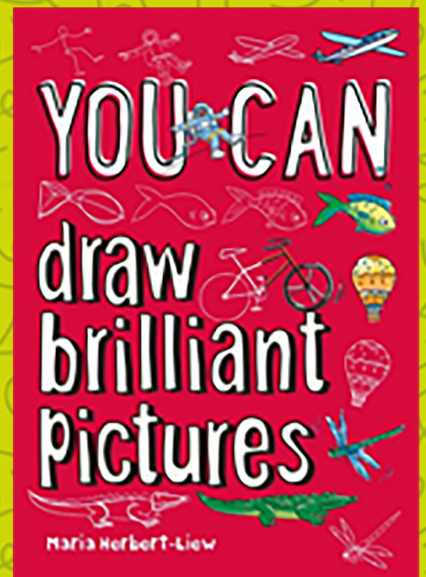


3 drawing projects

**Train your looking, thinking
and drawing skills with
these fun projects. Get
drawing and become an
even better artist!**



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brilliant pictures*

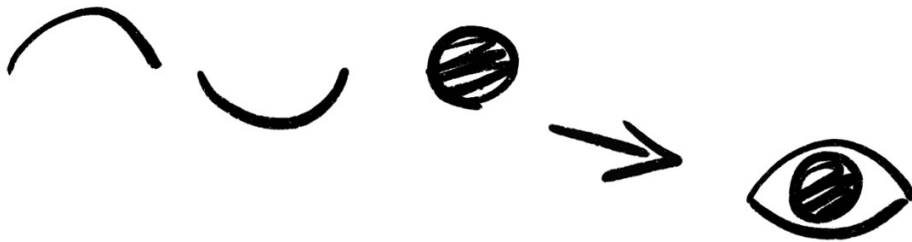


Project 1: Eyes!

An investigation. (approx. 15 mins)

You'll need: a mirror, pencil or pen, and paper.

Lots of artists use mirrors to help with drawing facial expressions or postures. Try it yourself! For this project we'll be drawing eyes. This is a good skill to practice as a good pair of eyes can really help bring your character drawings or portraits to life!



Do this: Get in front of a mirror and look at your eyes. They have an upper lid, a lower lid and a pupil.

Make different expressions with your face. What happens to your eyes? Do the eyelids change shape? What about the white around the pupils? Can you see a crease in the upper lid?

Draw them! Try happy, angry, surprised... anything you want.

Now try moving your head around. What happens now? Try and draw what you can see.



Tip: Don't worry about drawing perfect lines or shapes, this is a quick exercise to get you looking and thinking.

More time?

If you have time to investigate more, you could look at your eyebrows too, then nose and mouth. Or how about looking at someone else? If you do this you can draw what eyes look like from the side (warning- very different)!

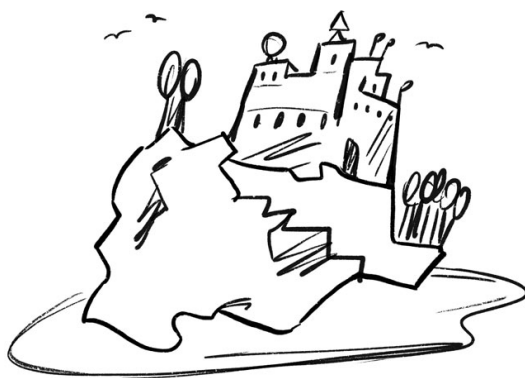
Project 2: Imagination!
A brain trainer. (approx.15 mins)

You'll need: an old piece of paper, drawing materials, paper to draw on.

A fun little exercise that will train your brain to look and imagine.



Do this: Take an old piece of paper and squash to make a quick 3D shape. Toss it down onto a surface. Look carefully at the object and imagine it is something else. What can you see? Draw it!



Tip: If you are having trouble seeing the shape, put the object onto a contrasting surface. For example, if it's white, put it on something dark. This will help you see the edges more clearly.

More time?

Try different lighting! Put the object under a direct source of light so you can see its shadow.

Maybe bright sunshine, or a torch in the dark. Use the shadow as part of your drawings.

Or how about making it a game by asking other people to join in? You all look at the same object, but keep your drawings a secret until they are finished! What did you end up with?

Project 3: Textures!

A collection. (approx. 30 mins)

You'll need: Pens or pencils - a selection of both, if you have them. A few sheets of paper and something to lean on, like a book.

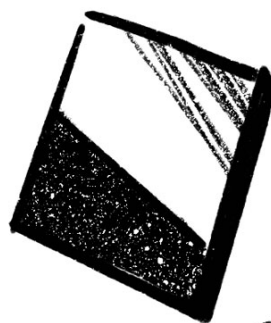
Create a collection of texture drawings which will help you out in the future!

Do this: Walk around your home, looking out for different textures. Can you see anything soft? Shiny? Fluffy? Rough? Look for as many types as possible.

You could look in different rooms, inside cupboards, maybe go outside?

Draw some of the ones that are most different.

(If you need some ideas to start, how about - a furry toy, something wooden, a leaf?)



Tips: This is quite a challenging project. Here are some tips that might help:

- **Viewfinder (Top Tip)** - You don't have to draw the whole object, you might find it easier to focus on a small area of texture. If you want to do this you can use a viewfinder to help. (See below for how to make a viewfinder.*)
- **Marks** - Think carefully about what type of marks you want to make. Is the texture light and feathery? Would you use long lines? Or maybe thick, heavy dots? Try different pens and pencils if you have them.
- **Patterns** - see if you can notice any repeating patterns.
- **Shine** - If a surface is shiny and solid (like glass or plastic), you might just be trying to draw the light or shapes reflected in it.

When you've finished, keep your drawings together as samples for future reference. This is the beginning of your 'textures' collection that you can refer back to (and add to) at any time!

***How to make a viewfinder.**

You'll need: scissors and a piece of paper.

Do this: Fold a piece of paper in half and cut out a small rectangular shape on the folded edge. Open it up, and voila! Your piece of paper is now a viewfinder - hold the paper up to focus on a small area of an object.

