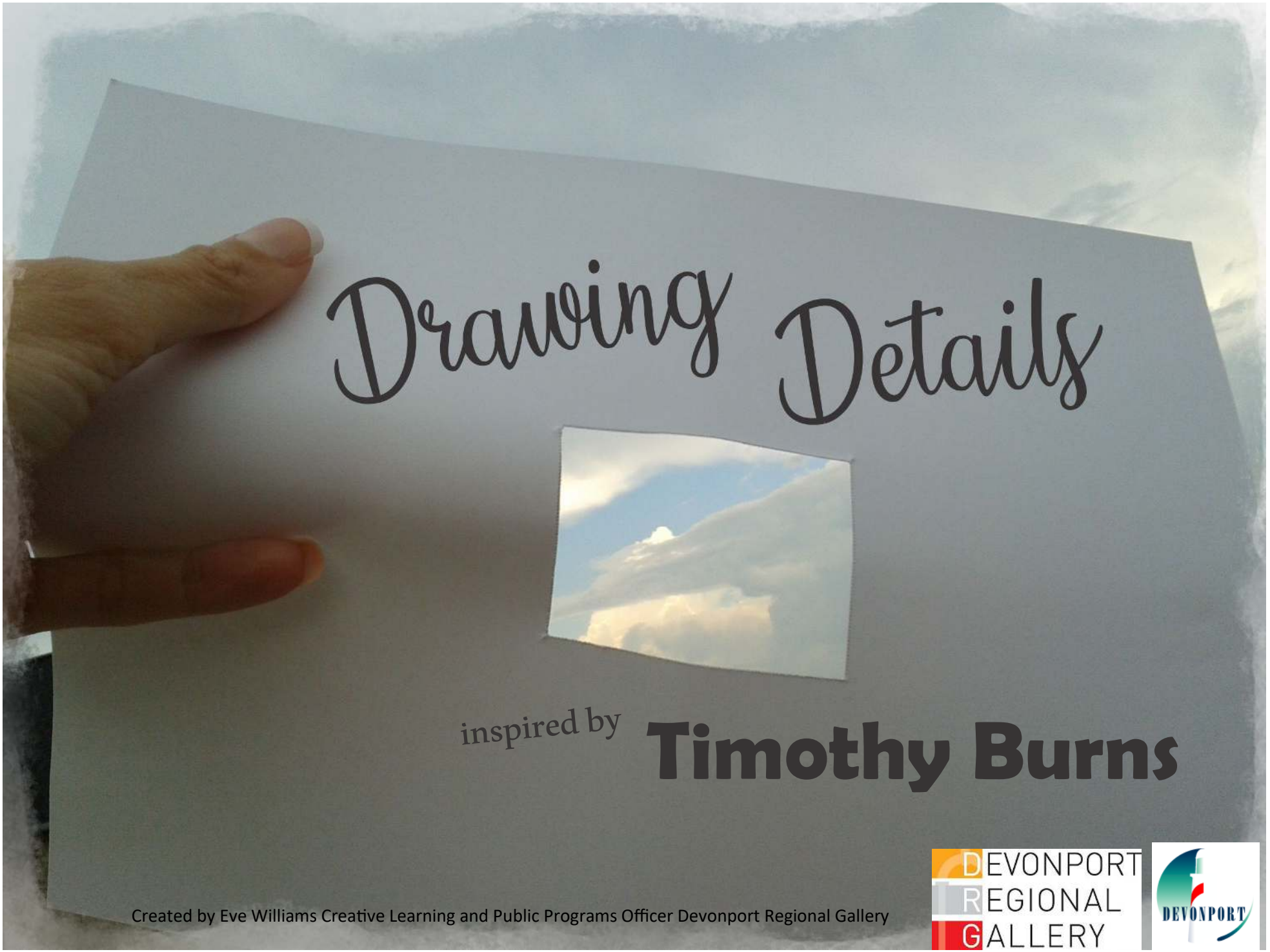


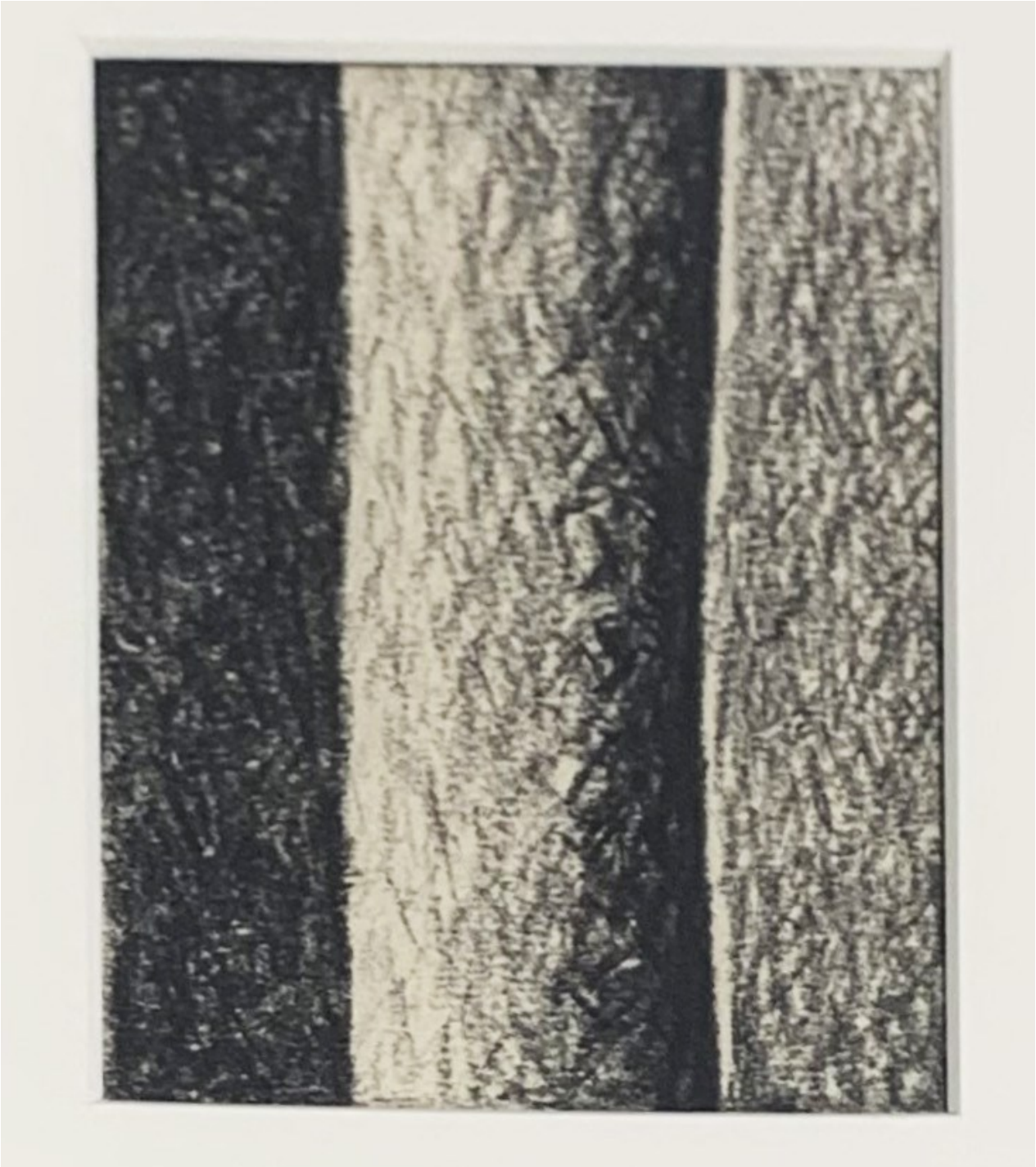

Created by Eve Williams Creative Learning and Public Programs Officer Devonport Regional Gallery

DEVONPORT REGIONAL GALLERY

DEVONPORT

Timothy Burns, 1989, pencil on paper, *Untitled,*

These drawings by Timothy Burns Are part of the Devonport Regional Galleries permanent art collection. They are pencil drawings and represent a close-up detail of something. They are the inspiration for this weeks art project.



