AFK ArtReach Video: Drawn to Birds

Activity:

In this video members of the AFK team share ideas for developing skills in drawing birds through both practice and play. We share strategies for drawing birds with a variety of drawing media, from sketching birds outdoors and erasing into graphite powder to painting with India ink. We take inspiration from Canadian artists Josie Papialuk and Jack Shadbolt.

Inquiry Question:

How can we develop our skills in representing birds through play and practice?

Big Ideas:

Growth as an artist requires time, patience, and reflection (Art Studio 10)
An artist’s intention transforms materials into art (Art Studio 11)

Pre-Class Preparation:

The teacher will need to prepare the following materials prior to the activity:

- Computer and projector to display video in class
- 8.5" x 11" sheets of white paper (or sketchbook) (2-3 sheets per student)
- Pencils: B, 2B, 4B, 6B
- Vinyl eraser
- Hard surface to draw on outdoors
- 12" x 18" thick white paper (3 sheets per student)
- Graphite powder
- Blending Stump
- India Ink
- Bamboo brush
- Jars or plastic containers for mixing India ink and water
- Printed images of birds in flight (black and white)

First Peoples Principles of Learning

- Learning involves patience and time.

Curricular Competencies: What students will DO

Students will be able to use the following creative process(es):

- Develop and refine artistic skills in a variety of styles (Art Studio 10)
- Share and appreciate works of art in a variety of contexts (Art Studio 10)
Concepts and Content: What students will KNOW

Students will know the following concepts and content:

- Elements and principles of art and design including line, shape, texture, rhythm, and movement (Art Studio 10)
- A variety of materials, techniques, and technologies used for creating drawings (Art Studio 10)
- Contributions of traditional, innovative, and intercultural artists from a variety of movements and periods (Studio Arts 2D 11)

Core Competencies (suggested questions for reflection)

- COMMUNICATION: What did you learn through discussing your own artwork with the class and through observing and discussing the finished drawings of your classmates?
- THINKING: Which drawing processes demonstrated in this video contributed most to the development of your skills in drawing birds? How did you incorporate play into your drawing process?
- PERSONAL AND SOCIAL: Which drawing exercise challenged you the most? Why do you think this was the case? What can you learn from this experience?

Suggested Descriptive Feedback

- Nora contributes her ideas and questions about works of visual art to the group, exploring artists' intent, technique, and use of materials.
- Nora has developed her skills in using drawing tools such as pencils, graphite powder, erasers, and India ink to represent birds in motion.
- Nora creates drawings that thoughtfully incorporate the elements and principles of art and design including line, shape, texture, rhythm, and movement.
- Nora demonstrates a willingness to experiment with new drawing methods and techniques and to incorporating play into her creative process.