



Gestural Drawings with Charcoal

Objectives

- I have seen how artists use charcoal in their work, can talk about the marks produced, and how I feel about their work.
- I have experimented with the types of marks I can make with charcoal and make loose, gestural sketches using my body.
- I can understand what Chiaroscuro is and how I can use it in my work.
- I have shared my work with my classmates and talked about what I felt was successful and what I might like to try again. I can voice what I like about my classmates work and how it makes me feel.

Key questions

- Why do you think Laura likes to work in large scale when she uses charcoal?
- What kinds of lines does Laura use in her artwork?
- Where does she move from when she draws? Her wrist? Her elbow? Her shoulder? Her whole body?
- Why do you think Degas often used two different materials such as charcoal and chalk or charcoal and graphite in his work?

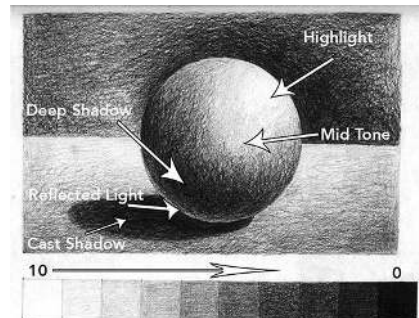
Laura McKendry

Laura is an artist based in London who combines bold brushstrokes and decisive draw lines. She often focuses on the mistakes and experiments with the unexpected.



Edgar Degas

Edgar Degas (1843-1917) was a French artist born in Paris. He mainly used charcoal to draw pictures of everyday life.



Chiaroscuro example

Medium used

A2 sugar paper, willow charcoal, erasers, hairspray (for fixing), white chalk.

Key vocabulary

Chiaroscuro	An Italian term that translates to "light-dark" and refers to the use of strong contrasts between light and dark in art.
Gestural drawing	A free-flowing sketch that focuses on capturing the movement, pose, and action of a subject, often a human figure, in a simplified, energetic way.
Mark making	Describes the different lines, dots, patterns and textures we create in artwork.
Composition	The way in which all elements in a piece of artwork work together to produce an overall effect.

By the end of this unit you will have used charcoal to create a piece of art inspired by cave paintings. You will have used Chiaroscuro and explored movement in your drawings.

