

The Drawing Journey for Children Ages 9 to 11 – Drawing Exercises

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Exercises to Build Drawing Skills

The exercises below have been selected as being suitable for ages 9 to 11.

Drawing exercises underpin all creativity. Please note there is no absolute order that these exercises might be introduced, so please do feel able to choose the exercises that appeal to you.

Repeated practice is key: vary the subject matter and drawing medium to keep the process active and engaging.

These exercises might be done at the start of an art lesson as warm-ups, or when children come in to school in the morning or after lunch as transition activities. Skills will quickly build over time, as will familiarity with materials, techniques and ideas. Skills will then feed into all art work.

Work in sketchbooks or loose sheets of paper which can then be gathered into a [Backwards Sketchbook](#).



Ten minutes, five times a week



[If you are new to AccessArt start here with these exercises!](#)

drawing spirals



[Start with a simple spiral to explore how you control the drawing medium](#)

continuous line drawing



Develop observational skills and coordinate hand and eye

Backwards forwards drawings



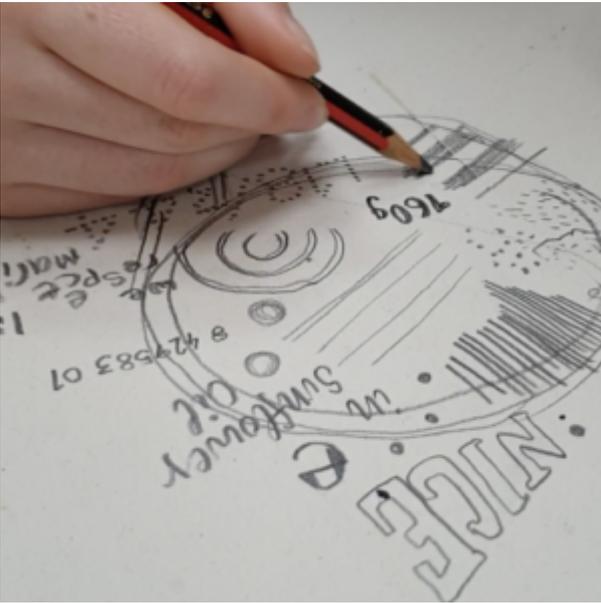
Slow down your drawing with this technique

