

# Experimental Mark Making Tools

[By Andrea Butler](#)

Inventing your own mark making tools is a great way to bring together making and drawing.

You can experiment with lots of different objects and materials to make drawing tools. It's a creative challenge to attach the object or material to the handle and the marks you make will be influenced by how much ink your tool will hold - fabric will absorb a lot more ink than say, a piece of dried seaweed. Each tool will have its own character and unique set of marks and of course, you can make your tools as decorative as you like, painting the handles or binding them with tape, fabric or thread to personalise them even further.



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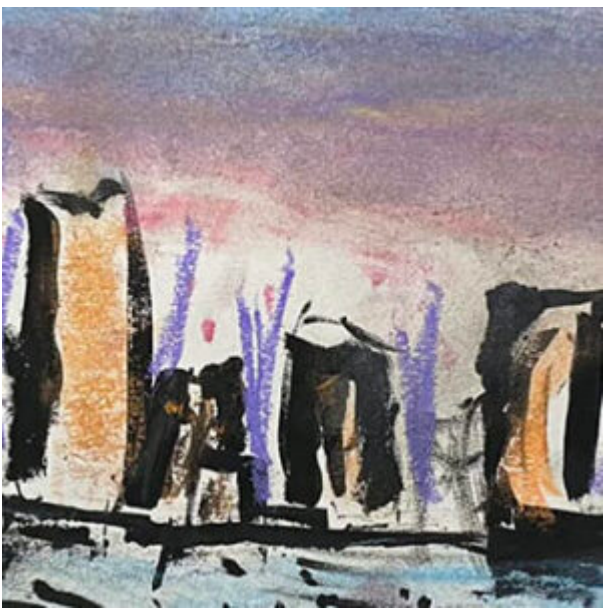
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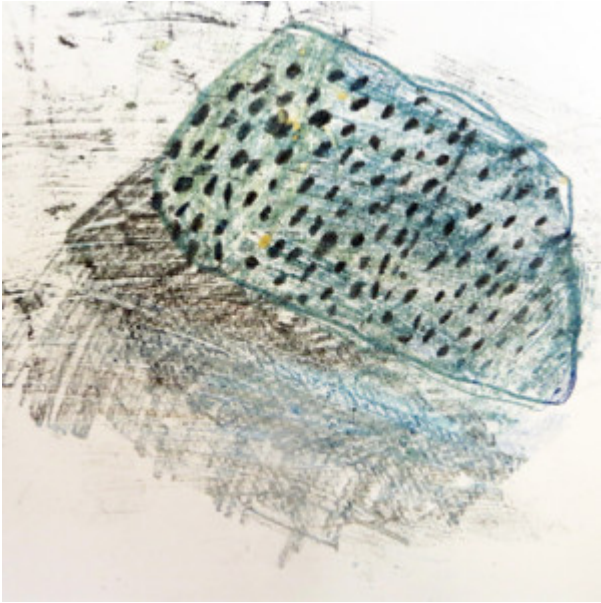
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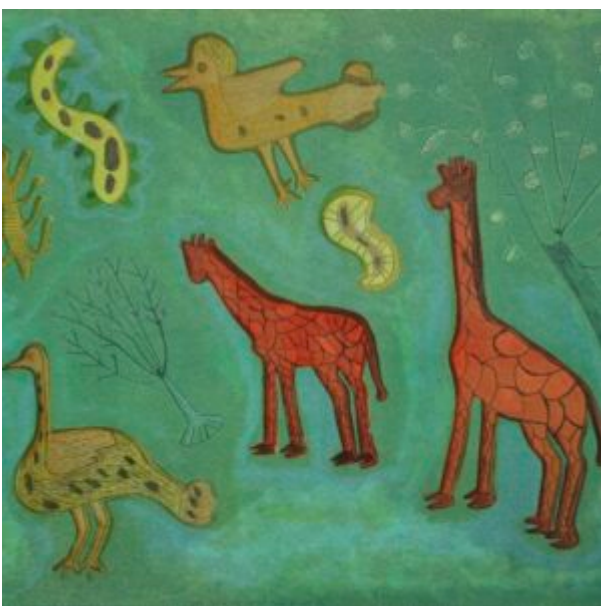
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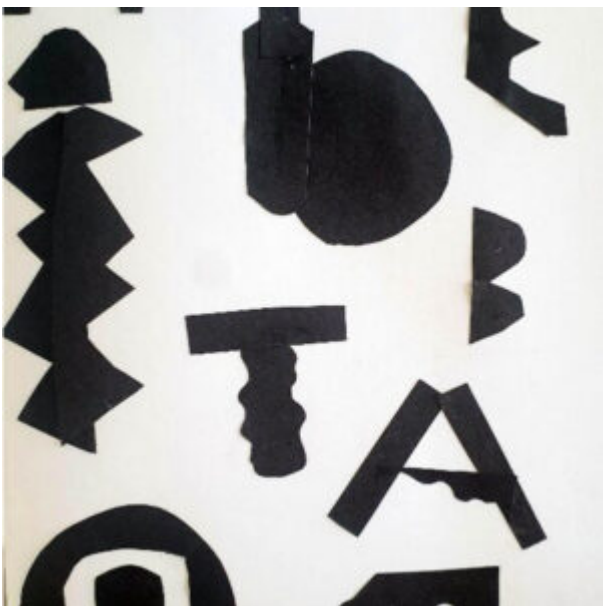
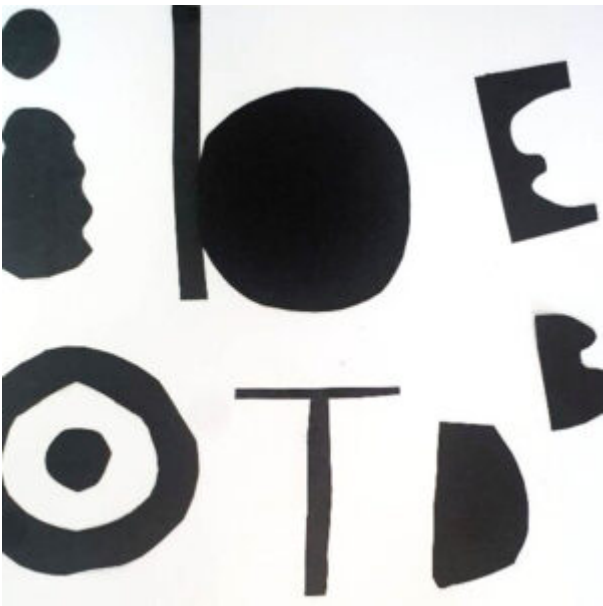
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**Which Artists: Tatyana Antoun**

