

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!). This exercise aims to help you tune in to drawing as an activity. This exercise is suitable for children aged 4/5 and upwards through to adults.

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

This is a sample of a resource created by UK Charity AccessArt. We have over 1500 resources to help develop and inspire your creative thinking, practice and teaching.

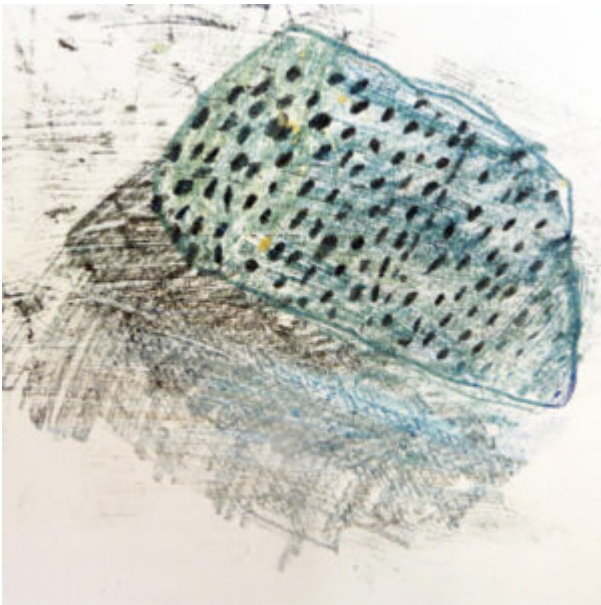
AccessArt welcomes artists, educators, teachers and parents both in the UK and overseas.

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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Drawing Large



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Wall Drawings with Tape

Nib & Ink Mark Making Still Life

Many thanks to accessArt Young Artist
Rowan Briggs Smith



Young
Artists



Graffiti With Teens

In this class teenagers work with Melissa Pierce Murray and take inspiration from the motivations and methods of Graffiti artists.

Layers

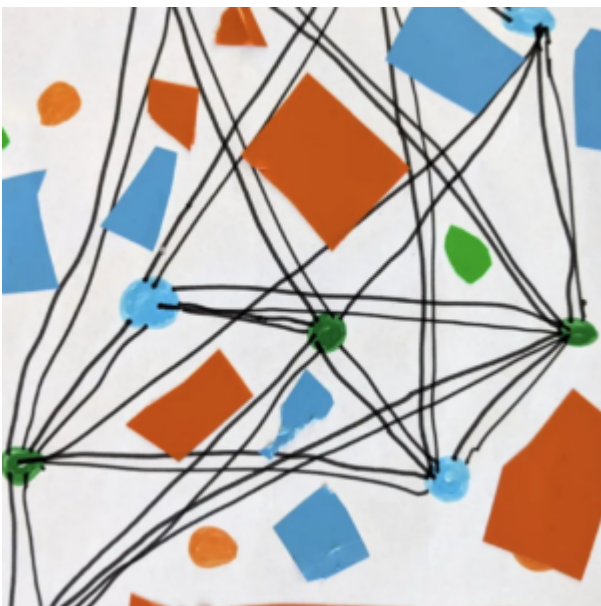
Teenagers draw on layers of acetate to make a palimpsest with Melissa Pierce Murray.

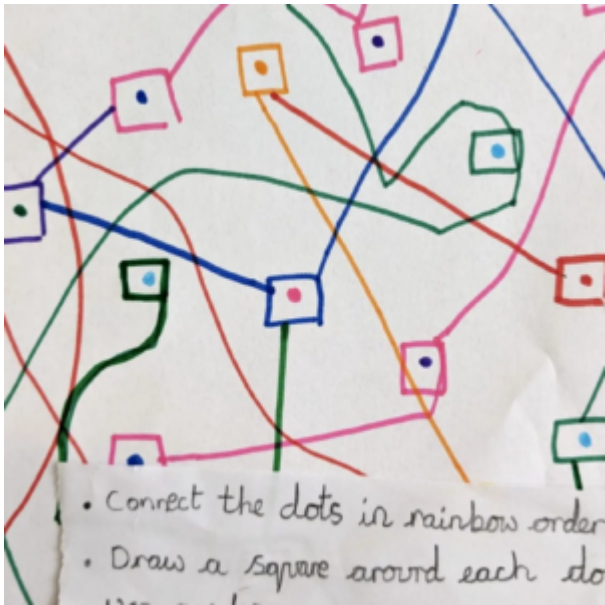
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Talking points: Andy Gilmore



talking points: Louise Despont



Journeys

Melissa Pierce Murray explores the theme of Journeys with teenagers. Inspired by the work of Kandinsky, teenagers explored how to capture the tone, texture and feel of a place or a movement.

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Shepard

Fairey,

Propaganda Art, Screen Printing & Teenagers! Collection Page

Screen Prints Inspired by Shepard Fairey

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.

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

The AccessArt Village and How a Small Idea can be Big

Sheila Ceccarelli from AccessArt leads year nine students from Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls on a collective drawing and collage experience exploring the #AccessArtVillage in BRG Brentwood Road Gallery. Students absorb this stunning collection of sewn houses and inspired by thread and stitches, make their own creative responses.

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.

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.

Snowflakes

Artist Melissa Pierce Murray leads teenagers in a festive workshop exploring snowflakes and decorating Christmas cookies with piping and egg

tempura.