

peacock est. 1974
a workshop for art

WELCOME TO THIS MONTH'S BOREDOM BOX!

Please enjoy the fun packed activities inside this box. We have included some guidance on what you can use the materials for but remember, it's all about having fun and being creative. Let your imagination run wild!

INSIDE THIS BOX:

- * Understanding Perspective
- * Gouache Ink Lift
- * Found Poetry
- * Eyes on the Skies

Thanks for participating in the Peacock & the Worm January Boredom Box. We hope you had loads of fun getting creative with the materials and will get involved again in our next Boredom Box.

We always love to hear your feedback about the Boredom Box project. This box includes a postcard and stamp so you can let us know how you got on.

Thanks from,
the team at Peacocks

What is Gouache Paint?

{goo-ah-sh}

Gouache paint is a very versatile medium. It is a water based paint that can either be applied using thin, watery layers (like watercolour paint) or applied in thicker layers (like acrylic paint.)

If you are looking for some inspiration, take a look at the technique booklet in your box. Try challenging yourself to see how many techniques you can use in one painting!

Eyes on the Skies

February 2022

This month's edition of eyes on the skies will focus on the constellation of Orion the Hunter. Arguably the most famous and recognisable constellation in the northern sky, Orion is a treasure box of astronomical wonders and well worth learning more about to discover its secrets.



Orion is visible in the winter and its first sightings each year are often associated with the arrival of the colder months. In order to locate Orion it is best to look for the famous "Orion's Belt", 3 bright stars pointing diagonally up to the right, from here you can make out the rest of the image of a hunter with a sword hanging from the belt and on particularly starry nights, a bow and arrow aimed upwards. Once you have located it you will notice how bright the main stars of the constellation are in comparison to its neighbouring stars and should be easy to spot once you are familiar with it.



Betelgeuse & Rigel

The 2 brightest stars in Orion are named Betelgeuse (often nicknamed Beetlejuice) and Rigel. Both are giants that are many times the size of our Sun however due to their different nature's, Betelgeuse burns with a hot orange colour while Rigel shines a bright blue, the longer you look at the stars the greater this contrast in colour will appear. Can you identify them? (here's a clue: one is the left shoulder of the hunter while the other is the lower right foot).

We know that Betelgeuse is a star right at the end of it's lifespan, when a star of this type reaches its death it will blow up in a spectacular explosion know as a supernova. Will this happen as you are looking at it?

