

# Visual Arts Planning: Experimental Drawing

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We often think about drawing skills as being accurate representations of an observed subject, but experimental drawing offers lots of opportunity to explore mark-making in it's broadest sense. By balancing experimental with observational skills, pupils will be able to draw on *all* the skills they have experienced to develop their drawings.

Tell us what you are planning to cover or explore this term in your school or institution and we'll recommend resources or learning approaches which we think might feed your teaching.

Contact us by [email](#).



**Explore Experimental Drawing resources**

**Balancing observational and experimental drawings**



## Find out why experimental drawing is important

**CPD: Observational and Experimental Drawing**



## Find out how to facilitate different drawing skills

**Experimental drawing: process over outcome**



## Combine language and mark-making

set design: Exercises to Respond to Text



## Interpret words and feelings into drawings

drawing with two hands



## Challenge dexterity and control

**feely drawings**



**Become familiar with subject matter through touch**

**coat hanger shells**



**Combine observational drawing and mark-making**

**drawing feathers**



**Use a variety of mark-making and materials**

**drawing speed**



**Slow down looking and drawing**

**Blind contour drawing**



Encourage careful looking, without seeing the drawing

Landscapes inspired by John Piper



Combine collage and mark-making

Deconstructing to Help You See



Practise close looking and explore mark-making

**Nests: Materials, Tools Testing and Sketchbooks**



Create marks using a range of drawing tools

## Nests: Observational Ink Drawing



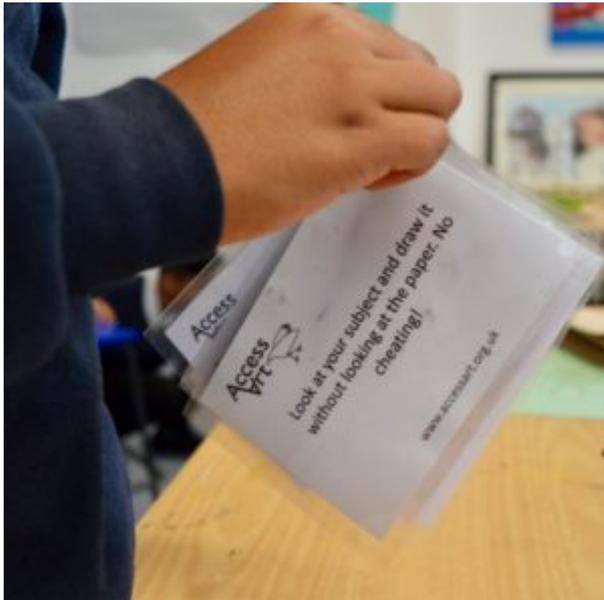
Observe and draw a series of natural objects

## Nests: With Dry and Wet Media



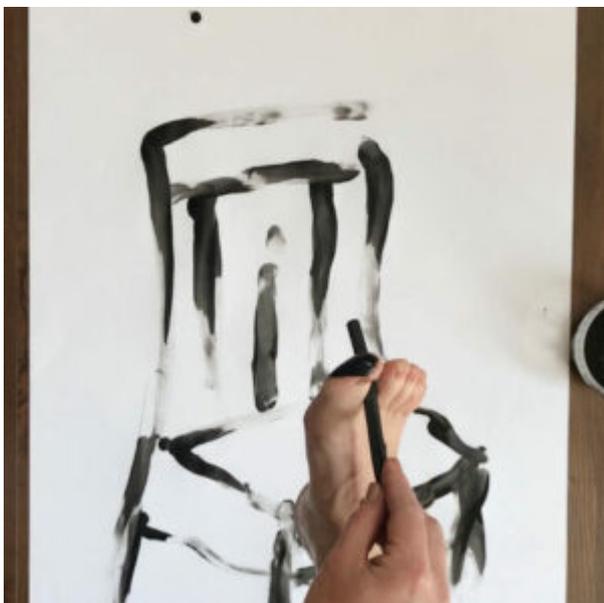
Refine nest drawings using pencils, oil pastels and ink

