



## Learning To Draw

**Lesson Description:** In this lesson, students will learn about the art of drawing and the techniques used by the Old Masters. They will then create their own drawings using pencils and charcoal, and learn how to create the illusion of depth and form on a two-dimensional surface.

**Lesson Objective:** The objective of this lesson is for students to gain an understanding of drawing as an art form, as well as to develop their observational skills, fine motor skills, and creativity.

**Art History/Theory Relation:** Drawing is one of the oldest and most fundamental forms of art. It has been used by artists throughout history to create a wide range of works, from quick sketches and studies to finished works of art. The Old Masters, such as Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, were known for their exceptional drawing skills, which they used to create highly detailed and realistic works of art.

**Example Piece:** Here are some drawings that students can use as reference/inspiration:





### **Materials Needed:**

NOTE: All for Art lesson plans are always flexible with materials and students can use whatever they have on hand! We always strive to make art available to everyone, no matter how limited the resources available to them are. Thus, the following list is simply an ideation of possible materials for the above project.

- Pencils (e.g., HB, 2B, 4B)
- Charcoal
- Paper
- Erasers
- Drawing reference (e.g., a still life arrangement or a photograph)

### **Step-by-Step Procedure:**



1. Begin the lesson by introducing the concept of drawing and the techniques used by the Old Masters. Show examples of drawings by these artists and discuss their use of line, shading, and composition to create the illusion of depth and form.
2. Have the students choose a drawing reference (e.g., a still life arrangement or a photograph) and set it up in front of them. Encourage them to look carefully at the reference and to think about the composition of their drawing.
3. Have the students begin their drawings by lightly sketching the outlines of the objects in the reference using a pencil. Encourage them to use light, smooth lines and to pay attention to the proportions and placement of the objects.
4. Once the students have finished their sketches, have them begin to add shading to their drawings using pencils and charcoal. Encourage them to experiment with different shading techniques, such as hatching, crosshatching, and stippling, to create the illusion of form and depth.
5. As the students continue to work on their drawings, offer guidance and feedback as needed. Encourage them to pay attention to the details and to keep refining their drawings until they are satisfied with the results.
6. Once the students have finished their drawings, have them share their creations with the class. Encourage the students to explain their thought process and the techniques they used to create their drawings.
7. As a final step, have the students reflect on their experience creating drawings. Ask them to think about what they learned, what they enjoyed, and what challenges they faced. Encourage them to continue practicing their drawing skills and to share their art with others.

### **What Students Should Aim to Accomplish with their Final Piece:**

With their final drawings, students should aim to create a composition that is well-balanced and aesthetically pleasing. They should strive to use shading techniques effectively to create the illusion of depth and form, and to produce a drawing that shows their skills and creativity.