
Drawing

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- with

Crayons & Paint



Crayons

In the elementary school wax crayons are a standard but very versatile medium.

To create strong intense colour students need to be encouraged to press hard.

As their project progresses have them step back three or four metres to look at their work.

This helps them see how well their pictures appears from a distance.

They may then see the need to press harder.

Wax crayons have a colour range which is wide and includes silver, copper, gold, and fluorescent colours.

They are an excellent medium for picture making and design projects on white construction paper.

Paint

Tempera paint can be used as a drawing medium. Choose one of the darker colours such as blue or brown and thin a small amount in a bucket. Test the darkness to ensure that the paint is still strong but also that it is quite fluid.

When drawing with paint use a soft squirrel type of paint brush. A # 8 or #10 works well.

Emphasis can be placed on the calligraphic nature of the lines, the variety that is possible in line thickness, and the careful consideration which is needed before touching the brush to the paper.

Scratchboard

- Choose a lightweight smooth finished card stock (ie. white tag, Bristol board (a.k.a. railroad board) about 8" x 10" or 9" x 12" in size.
- Have students cover their desks with a single sheet of newspaper.
- Students then need to cover the surface of the cardboard with a heavy coating of wax crayons, using the lighter colours.
- Students must print their names on the back in the centre. Once painted they all look the same!
- Add some liquid soap to a container of black tempera paint to ensure that the paint will actually cover and stick to the crayon without crawling and resisting. Too much soap can make the paint have a streaky whitish finish when dry.
- Too much paint can cause the paint to chip during the drawing (scratching) process.
- Cover a table with a single sheet of newspaper and have all the projects laid out there.
- Using a wide house painting brush coat the crayoned cardboard pieces.
- Leave the projects to dry for at least a day.
- Students should have some idea as to what they want to draw. A preliminary drawing on another piece of paper helps. Drawing from an actual object works well too.
- Drawing may be completed by scratching with a push pin which has a plastic end, a pottery needle or a scratch knife blade inserted into a straight nib pen handle.

