

Drawing as Support Activity

A **40 Artist Educator** Resource:
Be Inspired by Paula Briggs



Drawing to collect information

Artist, educator and co-founder of AccessArt Paula Briggs describes how she enables an exploration of drawing as an activity to support other artforms, in this case sculpture.

This project was shared with AccessArt as part of the [40 Artist Educator Project](#), funded by Arts Council England, aiming to highlight and celebrate artist-led teaching and facilitation.

Drawing as a Support Activity

This resource shares a workshop which took place with children at [Bourn Primary Academy](#), Cambridgeshire. The aim of the workshop (which was a day long session) was to give children the opportunity to explore plaster casting to make relief sculptures, but before we embarked upon the sculptural journey I wanted to help the children focus and explore their subject matter through a series of drawing exercises. The idea was to help them collect information (through looking, drawing, reflection) that would feed their sculpture. When an artist works in a studio, they surround themselves by their subject matter, building themselves a space which nurtures their creativity. In a small way I wanted to show the children they could create a similar space (albeit a table not a room) which was rich and inspiring.

The drawing exercises themselves were ones I use time and again in my teaching, but what was different about this session was the **set up** and the **emphasis on decision making led by the children themselves**. These two key components helped make the session particularly rewarding for both myself as facilitator, and for the children too.

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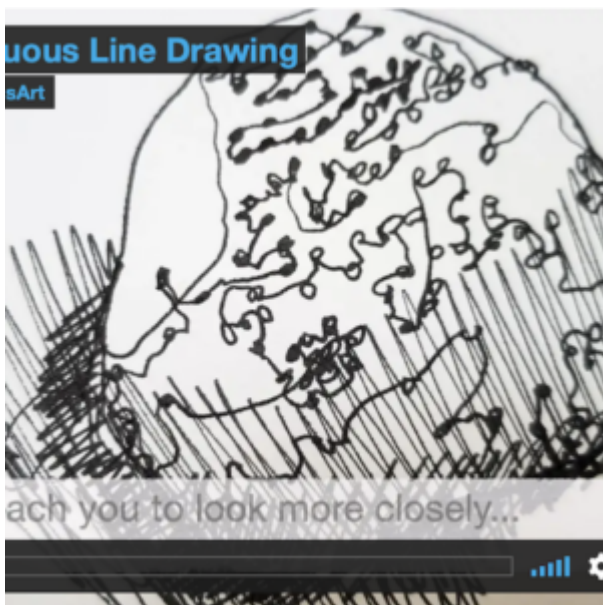


This is featured in the 'Exploring Form Through Drawing' pathway

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AN INTRODUCTION TO SCULPTURE



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Why use Warm Up Drawing Exercises?

Experimental Drawing – Process over Outcome

Artist and facilitator Sharon Kelly shares an inspirational mark-making workshop in which participants are encouraged to take risks in their work.

Thinking and Making

Layered Colour Gestural Drawing

Using colour to help develop gestural drawing skills. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Cardboard Sculptures

Staff at Ridgefield Primary School Cambridge explore an open-ended exploration of sculptural materials and techniques.

Drawing Clouds and Mark Making

Mark-making exercise for children which encourages them to push their drawings, and their imaginations out of their safe zone. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Minimalising: Using Simple Line Drawings to Explore Sculptural Form

Teenagers explore a 'reductive' or 'minimalising' approach to drawing, as a tool to study form. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Seasonal Drawings: Observation, Composition and Colour

From careful line drawings to full colour collages – rich and evocative imagery by primary-aged children. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Drawing Stories: Illustrations by Children

Using small toys, charcoal and text to create drawings rich in narrative. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Discovering Charcoal – Warm- Up Exercise for Children

Drawing exercise for children focussing around 9 actions of using charcoal/chalk. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Dressing Up as Fossils!

Fun and active drawing session with primary aged children, exploring mark making on fabric. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

See Three Shapes

A simple exercise with Indian ink to help children see and convey simple forms in drawing.