

# Vincent Van Gogh—Line Drawing/Doodles

Vincent van Gogh drew thousands of images to better his skills and to fulfil leisure time. He completed over 1,000 drawings, which are known of, from 1877 to 1890. Van Gogh saw drawing as a necessary task to build a foundation as an artist and to study form and movement.

There are many purposes for drawing, for example recording, expressing, communicating and analysing.

The key to drawing is in the looking. Children find it hard to believe that their eyes are more important than their hands. Children should be guided not to look closely but to look with purpose and to develop different ways of looking.



## Art Ideas for all Children

- Share with children 'Haystacks near a Farm' by Vincent Van Gogh. Ask children to see how many different kinds of lines have been used and how the artist has created different effects.
- Ask children to experiment with different pens e.g. fine line, medium tips, broad round tips. Children should experiment with drawing different lines using these pens such as a short straight line, a long straight line, curved line, wavy line, zig-zag and jagged line, broken lines, dots and dashes.
- Challenge children to create doodles. Show children some examples of doodles. Explore with children that doodles start with a small shape in the middle and grow very, very slowly. This is mostly a line pattern so no solid colouring in.
- Ask children to draw all the shapes in their environment that they can see. Challenge children to draw 3D shapes as well such as a sphere, a cube, a cylinder. It is better if they do not use rulers but rather develop their ability to draw reasonably straight lines by hand.
- Up side down object: Position a fairly large object upside down for all children to be able to see e.g. a small bike. Explain to children that today you will be drawing this object upside down. Children will need to look carefully before they start to draw. Children should look at the overall shape and other shapes they can see. Look carefully at the way the main shapes are connected. Challenge the children to think about the shapes, spaces, lines, and angles you can see.

## Links to Websites

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UicULvezHE0>  
(How to draw like: Van Gogh)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1UgQsaC9c6A>  
(Doodle Art)