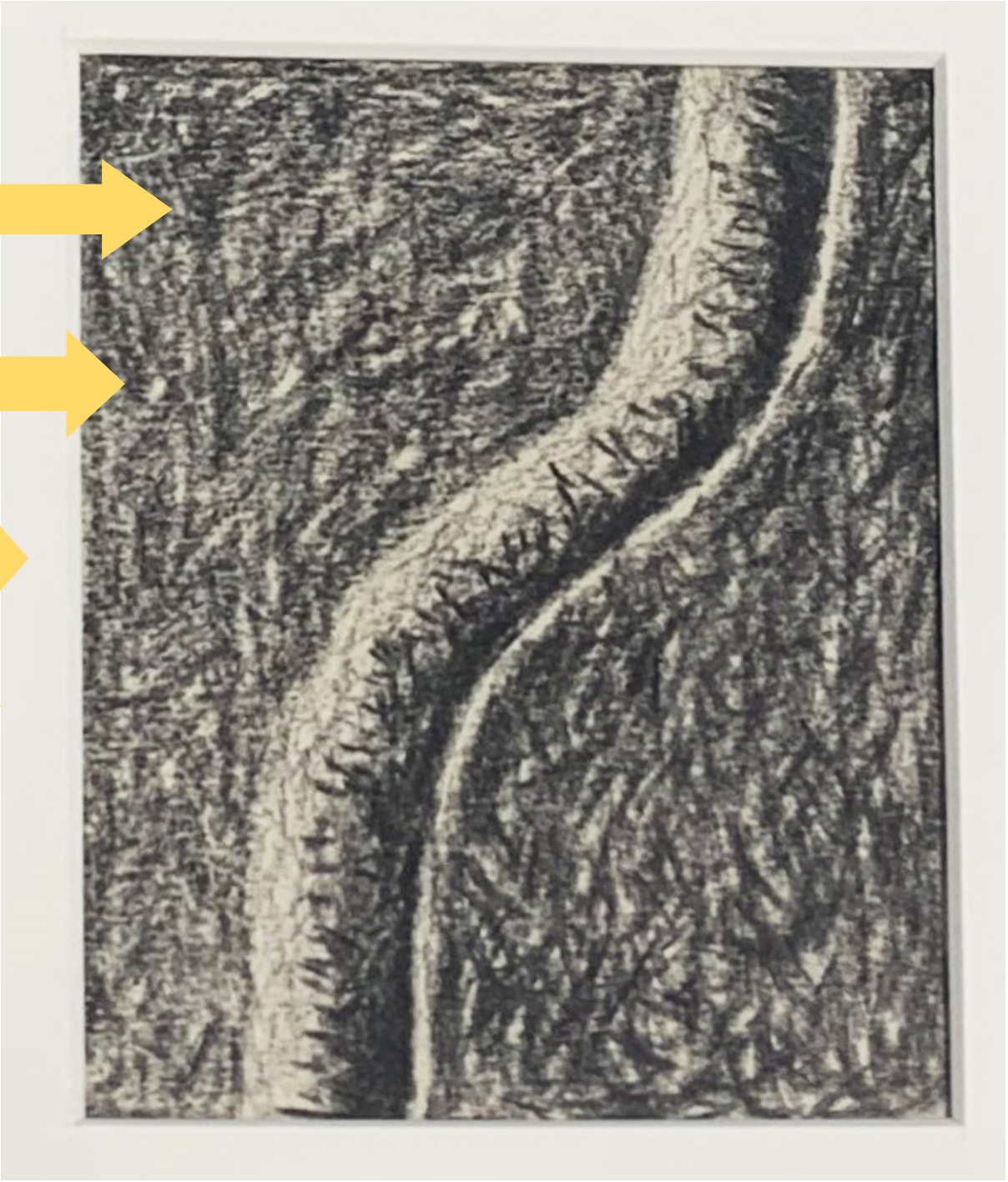
Detail of *Untitled.*

Look closely at the shading areas of light and dark in this drawing, and how it creates the illusion that the object in the drawing is three dimensional. Look at how the dark areas (areas of shadow where the light does not reach) are darker and have heavier/ more pencil strokes, and the lighter areas (areas where the light is hitting or reflecting) have less and lighter pencil strokes. This is called shading and gives the illusion of depth to your drawings.

Detail 2 of *Untitled.*

Thinking about shading and light and shadow, which direction do you think the light is coming from in this drawing?

Light direction



# A bit about the artist...

Timothy Burns was born in Sydney, but now lives and works on Bruny Island in Tasmania. He has completed a Diploma of Art at Alexander Mackie CAE in Sydney, a Post Graduate Diploma at the Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne, and a Master of Fine Art at the university of Tasmania. He taught painting and drawing at the University of Tasmania from 1988 to 1998 and undertook artist residencies at Bruny Island in 1990, 1991, and 2005.

He has had 28 solo exhibitions and is included in 28 public collections across Australia.

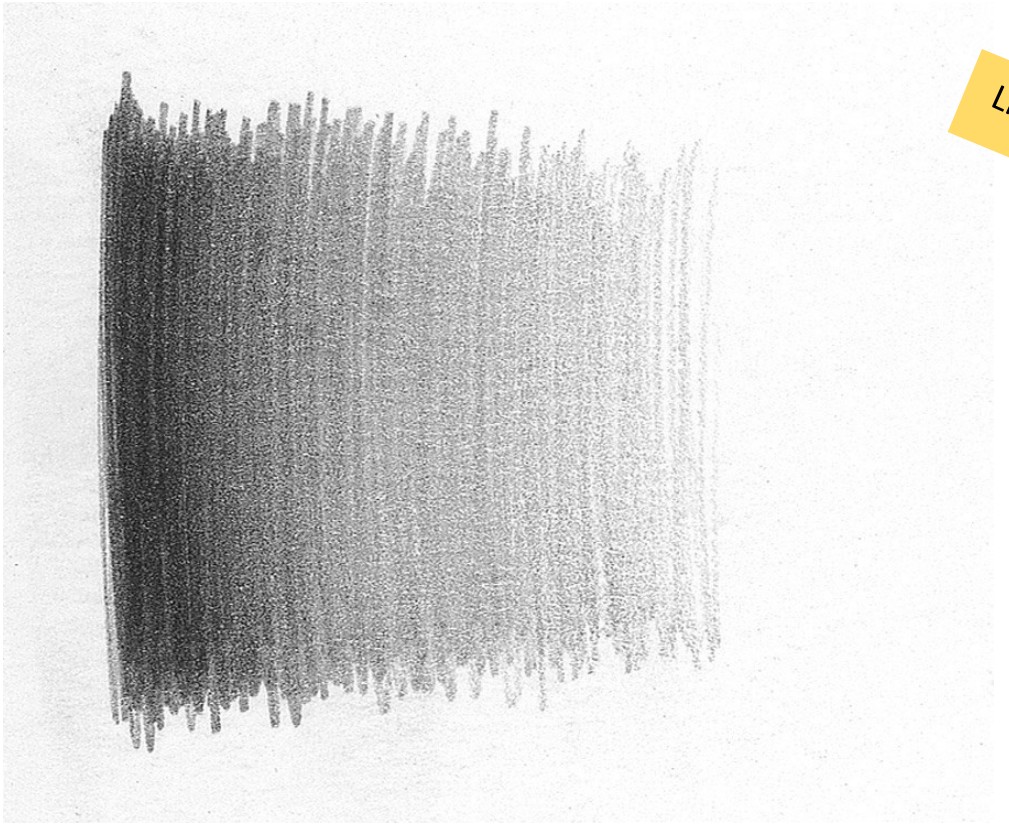
## Artists Statement:

