

Renaissance Art & Perspective

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will create a linear perspective drawing to understand this key Renaissance artistic innovation.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- paper
- ruler
- pencil

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. On a sheet of paper, use a ruler to draw a horizon line across the middle and mark a single dot in the center of it — this is your 'vanishing point.'
2. Draw a simple shape (like a rectangle for a building or road edges) below the horizon line, then use your ruler to draw faint guide lines from each corner of the shape back to the vanishing point.
3. Use those guide lines to draw a second, smaller version of the shape further back, creating the illusion of depth (like a hallway or road disappearing into the distance).
4. Add at least 3 more objects (windows, trees, or a second building) using the same vanishing point technique so everything shares one consistent perspective.

QUESTIONS

1. What is a 'vanishing point,' and what is its purpose in a perspective drawing?

2. Name one Renaissance artist known for pioneering the use of linear perspective.

3. How did using a shared vanishing point make your drawing look more realistic?

4. Why was the discovery of linear perspective considered such an important breakthrough for Renaissance artists?

