

PEBBLE DRAWING

Art | English Language Arts | Physical Education

Possible curricular outcomes, artwork dependent: Science, Social Studies

Drawing for the simple pleasure of it is a relaxing and enjoyable activity. Sometimes getting started can be challenging and we need outside influence to start the activity. Being in the moment and getting our brains to stop being so... brainy, is the goal.

In this activity, it all starts with a pebble. How you get the pebble is up to you, whether it is a walk in nature or a small stone from the garden.

Activity

Materials: pebble the size of your thumbnail, sketchbook or paper, markers, coloured pencils

1. Place your pebble on your paper. Make sure it is clean and free of dirt.
2. Gently push the pebble around the paper with your marker, making a line as you go.
3. Let the pebble move freely around the entire page, with the lines curving and crossing.
4. The object is to keep the pebble on the paper. If the pebble goes off the paper, just pick it up and put it back on the paper near where it went off, and then continue drawing.
5. Once you feel you have enough “pebble lines”, stop and look closely at your drawing for one minute. What do you notice? Use your [viewfinder](#) to help focus on any parts of the drawing that pulls your attention.
 - a. Are there any objects or shapes that emerge?
 - b. Do any colours come to mind?
 - c. Turn the paper in different directions and continue to look. What emerges?
6. Embellish the shapes created by the lines by adding colour and texture with markers or coloured pencils.
7. Once your drawing is complete, stand back and take another close look at it.
 - a. Were you surprised at the objects or images you found in the “pebble lines”?

Learn More

Drawing engages the entire brain, activating areas that are responsible for creativity, movement and problem solving. Memory and focus improve along with observation and mindfulness. Drawing also supports emotional well-being, offering a calming outlet for stress relief and a means for self-expression.

Share!

Share your pebble drawings with each other, or make a gallery display in the hallway for other students to see. You can share your drawings with us at Glenbow: schoolprograms@glenbow.org.

Additional Questions and Thought Starters

- How did it make you feel to make such a freeform drawing?
- What stories or experiences can you connect with your drawing?
- Where do you think the pebble originally came from? What kind of stone is it?