

# Kindergarten LWSD Art Docent Project: Blind Contour Drawing

## Element of Art: Line

**Objective:** to teach students how to capture the contour lines of an object quickly, and to have them practice drawing lines without looking at the paper

**Artistic Influence:** local artist William Cumming

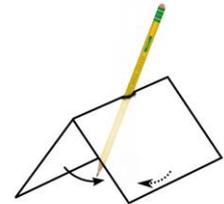


### Elements of Art:

Line

### Materials:

- **A pencil** (a drawing pencil or regular graphite pencil)
- **Newsprint drawing paper** (several sheets per student)
- **9"x 12" Construction Paper** (one sheet per student, folded in half to use as a tent)



### Instructions and notes:

1. Ahead of teaching, fold enough construction paper for each child to have one sheet.
2. Poke a sharpened pencil through the middle of each construction paper tent.
3. Give each child one pencil + tent and a few sheets of newsprint.
4. After showing students the lesson slide deck, through slide 8 "Example of Today's Project," give students time to draw the object shown on each subsequent deck. Remind them:
  - to take their time; there's no rush
  - to draw more than one shape on each piece of newsprint, to use up less paper
  - to keep their eyes on the screen with the object they should be drawing
  - not to peek under their paper tents which are meant to hide their drawings while in progress
  - to have fun with the process, even if it seems silly and their drawings don't look at all like their shapes
  - Especially, remind them that few artists are good at blind contour drawing the first time they try it.
5. Invite students to share their art and talk about the process, if time allows.
6. Distribute parent information page for students to take home, and print an extra page to post on your bulletin board with the finished art. See following page.
7. Please complete the brief [LWSD Art Docent Program Feedback Survey](#) for this lesson.
8. Thank you for supporting our elementary students' visual arts education.

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## LWSD Art Docent Project: Blind Contour Drawing

The goal of this kindergarten lesson was to practice blind contour drawing, inspired by the work of local artist William Cumming.

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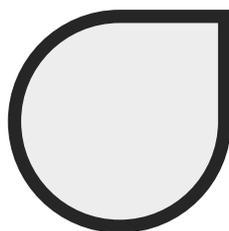
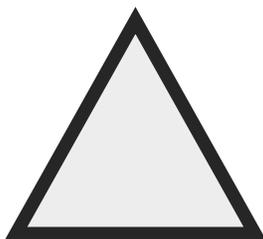
### WA State Visual Arts Standard

Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials. (VA: Cr1.1.K)

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students learned that **contour lines** are similar to outlines. Some artists learn how to draw contour lines quickly by keeping their eyes on the subject of their drawing while not looking at their paper.

Our inspiration for this project was the work of William Cumming, a well-known local artist and art teacher who was fascinated by the human body in motion. He excelled at capturing movement in his work.

Mastering this kind of drawing takes a lot of practice. Our students had fun trying it for the first time today by using a paper tent that hid their work from them while they drew shapes like the ones shown below.



The development of this Lake Washington School District art docent lesson was made possible by a grant from the Lake Washington Schools Foundation.