


# Inky & Smudgy Drawing Experiments

Scribble  
&  
Sketch 



Artist: Vicky Willmott

Inspired by artist Rebecca Salter PRA try your hand at textural experiments using ink and water. Be mesmerised by the way ink flows onto wet paper and explore drawing with a toothbrush and a tissue!

## Materials

- Black drawing ink
- A range of brushes
- Sheets of paper
- An old toothbrush
- A stick
- Pot of water
- Tissue or kitchen roll

## Instructions

**Step 1.** First try brushing your paper with water then blob small dots of ink on the wet surface. See how the ink expands and creates swirls on the surface.

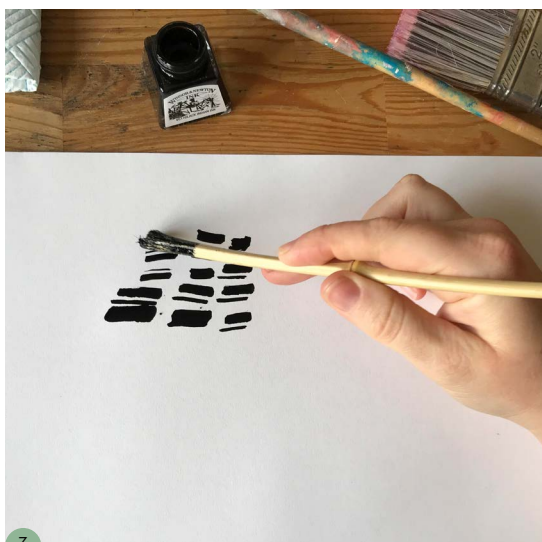
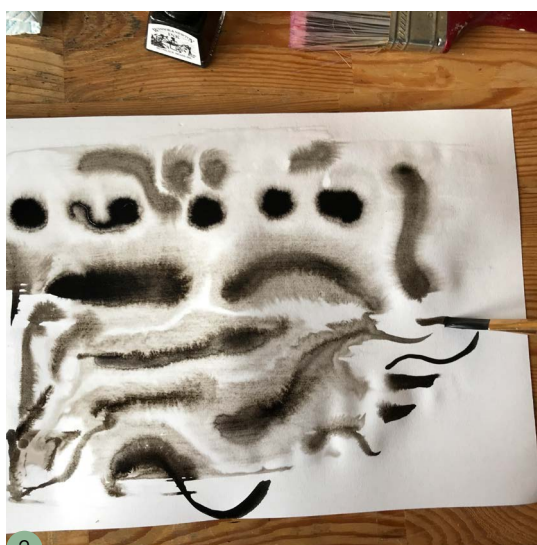
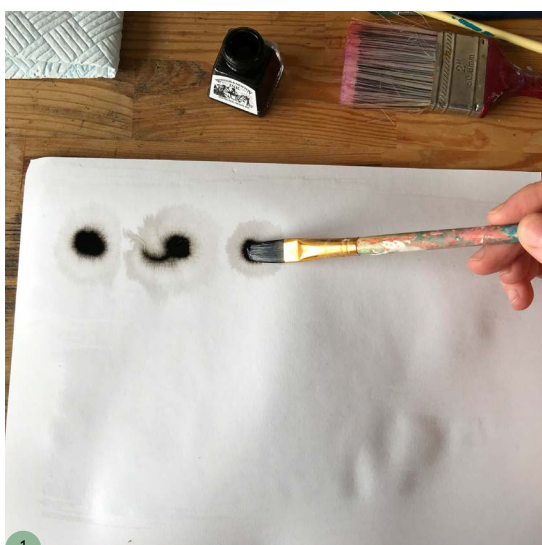
**Step 2.** Fill your sheet with ink blobs, trying not to let the ink bleed into each other too much. Space out your brush strokes and try bigger or smaller brushes to experiment.

**Step 3.** On a new sheet of paper draw dashes or lines using a bamboo stick or end of a paint brush (this time without putting water on the page first).