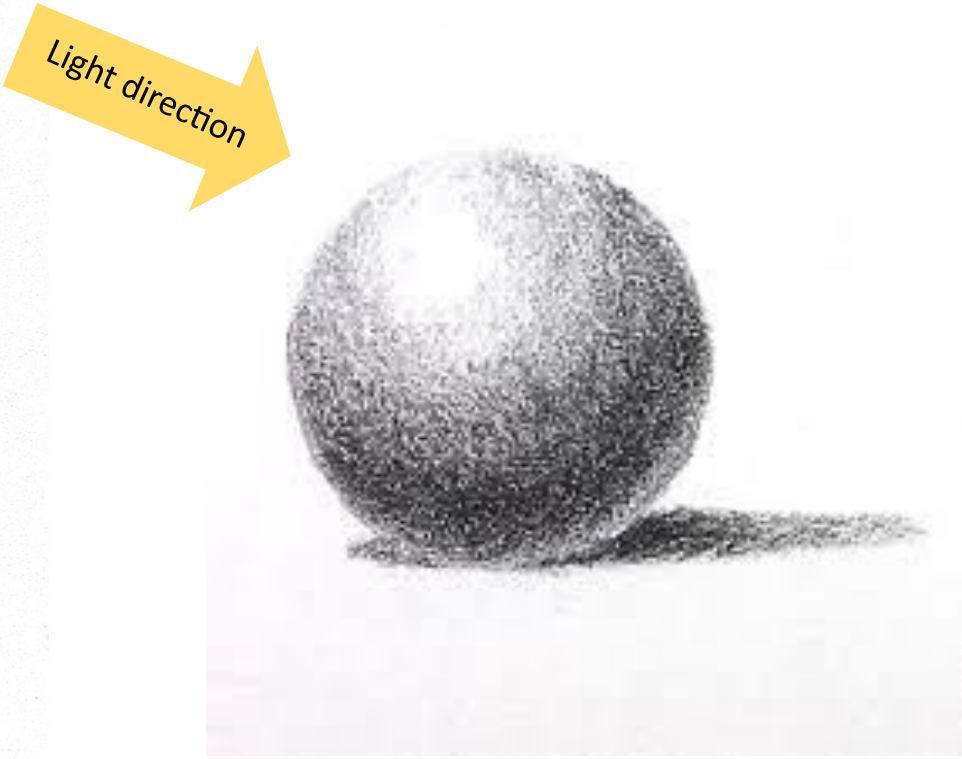
*"I don't feel differently about painting, fishing, music or surfing, they are all expressions of the same source. They are all reliant on intuition, chance, discipline and belief. The result of these processes is unpredictable and only ever vaguely understood. None the less these forms of Art have delighted and mesmerised us since our time began".*

From Tasmanian Arts Guide: https://tasmanianartsguide.com.au/online-exhibition/arts-in-parks/tim-burns/

West Cloudy Head 1, Tim Burns, 2016

# Drawing exercise... Shading with pencil.






Have a go at shading using a grey lead pencil. Use more and firmer pencil strokes where you want shadow and gradually decrease pressure and amount of pencil in areas of light. You can leave the page white with no pencil in areas of highlight, where light is reflecting or at its brightest.

# Task:

Using the art of Timothy Burns For inspiration, create a viewfinder and use it to zoom in on the detail of something at home.  Using your viewfinder, do a drawing of what you can see… just the detail of what you can see through the viewfinder.

# You Will Need:

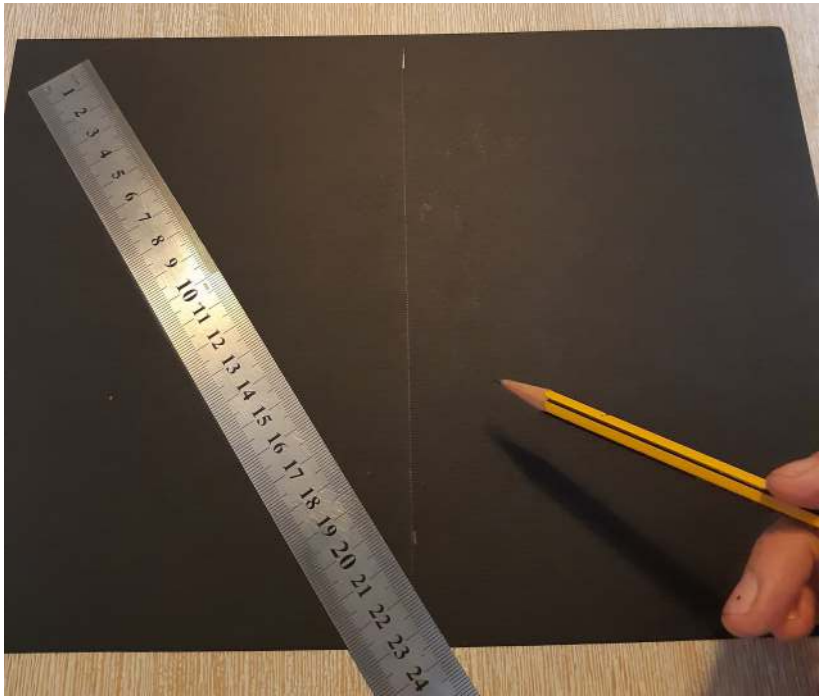
- Black card (or any colour if you don't have black.)
- Drawing pencil or graphite stick. (soft is good for blending and shading 2B and up.)
- Ruler
- Scissors and/ or Stanley knife and cutting mat.
- White paper for drawing on
- Blending stick (optional… see next page for instructions.)

