

Shape Lesson

Sometimes it is hard to look at something 3 dimensional and see the 2 dimensional shapes that make it up. The shadows and details can get in the way. This exercise, using tracing paper, will help to block out the details and really see the shapes!

Supplies:

White paper

Pencil

Eraser

Tracing Paper

[Photo reference](#) of apple branch (below)

Tape

Directions:

1. Tape the photo reference to the table and tape a piece of tracing paper over it. (Place a piece of tape on all 4 sides to make it really flat.)

2. Using the pencil, trace only the basic shapes that you see:

3. Trace the apples first.

4. Trace the leaves next.

5. Trace what you can see of the branch last.

6. Remove the tracing paper and lay it on top of a piece of white paper to see it better.

7. Now use the traced drawing as your new reference. Copy (don't trace!) these basic shapes onto a clean piece of white paper. Draw them twice as large as the traced reference.

8. Now you may look at the photo reference and add the details, like the veins on the leaves.

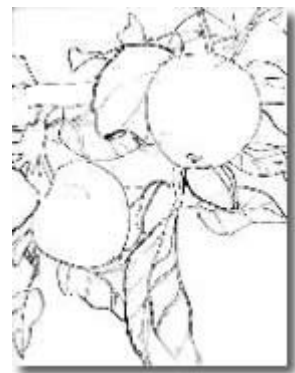
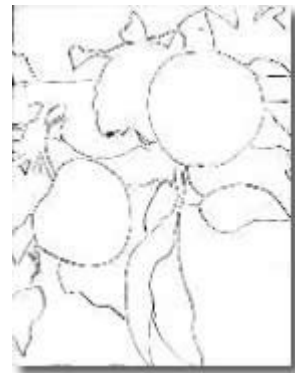
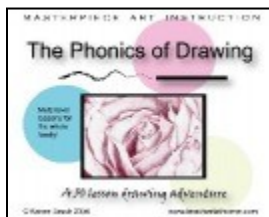


Photo Reference:



Photo Reference courtesy of USDA, ARS Gallery

More Drawing Resources:



Art Instruction CD: *The Phonics of Drawing CD* has detailed lessons on the fundamentals of drawing.

Online Art Course: *Drawing and Rendering I*