Orion's Belt



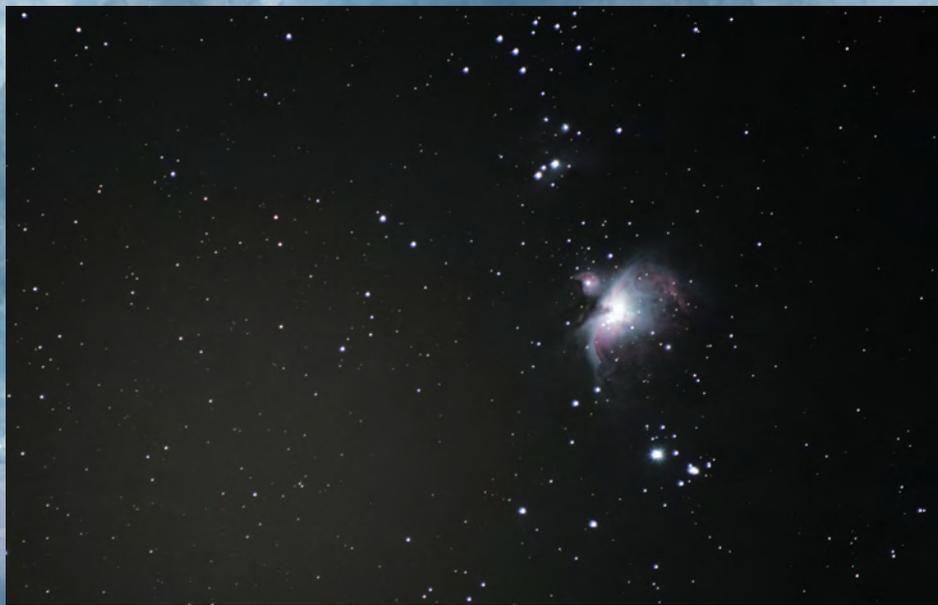
Orion the Hunter

Orion Nebula

Orion Nebula

If you look directly down from the belt of Orion you will see a line of stars (representing the sword hanging from the hunters belt). Among these stars you will notice a faint fuzzy patch which does not have the pinprick definition of a star. What you are looking at here is the Orion Nebula, a super massive cloud of dust in which stars are born, often called a stellar nursery.

The Orion Nebula is the closest area to the Earth where stars are formed and by studying this tiny patch in the sky scientists have been able to unlock many mysteries about how stars are created. Not bad for a fuzzy smudge!



The orion nebula as seen through a telescope

Sirius the dog star

Look to the bottom left of Orion and you will notice a very bright star, often shimmering and seeming to change colour when it is close to the horizon. This is Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius shines so bright in our sky as it is one of the closest star systems to the Earth. Although it appears as a single star it is in fact a pair of bright stars orbiting around each other. See if you can spot it and record what colours you see.

Date	Colours

We hope you enjoy exploring Orion the Hunter and identifying the features, this is just scratching the surface of what is to be discovered in this beautiful constellation!

GOUACHE INK LIFT

STEP ONE: Using the watercolour paper from your box, sketch out your design in pencil. Breaking your image down into larger, graphic shapes works well with this technique.



STEP TWO: Outline your drawing using charcoal. This will give your shapes a thick, black outline.

STEP THREE: Using the gouache paint, carefully paint within your charcoal outlines.

The colour that touches the paper first is the colour that will stain the page so make sure to mix your colours before applying your paint! It helps to mix your paints in small amounts at a time to get an even colour and minimise wasted paint.



TIP The thicker you apply your paint, the stronger your colour will be. Try mixing your colours using very small amounts of water.

TIP Any part of your page that hasn't been covered in paint will be filled with ink. This means you don't have to paint any areas that you want to remain black.

STEP FOUR: Wait for your painting to completely dry.

STEP FIVE: Once your painting is completely dry, cover your whole painting in a layer of drawing ink. This may seem scary at first but trust the process!



STEP SIX: Once the ink has dried to touch, place your painting on a hard surface that you can carry with you - a chopping board or even a piece of firm cardboard would do.



STEP SEVEN: Bring your painting to a sink, shower or bathtub. Turn on the tap and place your painting under the running water. Keep moving your painting under the tap to make sure the page is being evenly covered.

STEP EIGHT: You will start to see the ink and gouache paint lift away from the page. You can also experiment with rubbing parts of the ink away with your fingertips



STEP NINE: When you are happy with how your painting looks, turn the tap off and set your painting aside to completely dry.

STEP TEN: You can either leave your artwork as it is or you can choose to work on top of it, adding details with more paint or pencils. Once you have finished getting creative, carefully trim the sides of your artwork and enjoy your masterpiece!



Can you think of someone who might like this as a gift? Or maybe you can turn your artwork into a greetings card?