# Making a blending stump for drawing with (optional)

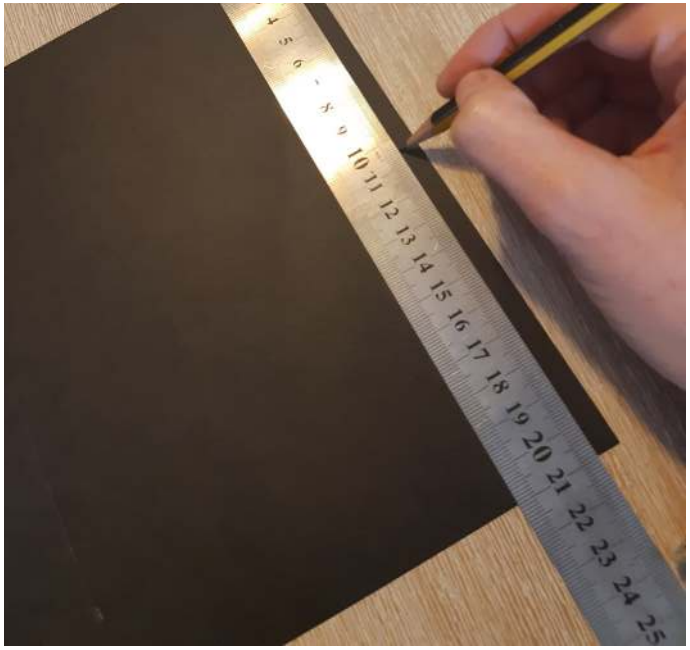
A blending stump is a tightly coiled paper stick that can be used for blending and shading when drawing. It is much more precise than using your finger for smudging and can give your pencil marks a softer look if that is what you want in your drawing. See the YouTube tutorial below for instructions on how to make one at home.

See YouTube tutorial here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shb07jyr68I

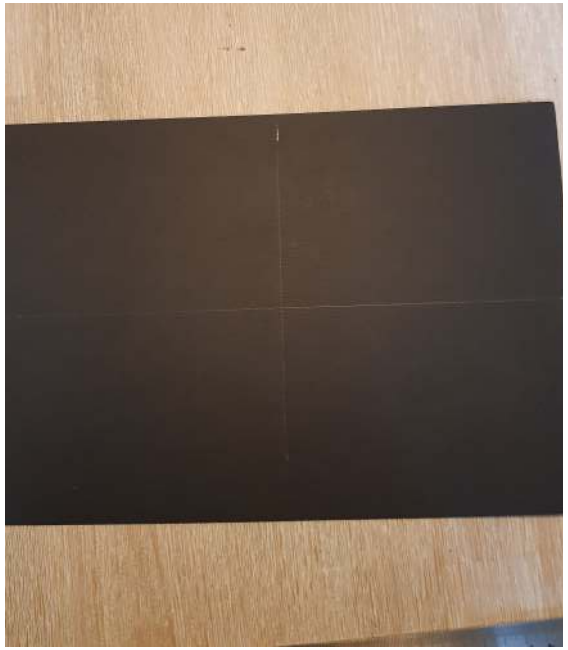
# Step 1: Make a viewfinder. (a little bit complicated and may need adult assistance)



1. measure and find the middle of your page and rule a line as shown.