finding Marks through artists



Be inspired by the marks made by artists

deconstructing to help you see



Practise close looking, and explore mark-making

layered colour gestural drawing



Layer colours to build gestural drawings

see 3 shapes



Explore how seeing simple shapes can help develop drawing skills

feely drawings



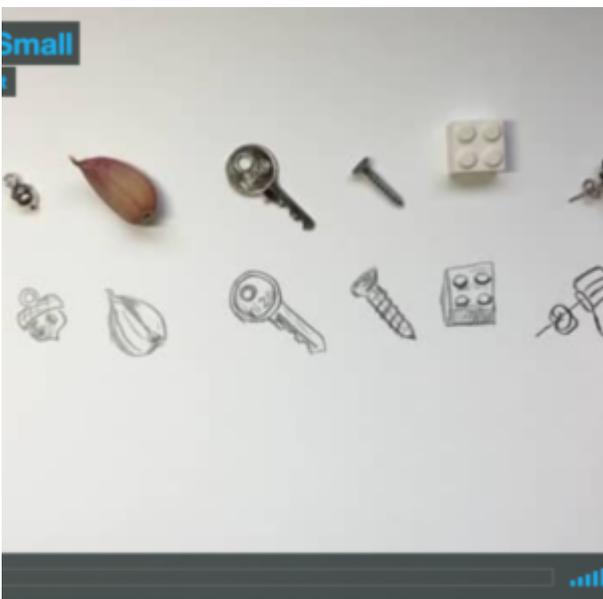
Draw through the sense of touch

making stronger drawings



Try this exercise to help learners make bolder drawings

drawing small



Make a series of small drawings to settle into the drawing process

drawing Large



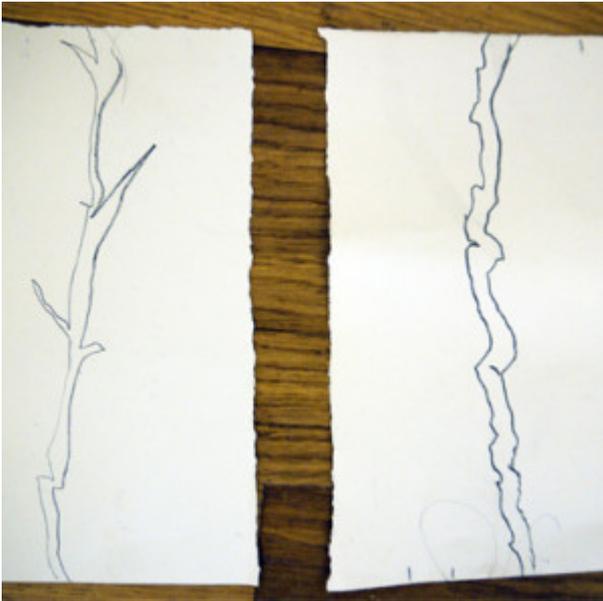
Make larger, gestural drawings using loose marks

thoughtful mark making



Develop mark-making vocab and decision making skills

HELP CHILDREN DRAW LARGER



Encourage children to draw larger
drawing speed



Experiment with the speed at which you
draw

Mark Making & Sound



Let sound and music inspire your drawing

blind contour drawings



Match the speed of drawing with the speed of looking

Make a shy drawing



Slow down and make quiet, introverted drawings

drawing hands



Create simple continuous line drawings of hands

Drawing Prompts



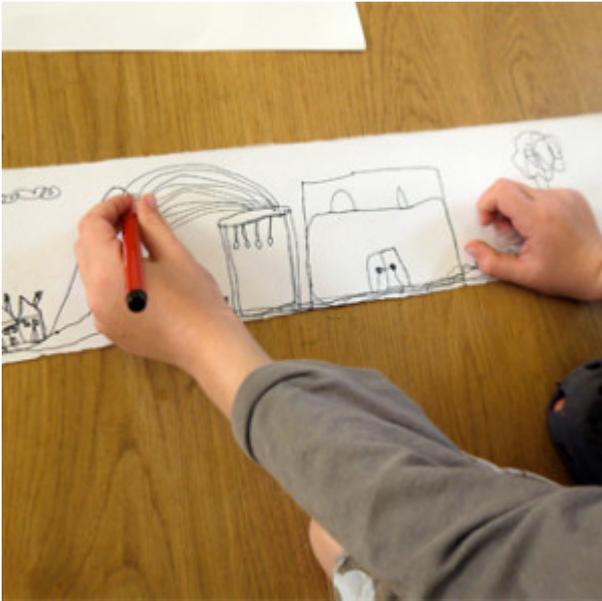
Simple drawing prompts for use in any setting

analogue Drawing



Explore mark-making through drawing emotions

One line street scene



Create a one line street using continuous line

drawing with a ruler



Make your drawings with straight lines only

Show Me What You See



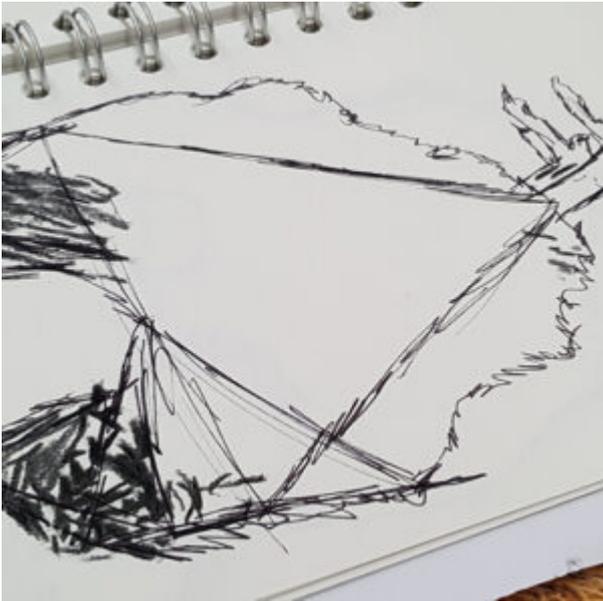
[Drawing exercise to help children communicate what they can see](#)