UNDERSTANDING

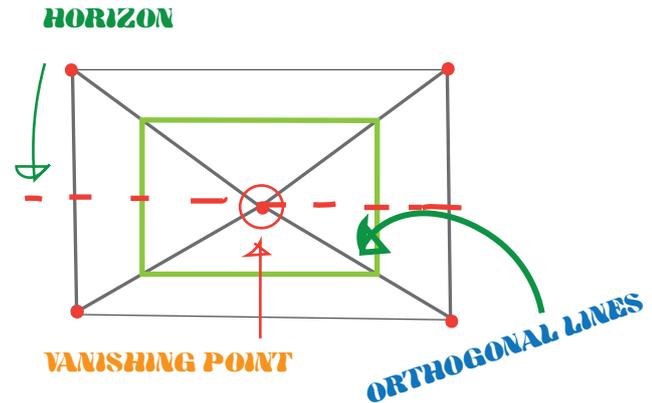
PERSPECTIVE

PERSPECTIVE DRAWINGS ARE USED TO CREATE TECHNICAL 3D IMAGES ON A 2D PAGE. PERSPECTIVE DRAWINGS SHOW AN OBJECT IN 3D GETTING SMALLER IN THE DISTANCE.

1 POINT PERSPECTIVE

This shows an object from the front in a realistic way as it gets smaller going into the distance.

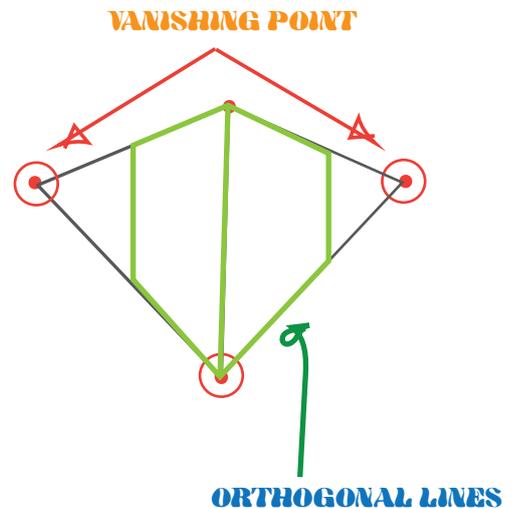
The front view goes back towards a vanishing point, which is a point on the horizon line where all lines meet.



2 POINT PERSPECTIVE

This shows an object from the side with two vanishing points.

It gives the most realistic view of a product as it shows the item edge on, as we would see it. It is often used to produce realistic drawings of an object.

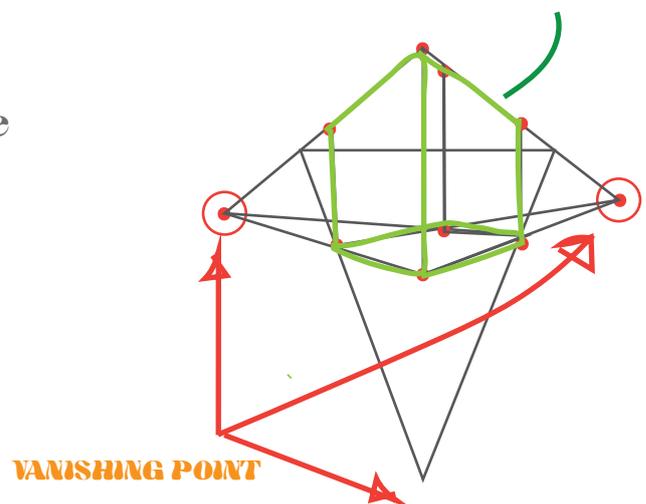


3 POINT PERSPECTIVE

Three-point perspective is similar to two-point perspective because two of the vanishing points remain on the horizon line. The third perspective point is vertical, which makes the drawing look smaller not only to the left and right on the horizon, but also as the eye looks downward.

Three-point perspective is used by many product designers when they sketch a product.

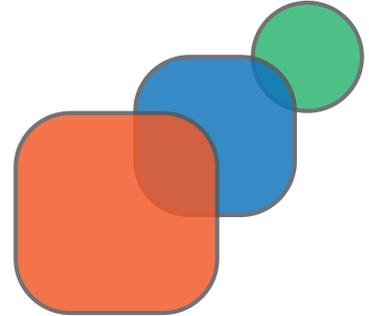
It looks the most realistic, but it is also the hardest to draw.