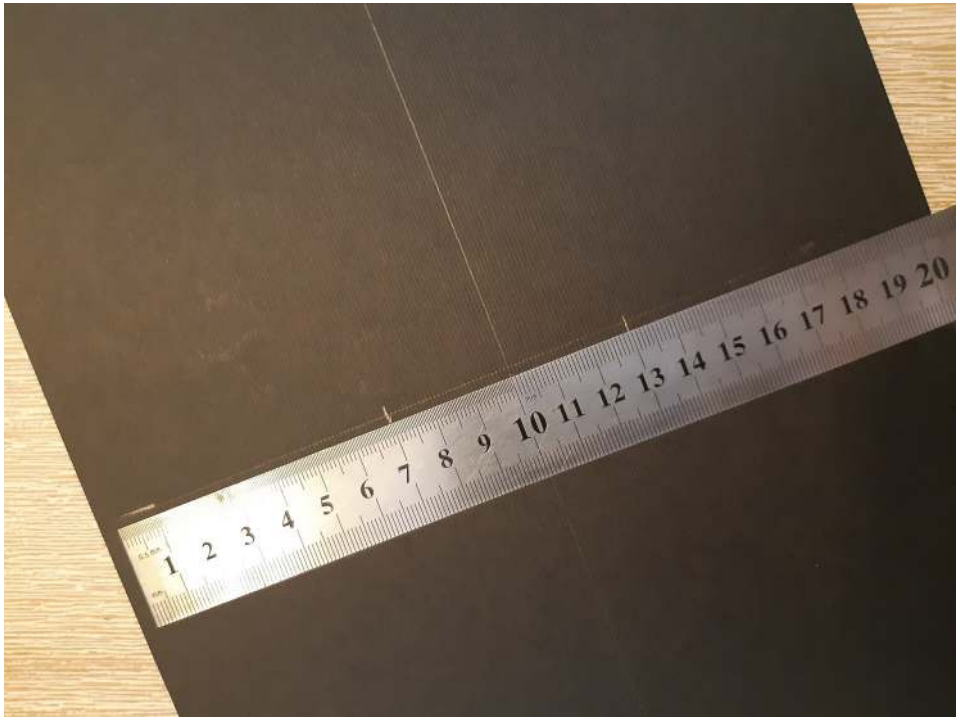


2. Measure and find the middle of the other length side of your page and mark out as shown.

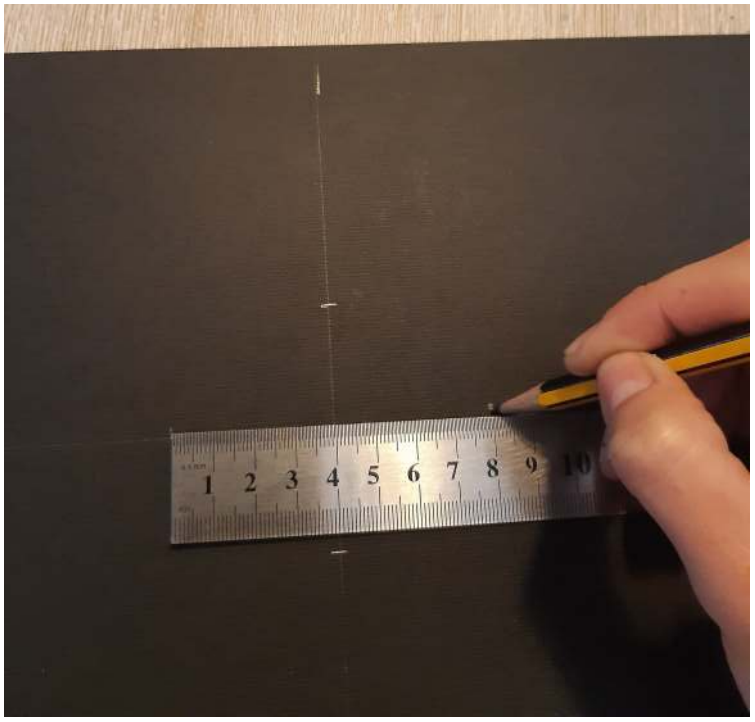


3. Rule a line at the half way mark across your page as shown. You should end up with a cross through your page as above.

# Step 1: Make a viewfinder continued...



4. Decide how big you want the viewfinder frame (small is best for this activity). Place your ruler on the middle of the cross and measure equal distance (I measured 3cm) either side of the line and put a mark.



5. Repeat both ways

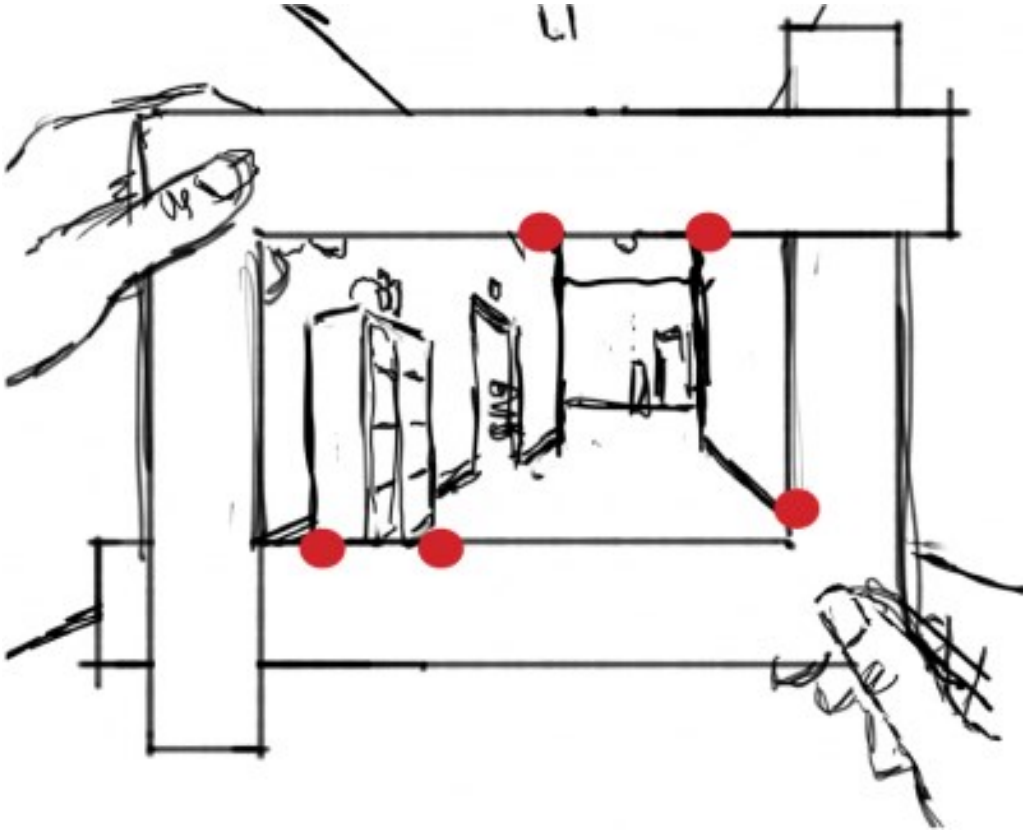
# **Step 1:** Make a viewfinder continued...

6. Lay your ruler on your marks and draw a line across each to create a box in the middle of your page as above.

7. Carefully cut out the box you have drawn in the centre of your page. Be careful not to cut outside the frame. Make a hole in the centre to help start your cutting off. Use small scissors or get an adults help to use a Stanley knife.

## Step 2:

How to use your viewfinder...