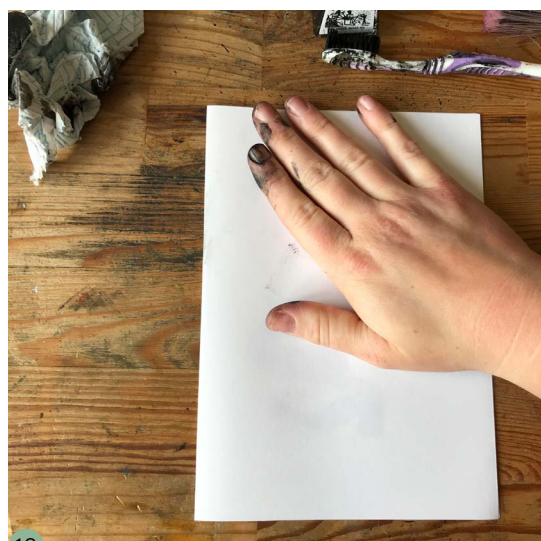
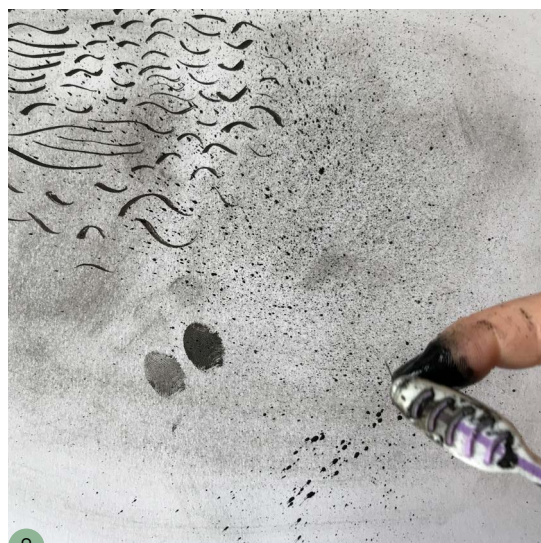
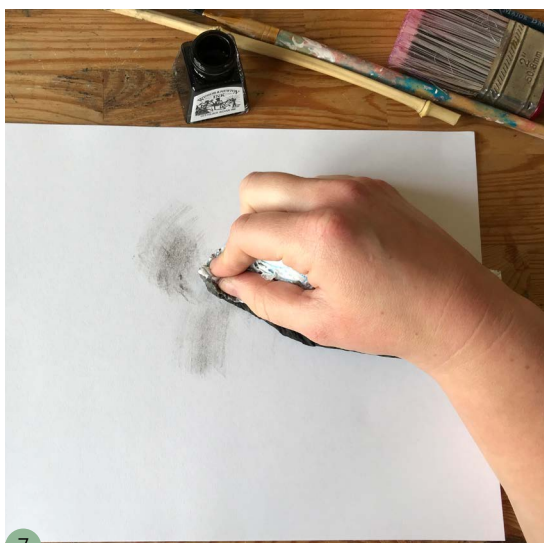
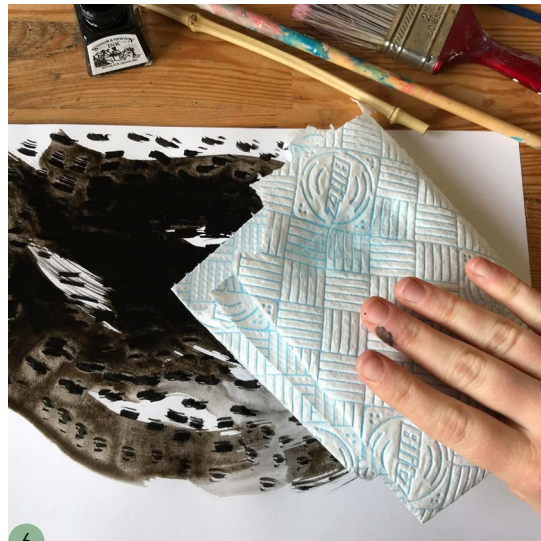
**Step 4.** Allow your drawing to grow into a pattern, try to repeat your lines until the page seems full.

**Step 5.** Now using a wide brush lightly spread water over the top of the ink, notice how the

*continued on  
page 2*



# Inky & Smudgy Drawing Experiments (continued)



## Instructions continued from page 1

background will start to turn to a light grey.

**Step 6.** Use your tissue to pat dry the water and pick off some of the dark blended areas.

**Step 7.** On a new sheet of paper try making smudgy textures by 'drawing' with a tissue. First, make sure there is some ink on the tissue, then spread it across the page to make a smoky-grey effect.

**Step 8.** Experiment making different marks over the top of the grey. Use your range of brushes, dab some ink onto the bristles of an old toothbrush and flick to create speckled dots. After this you'll have an inky finger ready to print, press it onto the paper and notice all the marks and lines from just your fingerprint!

**Step 9.** Fold a piece of paper in

*continued on page 3*

## Inky & Smudgy Drawing Experiments (continued)



11

### Instructions continued from page 2

half, draw using ink on one side of the paper, in any way you like!

**Step 10.** Fold the paper together and rub the pages so that the ink bleeds over to the next page! It works best when the ink is still wet.

**Step 11.** Continue making drawing ink experiments and press the paper together to allow for more unexpected textures to appear.

**Step 12.** After a few more experiments, look at all your inky papers and appreciate all the textures you can see. Once dry you can use these as papers to collage with or cut up and keep in a sketchbook as mark-making experiments! What will it inspire you to create? Share your drawing with us. Have fun getting inky!



12