

Sketchbooks! Drawing the Drawing Materials

Part 4: Drawing the Drawing Materials

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This exercise will really help you think creatively about how you use different medium to make drawings. The sketchbook is the perfect place for this

exploration to take place. Have fun and see how far you can push it!

Step 1. Collecting the “Drawing Materials”

Go on a trip around the house or classroom and gather together as many “drawing materials” as you can find. You’ll start by collecting the obvious ones: different

**kinds of pens, pencils,
markers, paints,
chalks, pastels etc –
whatever you happen to
have in the house.**



And then look even harder, and collect other things which will can be used to make a mark: a candle will produce a waxy mark which will resist paint, a piece of grass can be rubbed on paper to produce green, a flower petal to produce yellow. You can even make your own paint by mixing soil or coffee

or tea with water.
Gather your drawing
“ingredients”!

**Step 2. Start with the
Obvious**

Your challenge is to
make drawings of the
drawing materials,
using the drawing
materials!

Choose a sketchbook
page (again you don't

have to work chronologically). Start with just one drawing material, and make a drawing of that material, using that material.





For example, make a sketch of a marker pen, drawn with a marker pen!

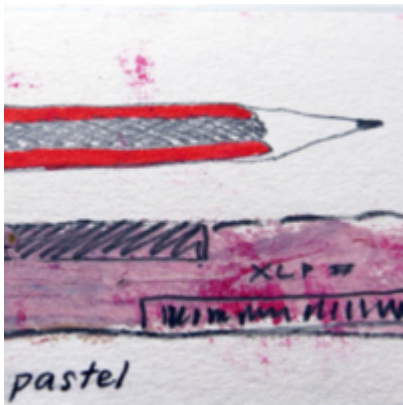
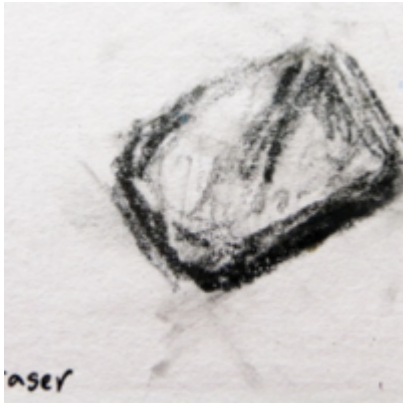
And a handwriting pen drawn with a handwriting pen.

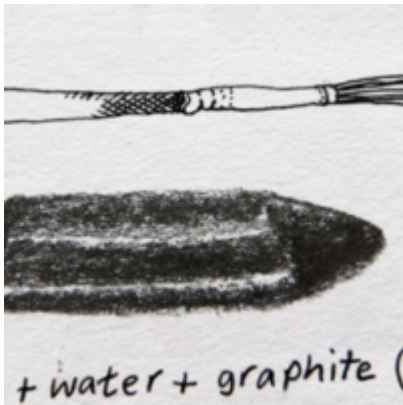
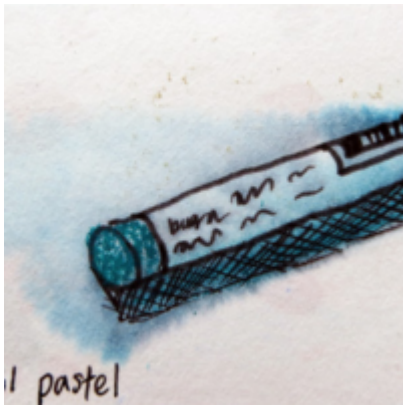
Work at different scales, and on

different pages,
choosing whichever
drawing materials
appeal.

Step 2. Combine 2 Materials Together

Choose two materials
and make a drawing of
them using both
materials, for example,
an oil pastel and a
pencil.

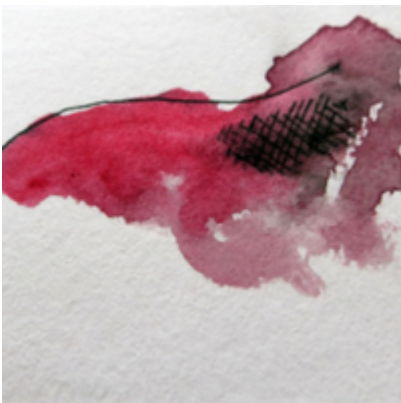


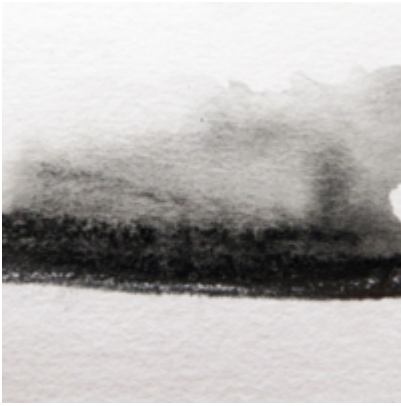


Step 3. Explore How the 2 Materials Might Work Together

In this step, you will stop drawing the "object" (or drawing

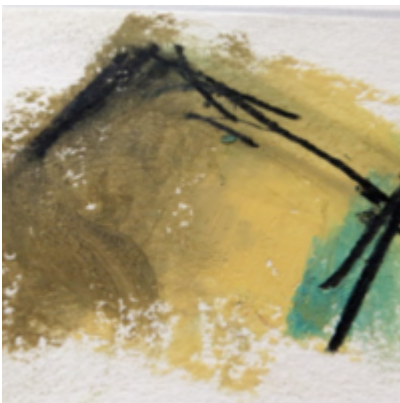
material) and instead just make marks with the materials. For example, try using the pencil over oil pastel. How's that? Now try using the pastel over the pencil. How's that different? Which do you like best? Make notes along side your experiments.





Decide if you prefer working from observation (that is drawing what you see), or making more abstract marks without a form. Or both. Whichever you

**prefer, keep exploring
and let the pages of
your sketchbook fill
with colour, marks,
different media, and
notes.**





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