Metronome drawing

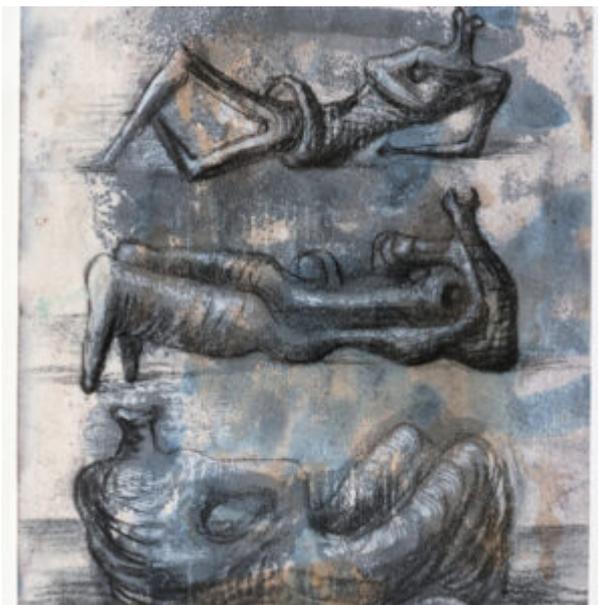


[Drawing to the rhythm of a metronome](#)

the geometry of a chicken



Seeing simple geometry to help you draw
drawing with mass



Exploring how to draw mass and form
negative space to scale up



Explore positive and negative space

Look up not down portraits



Try this fun portrait exercise working in pairs

Finger palette portraits



[“Finger paint” your portrait using charcoal](#)

Portrait Club



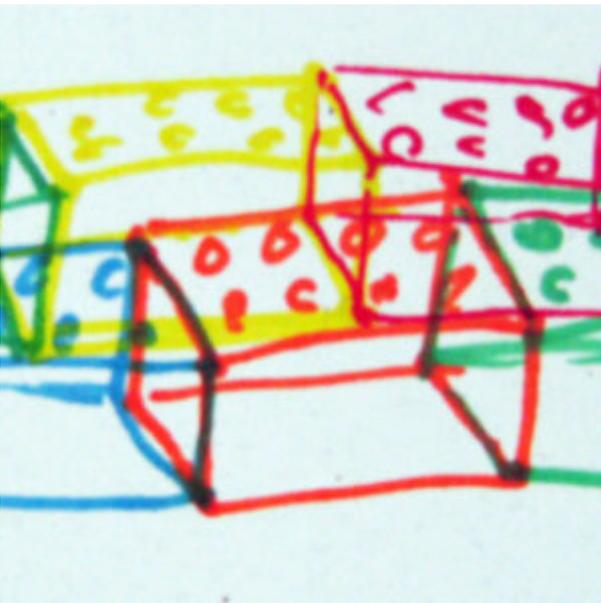
[Create your own portrait club in class](#)