TIPS FOR PERSPECTIVE DRAWING

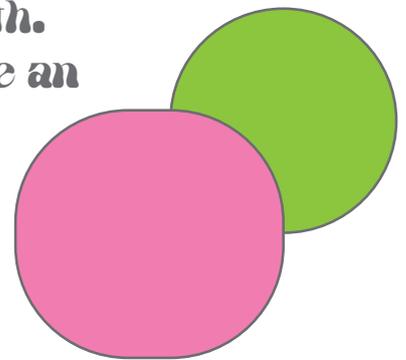
SIZE & SPACE

Items that are meant to be further in a picture should be drawn proportionally smaller and closer together as you look into the distance.



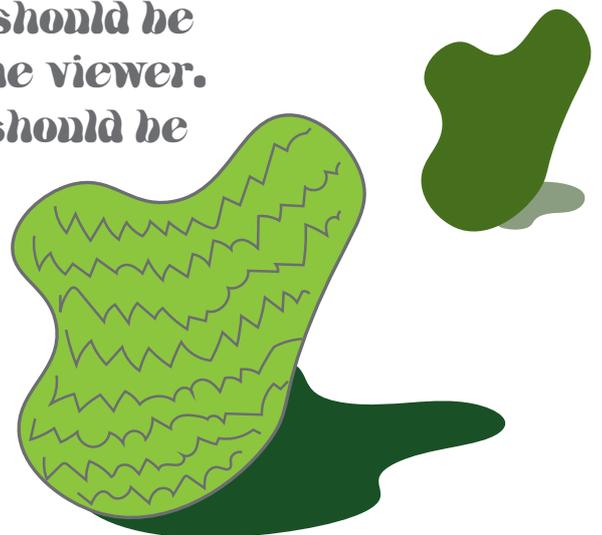
OVERLAPPING

This will help create a greater sense of depth. An item drawn in front of another will indicate an object closer to the viewer.



DETAILS

Texture, light, shading and shadows should be more prominent for items closest to the viewer. As you look into the distance, details should be less defined.



Perspective

Gouache

All of these materials can be found inside your Boredom Box

FOR THIS FUN ACTIVITY YOU WILL NEED:

masking tape
a pencil
paint brushes
colourful gouache paints
paper
acrylic black ink
a paper tack
some string.

You will also need access to a sink and water.

STEP 1.

USE YOUR MASKING TAPE TO STICK DOWN YOUR SHEET OF PAPER TO THE SURFACE YOU ARE WORKING ON LIKE THIS.

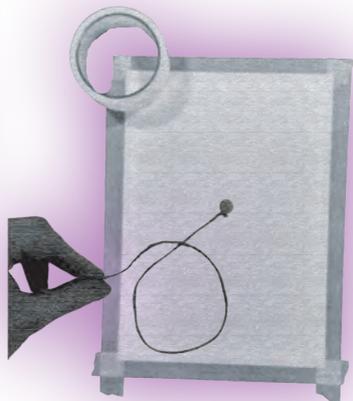
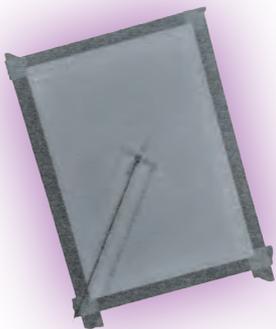
STEP 2.

ATTACH THE STRING TO THE PAPER TACK. PRESS THE TACK INTO THE CENTRE OF YOUR PAPER.



STEP 3.

HOLD THE STRING TIGHT WHILE YOU USE YOUR PENCIL TO DRAW THE LINES. THIS WILL ACT AS A GUIDE FOR DRAWING PERFECT LINES FOR YOUR PERSPECTIVE DRAWINGS



Step 4.

Once you have finished your drawing gather your **gonache** paints, some water and your paint brushes.



Step 5.