**What We Like About This Resource...**

*“The research phase of a creative project can be presented in many different ways, and can even be an art form in itself. Here, Tatyana demonstrates how her sketchbooks became a medium through which she expressed her thoughts, refined her ideas and*

*explored materials. We believe sketchbooks to be a powerful tool for children to take ownership of their ideas and travel on their own creative journey, without necessarily knowing the destination. Take a look at our [sketchbook journey](#) for more sketchbook inspiration” – Rachel, AccessArt.*

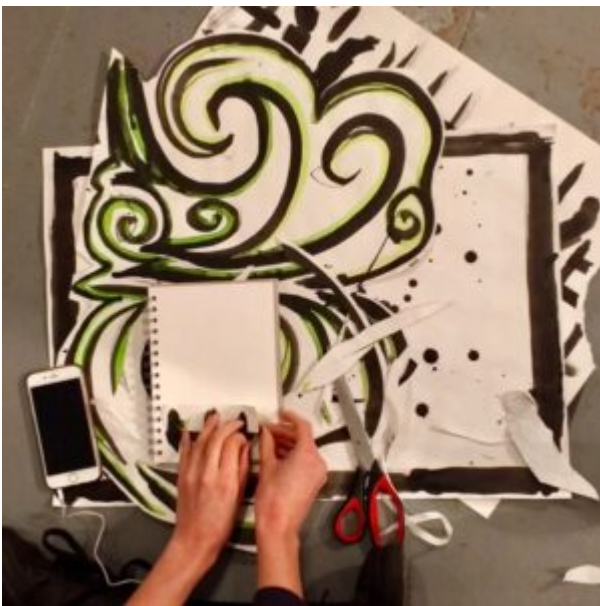
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## Sketchbooks for Designers – an Introduction for Children



## Using Sketchbooks to Take Ownership of Ideas

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# Which Artists: Merlin Evans

## What We Love About This Resource...

So often, we hear talk of the distinction between science and art, and no more so when teenagers proceed through their education and they are encouraged to choose one route or another. In reality, creative thinking helps scientific understanding and a scientific approach can inform and inspire art.

