

Explorations

Grade Level: 5/6/7

Curricular Area: Visual and Performing Arts

Lesson 1: Warming Up Your Eyes - Blind Contour
Drawing - Due Oct. 5

Warming Up Your Eyes -Blind Contour

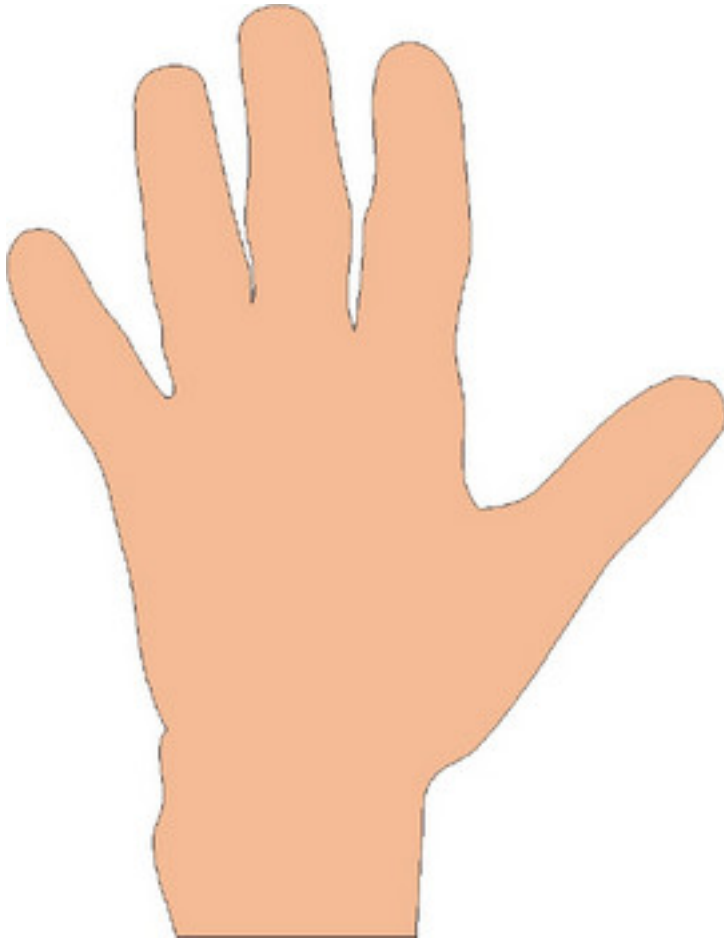
Is it important to warm up? When you play any sports, do you just jump into the game without stretching or playing a little bit? When you have a performance, do you tune your instrument or warm up your voice? The answer is yes! Just like any other activity, in art you need to warm up. **In this lesson**, you will **(1)** learn the rules of blind contour and **(2)** upload your first blind contour drawing.

Part 1: The Rules of Blind Contour Drawing

Art involves looking. It involves training your eyes to see what is actually in front of you and not what you think should be there. When creating art, most people look at their art 70-80% of the time and the thing they are drawing 20-30% of the time! Blind contour drawing will warm up your eyes and make you, the artist, see details!

Example - Blind Contour

Is this a hand?



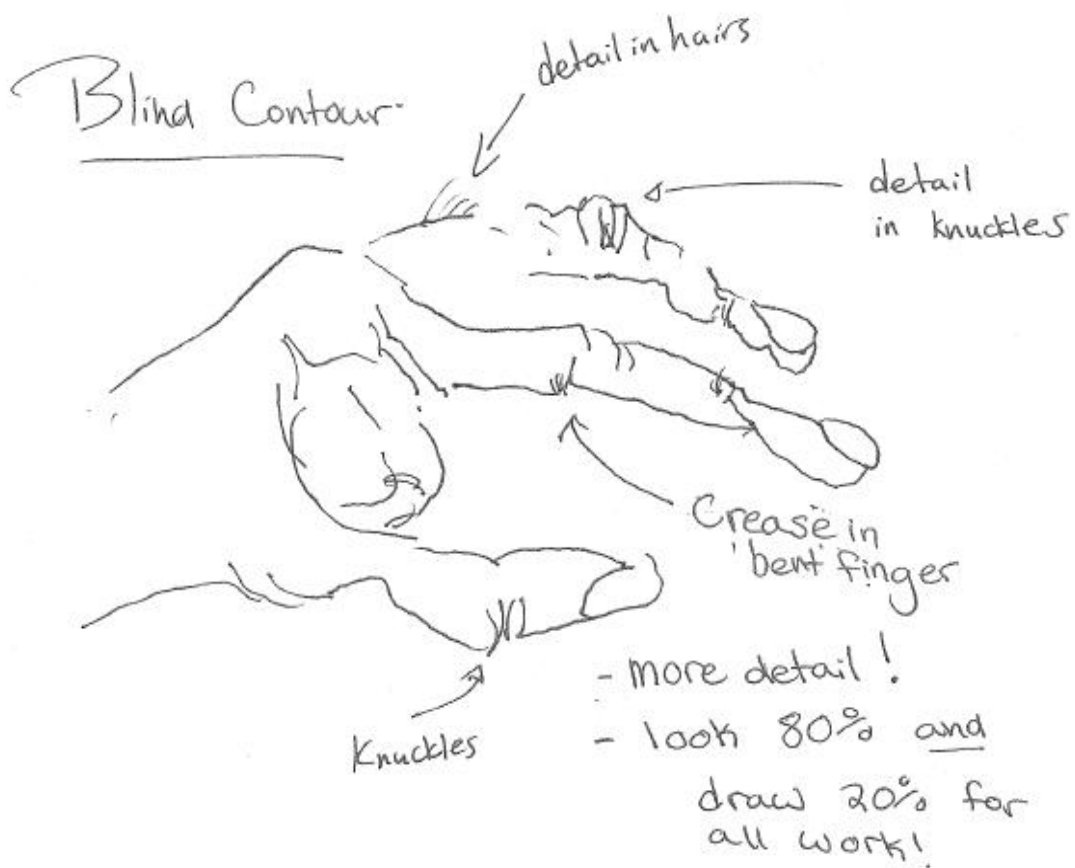
This drawing has:

1. 4 fingers
2. 1 thumb
3. The correct shape
4. No details!

Does it look realistic?



Is this a Hand?



This drawing has

1. 3 fingers
2. 1 thumb
3. Finger nails
4. Detail in the knuckles
5. Fine hairs
6. Creases in the skin

This hand contains detail and looks more realistic!

Creating a Blind-Contour Drawing

1. Prepare your work with a piece of paper and a pen.
2. Put your non-writing hand in an interesting position on the table.
3. Put your pen on the paper and look at your non-writing hand.
4. Move your eyes along the creases/grooves in your skin and move the pen at the same speed as your eyes.
5. LOOK AT YOUR HAND NOT THE PAPER!
6. Focus on details and try to see your hand in all its details.
7. DO NOT LOOK AT THE PAPER!!!!!!!