

DRAWING



TOGETHER

promoting the Spirit of dialogue

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Pencils & Perception Lesson #3*

Seeing Diagonal Directions

Time: 3 minutes

Materials: Pencil or pen



No matter where you look, you see diagonal directions. Tree trunks leaning to one side, eyebrows, angled views of table tops, door frames, telephone poles and wires going off into the distance, roads, and more. The interesting thing about diagonal directions is that they are created out of and totally dependent upon your angle of viewing them. Telephone wires and table tops are horizontal if you stand directly before them but they become diagonal when you place yourself at an angle to them.

Look up for a minute and see the diagonal directions in your world right now.

Contemplate the attributes (characteristics) of diagonal: different, divergent, being drawn into, exploding out, compelling, attracting, depth, distance

EXERCISE:

1. Sit still for one minute. Close your eyes and take 3 slow breaths.
2. Gaze softly at the world before you.
3. Notice diagonal directions in your point of view. Allow an attribute to come to mind.
4. Find a diagonal direction that feels easy to identify.
5. Gently place your pencil on the paper.
6. Move your pencil in the same general direction as the diagonal direction you see.
7. Relax your arm, wrist, elbow, shoulder.
8. As you draw, (once, twice or a hundred times) feel that you are drawing into yourself the attribute.
9. That's it! Now you are ready for Lesson 3.



*See pages 36-37 of *Drawing as a Sacred Activity*, by Heather C. Williams