

Kyrene Visual Art Extensions for Middle School At-Home Learning:

TITLE: Stippled Still-Life – Break down an image by shape and value.

Short description: Still-lives are a very traditional method for learning how to draw. You will break down a composition of your choice (keep it simplistic) by shape and then value. A specific shading technique, stippling, will be utilized to shade in shadows and some details.

Materials: ½ sheet of paper, pen or pencil

Instructions: Make a school appropriate still-life. Use fruit, glasses, candles, stuffed animals, etc. as objects for your still-life. Look for major shapes in your composition. Lightly sketch in those shapes on your ½ sheet of paper. Look for shadow areas in your still-life and shade them in using a stippling technique. Be careful to leave purposeful light areas, also called highlights. Leave highlights very light. Stippling is shading with dots. Stipple more areas if you want, but the example below focuses on shadow areas only.



Arrange a few objects so that they overlap visually and so that your eye naturally moves across the composition.



Fold a piece of paper in half and lightly sketch out major shapes that you see. Remember that some shapes will overlap.



Stipple in shadow areas with pen or pencil. Stand away from your drawing now and then to see if your value ranges from light to dark. Add color if you have it for a more complete look!