Hold your viewfinder up and look through it. Decide where you want to hold it… at arms length for zoomed in, or closer to your face for a wider angle.  Close one eye if you can! Look very carefully at the frame your viewfinder creates and where the image you can see through it fits into your viewfinders frame. Look at where points of the image meet the frame on your viewfinder (as pictured). Transfer exactly what you can see through your viewfinder onto your page. It helps to draw a square or rectangle (the shape of your viewfinders frame) on your page as a boarder to draw in. As you draw, keep holding your viewfinder in place with one hand while you draw with the other. Keep looking at what you are drawing. remember to draw exactly what you see...not what you think you see! This means keep looking at what you are drawing as you are drawing it!

# Use your viewfinder to zoom in and out on a subject/ object.

Zoom out on a subject by bringing the viewfinder closer to your face

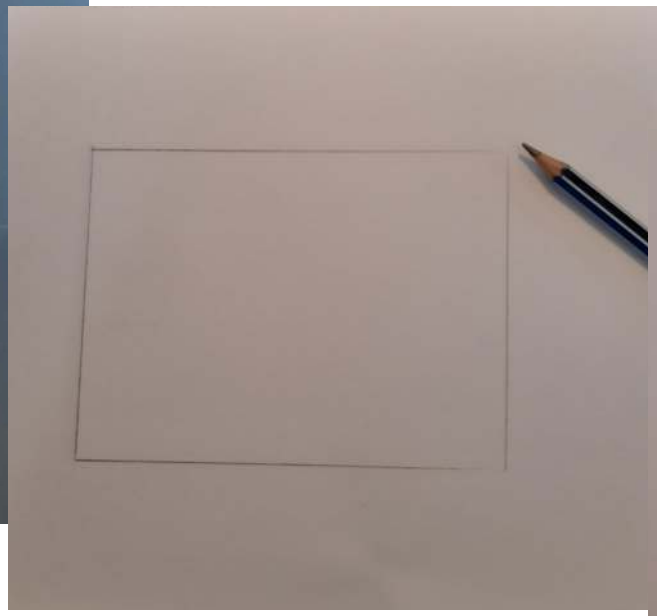
Zoom in on a subject by holding it away from you/ bringing the viewfinder closer to the object/ subject.

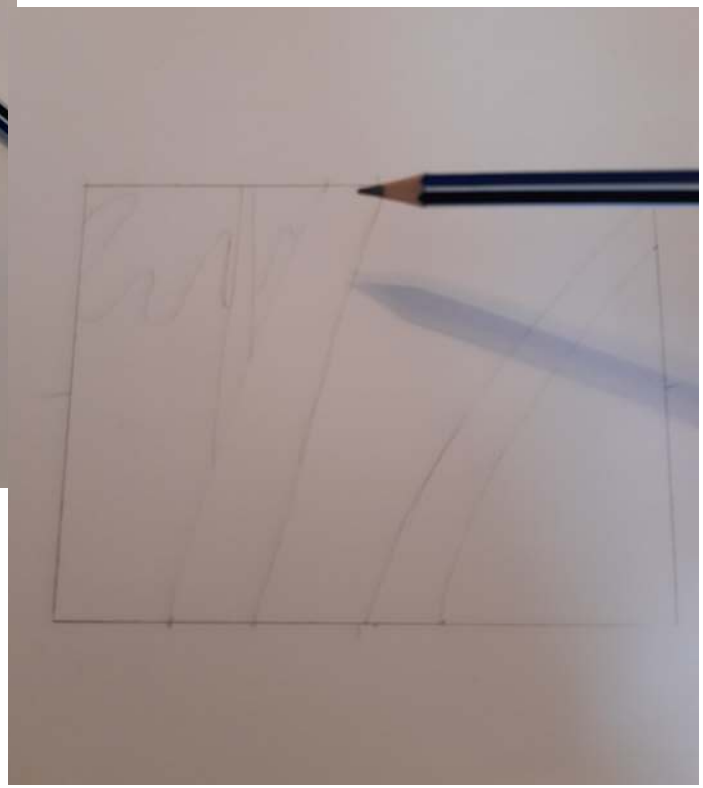
**Step 3:** Choose your subject/ object and where you will hold your viewfinder.

Use your viewfinder to zoom right in on something so it only shows part of the whole and is barely recognisable. (Take another look at the work of Timothy Burns for reference.)

If you can, attach your viewfinder to something so it doesn't move while you work. If this is not possible, try to hold it in the same position while you draw.

