie Lanterns

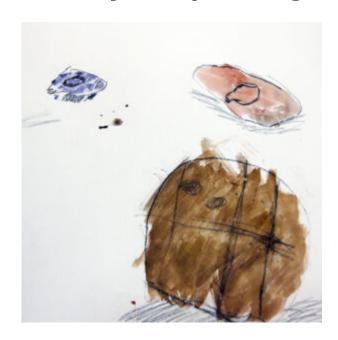
With 'festivals of lights' in November and December, teenagers at AccessArt's Experimental Drawing class had a fun time constructing giant lanterns out of withies and wet-strength tissue paper.

Make a Model Stitched House

Filling a Sketchbook: Ruler Drawings

You May Also Like...

Pathway: Exploring Form Through Drawing

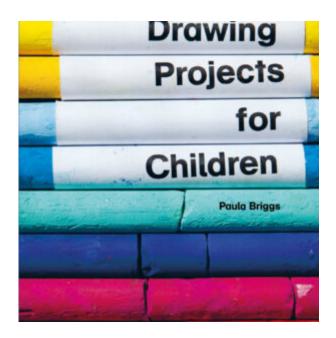


This is featured in the 'Exploring Form Through Drawing' pathway

The drawing journey



See Drawing Projects for Children for more Drawing Exercises



Collage and Construction

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.

Teenagers Write A Letter, A Postcard, A Poem or A Narrative in Invented Text

Ten Top Tips to Take Superb Pictures on Your Camera Phone by Ruth Purdy

What is a Canvas? Exploration Activity