

Exploring Line and Mark-Making Style

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will experiment with six different line and mark-making techniques and identify which best reflects their emerging personal style.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- plain paper (at least one large sheet)
- pencil
- fine-tip pen or marker
- ruler
- colored pencils (optional)

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Using your ruler, divide a large sheet of paper into 6 equal boxes.
2. In each box, practice a different mark-making technique: 1) hatching (parallel lines), 2) cross-hatching (crossed lines), 3) stippling (dots), 4) contour lines (single continuous outline), 5) scribbling/gestural marks, 6) geometric patterned marks.
3. Fill each box completely using only that technique, applied to a simple shape or small drawing of your choice (same subject in each box, if possible, for fair comparison).
4. Compare all six boxes and circle the two techniques that felt most natural or that you enjoyed the most.
5. On the back of the paper, combine your two favorite techniques into one small original drawing.

QUESTIONS

1. Which two techniques did you enjoy or feel most natural using, and why?

2. What is the difference between hatching and cross-hatching, and what effect does each create?

3. How did combining your two favorite techniques on the back of your paper change or improve your original drawing?

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- 4. Why is experimenting with many different mark-making techniques a useful first step in developing a personal art style?**
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