Bird Observation & Drawing

Activity #1: Lines + Shapes

Challenge: Copy the images below using two types of lines.

Guiding Question: Which line drawing turned out better? Why?
- On your own piece of paper, try copying one of the images below using long, continuous lines. Try to avoid taking your pencil off the paper.
- Next, try copying the same image, but use lots of short, sketchy, little lines.

When you use short, sketchy, little lines, you can adjust more easily on the go! They allow you to create a more realistic drawing.

Activity #2: Blind Drawing

Challenge: Draw the outline of a bird without looking at your pencil and paper.

Guiding Question: Which part of your drawing is the most realistic?
- On your own piece of paper, try drawing the outline of one of the birds below. Start with your pencil on the paper and then look away. This is a “blind” drawing, so you are not allowed to look at your hand as you draw! Keep your eyes focused on the bird photo you are copying below.
- Try not to lift your pencil the whole time. Your lines probably won’t meet up perfectly, but that’s okay! See an example below of what a blind drawing might look like.

Activity #3: Observe + Draw!

Challenge: Go outside and find a place to sit. Observe birds, insects, and other wildlife around you. Draw what you observe.

Guiding Question: When you take the time to slow down and draw the animal you are looking at, what do you notice?
- Take a piece of paper and a pencil outside. You could sit in a local park, in your backyard, or just look out your window!
- Sit still and be quiet. Look for birds, insects, or other wildlife and observe what they are doing. Draw them on your paper, including as many details as you can.