Start by painting the sections of the drawing you wish to stand out with lots of colour.



TOP TIP!
The parts you don't paint with gonache will turn out black from the ink.

Step 6.

Choose your colours wisely, only the first layer of paint will show on the final outcome, be aware of where you are painting and more importantly where you are not painting.

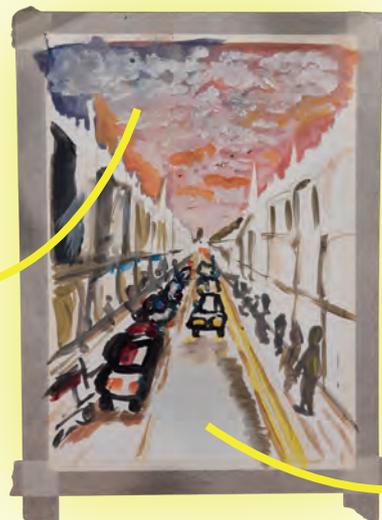


Step 7.

Step back and look at what you have worked on, double check you are happy with your creation before we start using ink.

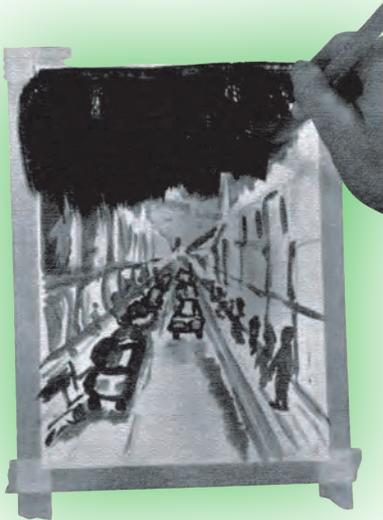
Paint

No Paint



Step 8 .

When the paint has dried take a fresh paint brush and cover your painting with a layer of black ink, like this.



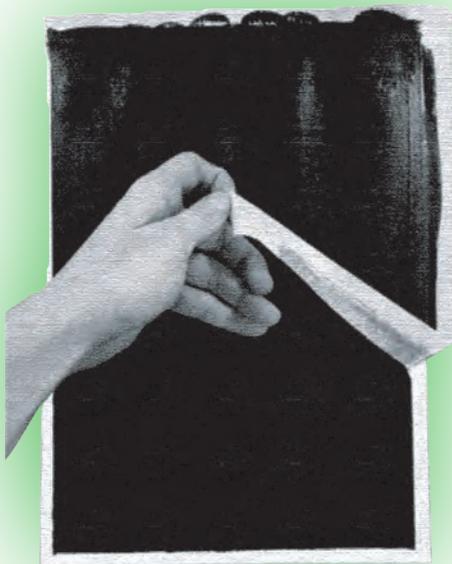
Step 9 .

Let the ink dry on your painting fully.



Step 10.

Once the ink has dried, gently remove the masking tape.



Step 11 .

Place your ink dried painting into a sink, turn on the tap and keep it running. Use your paint brush to gently make circular movements on your painting, slowly removing layers on ink you don't want to be kept on your painting.



Step 12 .

Keep using your paint brush to remove any unwanted ink, once you are happy with your outcome set aside your painting and let it dry.



Step 13 .

Once you have let your painting dry you now have a finished piece of artwork.



IDEA

Frame your masterpiece and place it in your space, or gift it to a loved one.

FOUND POETRY

This is a fun and simple technique you can use to create short poems from any newspaper, magazine, leaflet or book. Make sure you are able to draw on whichever one you choose.

