The Art of Play
7 EASY ART EXERCISES TO TRY

Sometimes the best way to discover something new is to forget about making something perfect and simply play!

Included are 7 quick art experiments to help you explore different techniques and materials. You don't need lots of time or fancy supplies.

There's no right or wrong here, just the fun of seeing what happens!
Happy creating!

Lahni x

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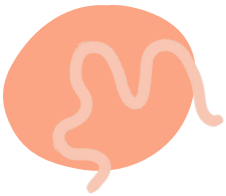
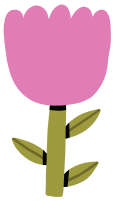
01 - One Line, No Lifting



Explore continuous line drawing.

Draw a pear with a stem and leaf, without lifting your pen from the paper.
Don't worry if your lines wobble, overlap or go a little wonky. That's part of the look!

02- Bold Versus Delicate



Experiment with illustration styles.

Draw the same flower twice. For the first, use thick, bold lines and exaggerated shapes. Make it big, playful and full of personality.

For the second, use fine, delicate lines and fine details or subtle textures.
Look at how different the two flowers feel, even though you've drawn the same thing!

03- Dots, Dashes and Squiggles



Discover the fun of mark-making.

Choose a simple shape and draw it over and over until you've filled your page.

Try placing your marks close together, then further apart. Notice how these little changes create completely different effects.

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04 - Less Is More

Practise simplifying your illustrations.



Choose an everyday object, like a cat or flower, draw it with lots of details.

Now draw it again, but remove half the details. Then have one final go, using as few lines as possible.

How much can you take away while keeping your drawing recognisable? Sometimes the simplest shapes have the most personality!

05 - Paint, Cut and Arrange

Play with colour, collage and composition.

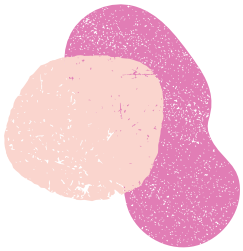


Paint a sheet of paper with patches of colour. Once it's dry, cut out simple geometric shapes. Arrange your shapes on another page to create a pattern. Try neat rows, scattered layouts or overlapping shapes.

Move everything around before sticking anything down. It's amazing how many different designs you can create using the same little shapes!

06 - Potato Stamping

Explore handmade printing and repetition.

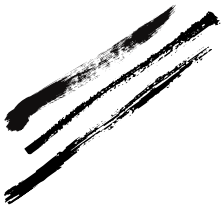


Cut a potato in half and very carefully cut a simple shape into the flat side.

Dab a little paint onto your stamp and press it onto paper. Try turning your stamp, overlapping prints or arranging them into neat rows. Experiment with different amounts of paint and pressure to see how the texture changes.

07 - Dry Brush Stripes

Experiment with texture and expressive marks.



Dip a paintbrush into a little paint and drag it across your paper to create a stripe.

Try pressing firmly, brushing lightly, changing directions or using just the very tip of your brush. Fill your page with thick, thin, broken and scratchy stripes.

I'd love to see what you created, tag me on Insta @softly_ _studio