## AccessArt Drawing Prompt Cards



Support drawing and overcome the 'white page'

## Drawing With Your Feet



Use your body to make unique, energetic marks

## Drawing with Sticks



Draw using a stick to give life to the marks

## Movement Maps



Translate movement and memories into lines

## Making Magic Spells



Draw spell 'ingredients' using a variety of media

drawing spiral snails



Explore how gesture can change marks and lines

## Drawing Stories



[Take inspiration from literature](#)

## Never Ending Landscapes



[Make drawings inspired by Myriorama cards](#)

## Dragon and Birds in Eggs



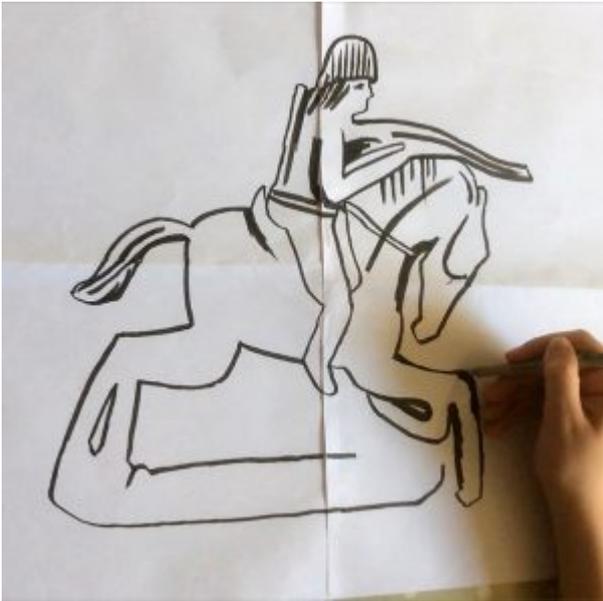
Imagine what might hatch from an egg

**Drawing Small**



A challenge to draw a collection of tiny objects

**Drawing Large**



[Make drawings from the arm, elbow and wrist](#)

**Drawing Music**



[Musical activities combining drawing and music](#)

**Walking and Drawing**



[Make drawings whilst walking](#)

**Expressive Charcoal Collage: Coal Mines**



[Capture depth with marks-making in charcoal](#)

**Our River: A Communal Drawing**



Create a layered drawing and 'wax resist'

**Experimental Mark Making Tools**



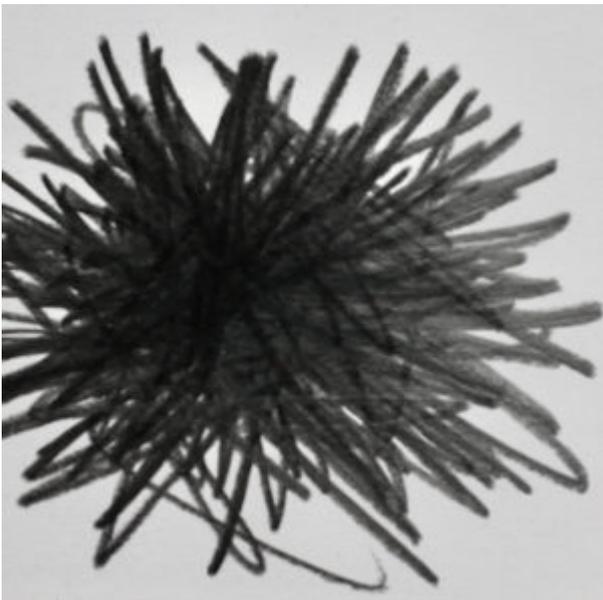
Invent your own mark-making tools

**Shells: Observational and imaginative**



[Introduce observational and imaginative drawing](#)

**Analogue Drawing**



[Use mark-making to describe emotions](#)

**Turning Paper into Fur**



## [Experiment with a range of media and materials](#)

### **Making Superhero Drawings**



## [Use life drawings to create cartoon characters](#)

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