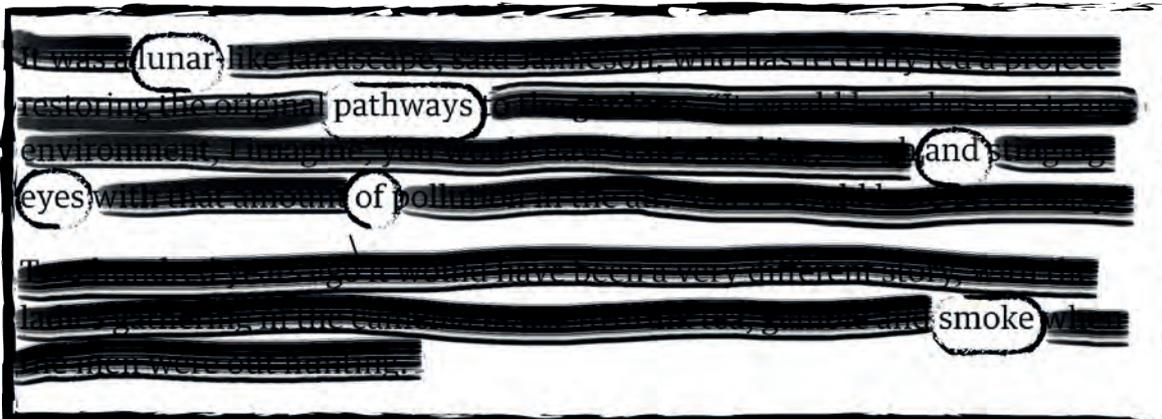
1.

It was a lunar like landscape, said Jamieson, who has recently led a project restoring the original pathways to the gardens. "It would have been a strange environment, I imagine, you would have had a hacking cough and stinging eyes with that amount of of pollution in the air. And it would have been noisy."

Two hundred years ago it would have been a very different story, with the ladies gathering in the camellia house to drink tea, gamble and smoke when the men were out hunting.

Select a paragraph and take some time to pick out specific words. You could pick them in order to make a sentence or you could circle the words you like the most and arrange them in whatever way you want.

2.



Using the ink from your box, black out the rest of the text to make your poem stand out.

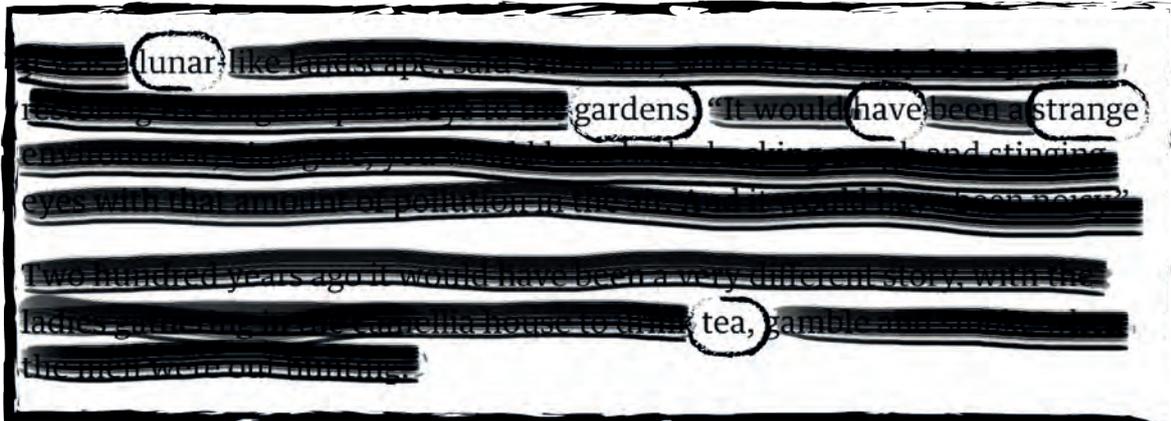
Lunar pathways and
eyes
of smoke



Have fun with it! You can get as creative or playful as you like. You could even try using what you come up with as inspiration for an illustration or even a short story.

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Two hundred years ago it would have been a very different story, with the ladies gathering in the camellia house to drink tea, gamble and smoke when the men were out hunting.



Lunar gardens have strange tea

