

DRAWING AND PAINTING

GUIDELINES

Existing guidelines are - Members may draw on any type of paper or other surface (such as masonite, tile, wood, etc.). Members should have knowledge of how the media will work on the surface. Suggest that the member practice on a piece before developing a full scale picture.

The first year a child should learn the basic shapes used in making up a picture. Shapes used in drawing are - the cylinder, cube, circle and cone. From these basic shapes one can make many things.

Some things for those starting drawing to learn -- tone with pencil - drawing lines side by side with either the round or chisel point, by cross-hatching, or laying your pencil on its side.

- STOMP** A paper stomp is a special pencil-like tool of stiff paper with a soft tapered tip. Soft tones are made with a stomp.
- T O N E
W I T H
C H A L K** Broad sweeping tones can be made quickly by laying a piece of chalk on its side. Softer blending can be done by going over it with a piece of tissue or a stomp
- LINE** Lines can be vertical, horizontal, diagonal, simple curves, compound curves and spirals.
- SHAPE** When an area is completely surrounded by line it is called shape. Shape has length and width, but line has only length. The basic shapes are the square (cube), circle (ball), triangle (cone), and cylinder.
- FORM** When depth is added to a shade it becomes a form because it has thickness. It then has three dimensions - height, width and depth. Every object in nature is made up of combinations of these four basic forms. In nature you will find distorted variations of the perfect cube, ball, cone, and cylinder.
- TONE** Tone is the overall color of an object. Tone is often referred to as "value". It can be light, medium, or dark in value.

SHADING

When light shines on one side of an object the other side becomes dark. The dark side is shaded. Shading is a magic touch you give to a picture to make the forms look real. Shading is the secret of realistic drawing.

C A S T SHADOW

Light shining on an object casts a shadow on another surface.

TEXTURE

The surface of an object may be described as glossy, smooth, bumpy or rough. These terms are merely attempts to describe texture.

VARIATIO NS

When you draw objects from nature, always look for variations and combinations of basic forms. Examples are: a house made up of cubes and half cubes. A pumpkin is a ball with curved cylinder sections around it and the stem is a cylinder. A corn shuck is a rough cone with a frazzled top.

COMPOSI TION

Composition is movement in a picture by using forms, lines and tones of different sizes, shapes and values.

PERSPEC TIVE

Things close to you look large and distant images look small, so if you are going to draw a good picture as your eye sees it, you must duplicate its impression by making everything in the distance get very small and objects up close must fill the width of the picture.

The human figure is for the more advanced student, but again it will depend on the child and how much drawing experience they have had. Those who haven't had previous drawing experience should do pencil, pen or charcoal drawing for one or more years before attempting other medias.

Practice is very important in drawing using the basic shapes.

When one sets out to do a drawing or painting it isn't necessary to complete it all at one time. Usually if you leave it for a few hours or days you will find changes to make that you didn't notice when you first worked on it.