



## Lesson: Neighborhood Landscape Line Drawing

Ages: 5-15

Projected time: 45 min- 1 hour

**Supplies needed:** Paper and pencil. Two pieces of paper for each participant, half sheets or smaller pieces work great for the first drawing. Optional: Colored pencils, pens, crayons, markers. Any drawing material you have on hand will work great.

**Project Intro:** Your neighborhood is a great place to draw the landscape, and there are lots of things you know well nearby, super fun to draw. Find a cozy seat outdoors or near a window. You will first make a preliminary drawing to plan out your final drawing, this will be a sketch - so don't put all of the details into it. This sketch will help you plan what your larger composition will look like. When you draw think about using as many kinds of lines as you can!

**Artist or Medium Reference:** Look closely at these landscape drawings by Vincent VanGogh. How many kinds of lines can you see? VanGogh was a Dutch painter who lived in from 1853 to 1890. He did at least 2100 drawings and paintings! His art wasn't popular when he was alive, but now he's super famous.

### **Vocabulary:**

Landscape is a picture of the natural scenery, and an important type of art.

Line is an element of art, and is a point moving on a paper or in space. Think about all of the different kinds of lines in the world... wavy, straight, vertical, zigzag, spiral, etc.

Preliminary drawings, or sketches are quick drawings artists make to help them decide what to include in their final works of art. All kinds of artists make sketches, even architects, fashion designers, and sculptors.

Composition is where things are in your artwork, and how it's organized.

## Project steps:

### Step 1: Drawing 1 (5-10 min)

This is a fast drawing, and you can use smaller paper. In this drawing you will just figure out the basics of what to include in the larger drawing.

Find a view with interesting things in it. Think about where you'll put the things you're planning on including in your drawing.

Look closely! Start by drawing the horizon line, that's the line where the sky and earth meet. This can include wiggly tree lines, straight lines for house roofs, and anything else you see.

### Step 2: Drawing 2 (20-30 min)

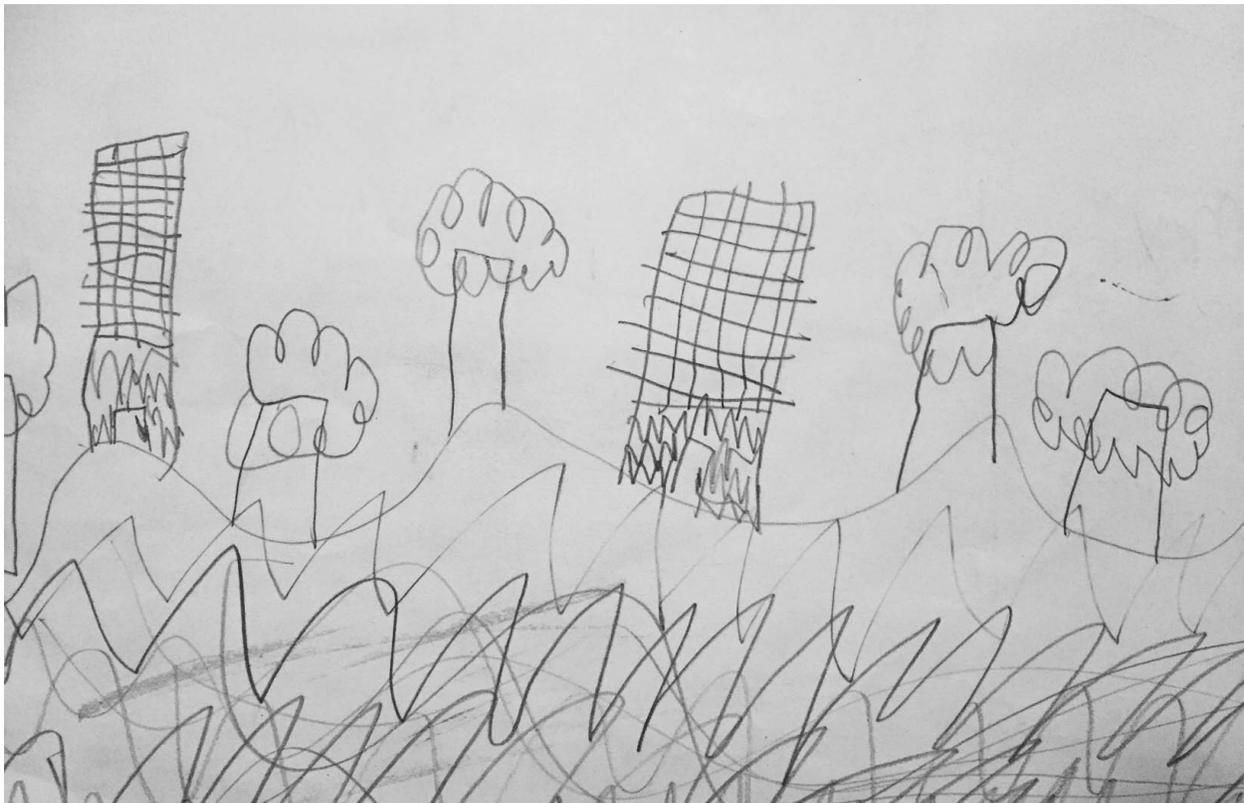
-Now draw the same scene again, this time for a lot longer.

-Draw using light 'whisper' lines as you may erase later, (if you can hear your pencil as you draw you may be pressing too hard), since the harder you press with your pencil the harder it'll be to erase.

-You may want to change things about the things you chose to draw, depending on what you learned from drawing this scene the first time. Think about where things are in the scene, and work hard on this drawing.

-Spend some time on the details too.

-Make sure to include every kind of line you can think of!



Here's a young person's drawing of a city with lots of parks. Notice all the kinds of lines!



**Vincent VanGogh Wheat Fields, 1890**



**Vincent VanGogh, Boats at Saintes-Maries, 1890**