**Step 4:** Keep looking through your viewfinder while you draw.

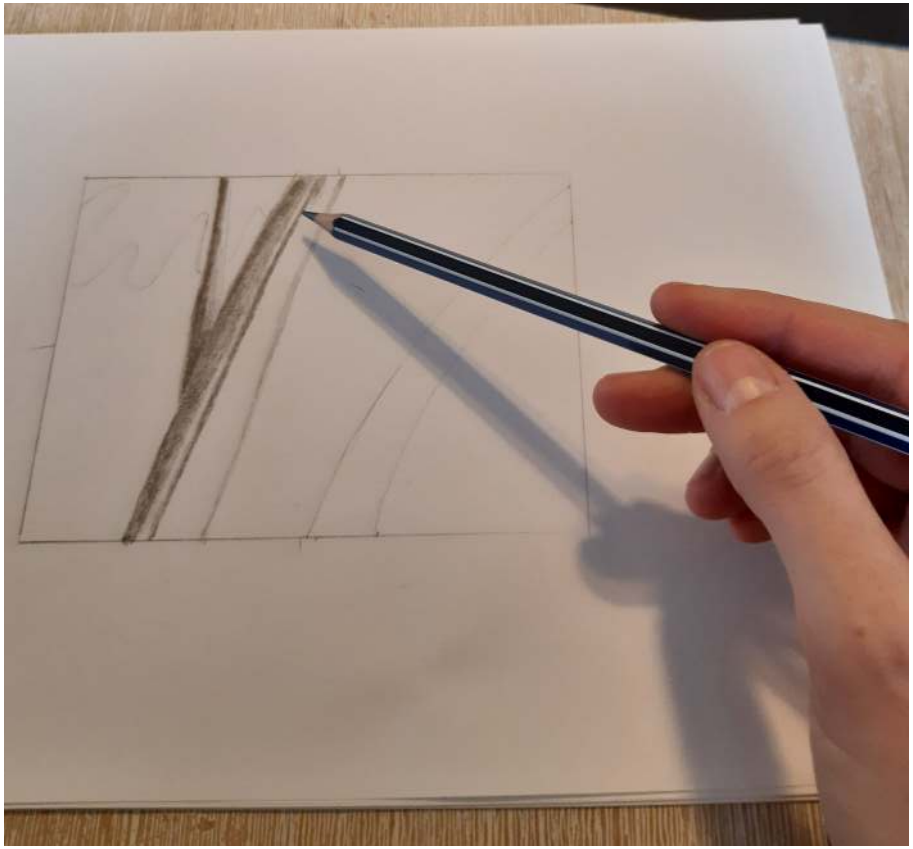


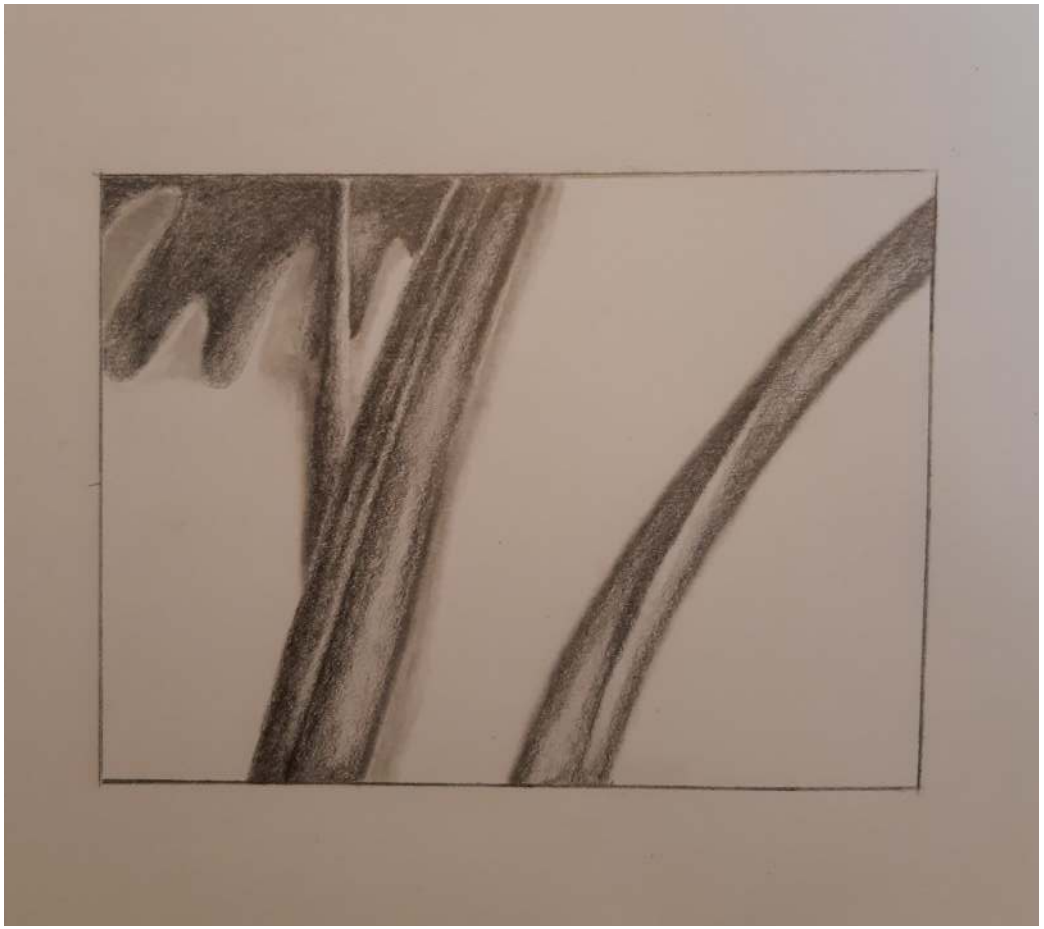


If it helps you. Draw the shape of your viewfinders frame on your page before you start your drawing. Look at the point where your object is framed through your viewfinder and make a note of them on your page

to help you.

## **Step 5:** Shading





Use Your pencil to add shading to create the illusion of depth in your drawing. Look at the areas of shadow and add more pencil to these areas. Look at the areas of lightness and do less pencil here. Are there any areas of highlight on your object? Do not put any pencil in these areas, but leave the page white. Slowly add more pencil and build up your dark areas .

SHARE YOUR CREATIONS
SEND IN PICTURES OF YOUR ART WORK TO
ARTGALLERY@DEVONPORT.TAS.GOV.AU
TO MOTIVATE AND INSPIRE OTHERS!