

PRACTICING THE ELEMENTS OF ART 1

Free Resources | Box Boosters



Get the creative juices flowing before you brave the elements of art!

LINE

Using the doodle paper or paper of your choice, a No. 2 pencil, or any other drawing implements — create several examples of line. They may be straight, curvy, curly, twisty, twirly, loopy, or zig-zag. You may choose to make them, thick, thin, long, short, parallel, even perpendicular. The important thing is that every line you draw has a beginning point and an endpoint that do not meet. That's what makes it a line. Now it's time to have fun creating many different kinds of lines!



SHAPE

Next, draw several examples of shape. You may even try this without picking up your drawing implement from the surface of the paper. Notice that as you create your shapes, what you're actually doing is drawing a line for which the endpoint meets the beginning point. Remember that you can also make a shape by intersecting the line with itself at any point. Be sure to try some geometric shapes — like circles, squares, and triangles. If you'd like, draw some organic shapes, too — like blobs and globs!



FORM

Form is shape with three dimensions. Start by thinking about geometrically transfiguring some of the shapes you previously drew into form by adding lines and other shapes. Yes, can you believe it? Simply add a few lines to your shape and voilà — a circle quickly becomes a sphere, a square magically becomes a cube, and a triangle easily adapts to a wedge, a pyramid, or a cone!



TEXTURE

Actual texture is best-served using thickly applied paints and other media, to achieve three dimensions that you can actually feel. However, as with a pencil sketch of a hedgehog, the texture can also be implied. Try drawing some small repetitive dots, lines, and shapes on your paper to create the impression of texture. The artistic rewards will be well worth the effort!



Now, you are more ready than ever to brave the elements of art!