

Photography and Drawing Exploration

Class by Ginny Baughman

Description

Surprisingly, photography and drawing are very closely related. In fact when photography was first invented it was called drawing by its inventors. This class will combine drawing and photography so that students can see their relationships and differences historically and physically. They will learn design techniques that they can use in both their drawings and photographs. Students will do photo-grams and drawings then combine them into books at the end of the class. Each student will construct a pinhole camera and then see how well it works. Students will need to bring a disposable camera and have the prints developed before the end of the class. They will also need to bring a shoe box with a tightly fitting lid for the pinhole camera.



Grade Level

Grades 5-11 (or ages 10-16)

Learning Objectives

Students will learn about drawing and photography. They will learn the basics of both media from design to mechanics. They will create several different drawings and take numerous photographs. They will learn how photography really works by creating a pinhole camera of their very own. By the end of the class they will create a book with their photos and drawings in it.

Syllabus

Day 1: Drawing Basics

We will discuss drawing and photography and learn about their history. Students will learn some of the basics of drawing and learn contour line drawing and basic shape drawings. They will work on drawings inside and outside. Students will draw each other.

Students will be encouraged to work in imaginary drawing. We will do blind drawing of objects in paper bags.

Day 2: Basics of Design and begin Pinhole cameras

Students will begin to construct our pinhole cameras by painting the inside of their box with black paint.

Students will learn basic design techniques to use in their drawings and photographs.

We will do negative space drawings and sun prints or contact prints.

Students will begin using their disposable cameras. They will take pictures of each other and be encouraged to think of stories to go with the pictures.

Day 3: Pinhole Cameras and Dark Room

Students will finish constructing their pinhole cameras and load the cameras with photo paper in the dark room. Students will try their pinhole cameras as a group and then go into the dark room individually to see what happened with the prints.

Students will finish taking pictures with their disposable cameras and begin to work on the stories for their books while their classmates work in the dark room. They will then be asked to take the cameras home and finish taking pictures and then develop the pictures and return with the pictures before the end of the week.



Day 4: Creating Books of Drawings and Photos

We will continue to use and develop pictures from our pinhole cameras as time permit.

Students will learn how to make an accordion book and a pop-up photograph and have the opportunity to create books and cards with their drawings and their photographs while their classmates finish up in the darkroom.

Day 5:

Students will finish all projects and construct their books and cards.

Special Note

Dark Room

We will need to construct a dark room out of a small room or closet with no windows. We will need pans for the chemicals, a safe light and safety goggles for each student. I may also need an assistant for this class if the dark room is too small for all the students. I will need someone who can watch the class and help them with projects while I am in the darkroom with small groups of students.

