

Sunflower Inspired Doodles

Teaching Artist: Nicole Gagner

Extended Playlist

- Have a bit more time? Try a similar lesson with markers but add watercolor! Here are some examples from my students:



- [Contour Line Shoe Drawings by 3rd and 4th Graders](#): Ideas from this lesson could also be adapted to draw flowers from real life or photos, especially if you have students interested in realism or who are having trouble coming up with ideas- nature can be endlessly inspiring. Line drawings can also be fun with everyday mundane objects- and everyone has shoes! Especially great if students need to bring extra shoes on gym days or snowy days, but there is something silly and fun about having your shoes off in class.

- What are other artists drawing? View other artists' sketchbooks for inspiration! The Met allows you to filter their collection by material, and they have pages of artist sketchbooks: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search#!/search?material=Sketchbooks>
I found 68 examples of flower sketches by searching, but what else can you find?
- Did you know that The National Gallery allows sketching in the museum? They have published some drawing prompts to help you figure out how to jump into drawing to understand the art you are looking at- this could be fun paired with teaching students how to use the virtual gallery tours that museums are doing, or as practice for drawing on a field trip, like to a history museum or art gallery. These techniques would also be great paired with a trip to a park, arboretum or science museum!
<https://www.nga.gov/content/dam/ngaweb/Education/Sketching%20in%20the%20Museum/pdfs/sketching-is-seeing.pdf>
- I have created a sketching from life video that could be great if the weather is nice, or even if you just have a big window with a view of nature! This lesson doesn't focus on contour, but contour lessons could be layered on top of the ideas here.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GSSxNTHNzI&t=6s
- Why I love gallery walks:
<https://theartofeducation.edu/2016/10/25/october-next-critique-gallery-walk/>
This method is slightly more in-depth for feedback, but at any level it is such a confidence booster to students to form opinions on others' work and to get feedback on their own work.