



ARTMAKING PROJECT | Stick Figures!

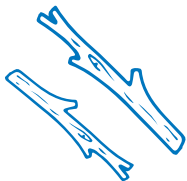


Cat, Charles Culver, mid 20th century, American; watercolor over black chalk and graphite pencil on off-white wove paper

Charles Culver created drawings with very simple lines that reflect the contours of his many subjects and his close and careful observations of the natural world. Drawing in its purest form is the making of lines and marks to express or represent something. If you think you can only draw “stick figures,” here’s an opportunity to expand on that ability.

You can create surprising and expressive drawings simply by arranging various sticks and twigs into imagery they suggest to you, from your imagination or subjects you observe.

MATERIALS



Collected twigs and sticks of various lengths, with different curves, angles, branching, thicknesses, and lengths—the more, the better!



ARTMAKING PROJECT | Directions



Step 1

Lay your collection of sticks out and study their qualities—lengths, curves, bends angles, textures, etc. Notice ways they are different and/or similar to one another.



Step 2

Arrange them on a surface to represent an image they suggest or choose sticks with bends, curves, and angles that suggest the shape and contours of your chosen creature.



Step 3

Rearrange your sticks or even start all over, just like erasing pencil lines you want to change. The more things you try, the more ideas will occur to you.



Step 4

As you develop your drawing, visualize and add more details, including things that may be in the subject's environment.

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