drawing clouds & mark making



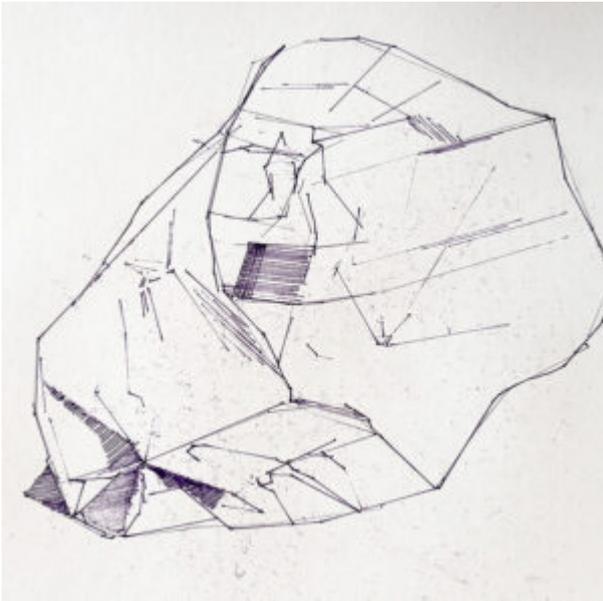
Make marks in response to other marks

explore 3d drawing with lego



Drawing Lego to explore perspective

making a ruler drawing (of a bag)



Use a ruler or straight edge to make a drawing

drawing out of your comfort zone



Exercise to push your drawings further.

Perspective Machine



Use tape to help see perspective in a visual way

Stick Drawing



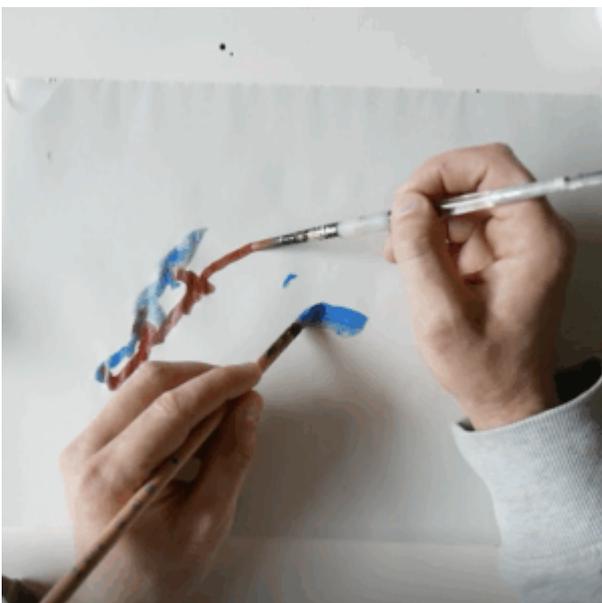
Create loose drawings by extending your reach with sticks

doodle ball



Experiment With Drawing On A 3 Dimensional Surface

Drawing with two hands



Create loose drawings using materials in both hands

Drawing with your feet



Use a different body part to make drawings

ink drawings



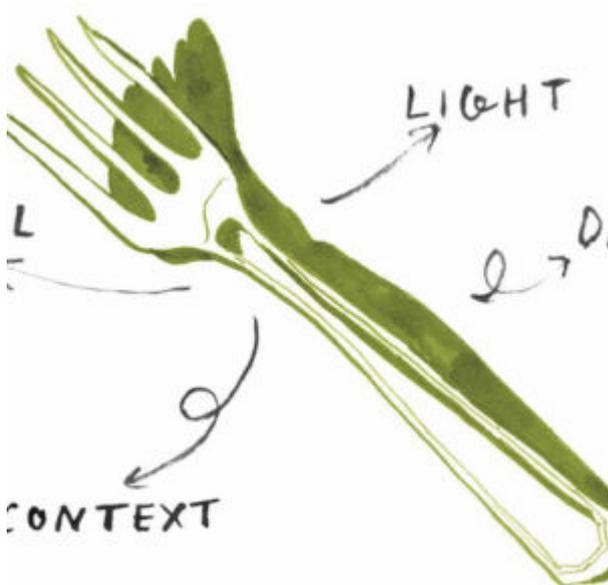
Use ink and make drawing tools

Visual notes



Slow down looking and give space to process information

Show Me What You See



Encourage children to respond to what they are seeing through drawing

Continue your Drawing Journey...



[>>On to Step 3: Introducing Materials >>](#)

[<< Back to Step 1: Pedagogy and Understanding<<](#)