It's so refreshing to read and see Merlin's experience and understand how she works between these two areas – in her words *“mixing subjects, and seeing how they work and intersect is where inventions take place!”*

We also love the way her work embraces the *felt* world of being human, as well as the *known* world. We're sure many young people will find Merlin's work of interest and reassuring when they are pressured to choose *“art or science”*.

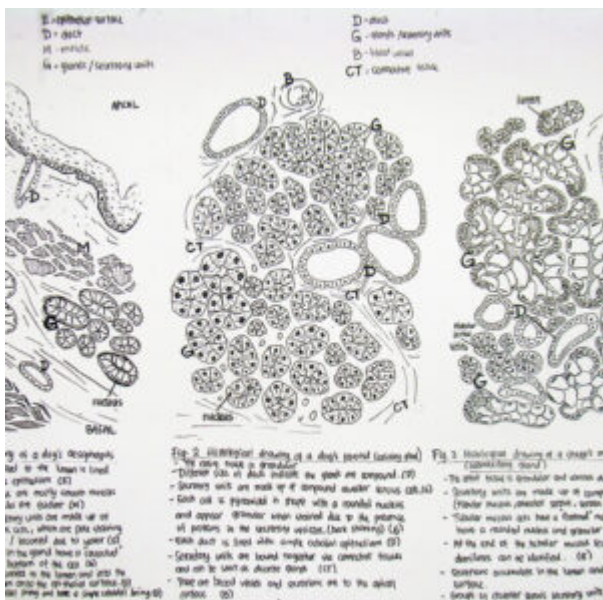
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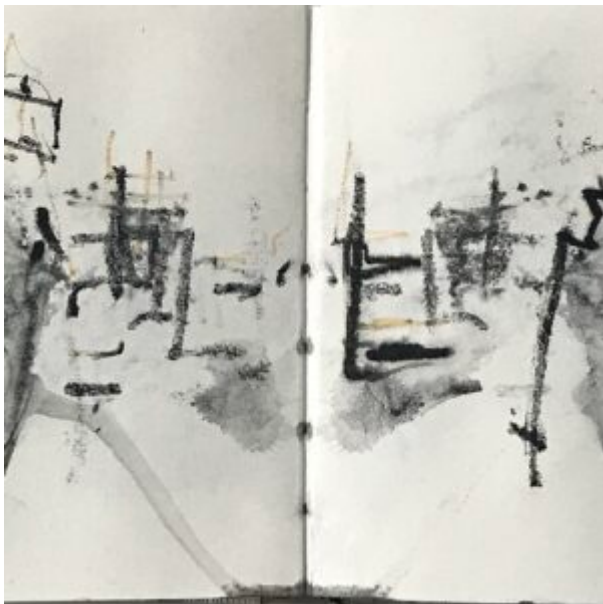
[Dr Fay Penrose, PhD, PGCert, SFHEA, BA\(Hons\) Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Anatomy and Head of First Year in Veterinary Science, University of Liverpool, explores why visual and tactile literacy and manual dexterity skills are important in the STEM subjects in higher education.](#)

## Drawing as a Way of Understanding



Fay Penrose, Lecturer in Veterinary Biology at The Veterinary School at University of Liverpool, who shares her work in introducing drawing as a way of checking understanding of complex subjects. This methodology would be very transferable to a number of subject areas in schools.

## Drawing as a Way of Understanding



Resource by Andrea Butler sharing her process of making drawings whilst walking. “I wanted to develop a way of drawing that captured my sensory and visual experiences as I moved through the landscape.”



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# **Exploring, Associating & Connecting – a Sketchbook Exercise**

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## **How I Use Sketchbooks & Drawing**

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# What Is A Drawing Tool?