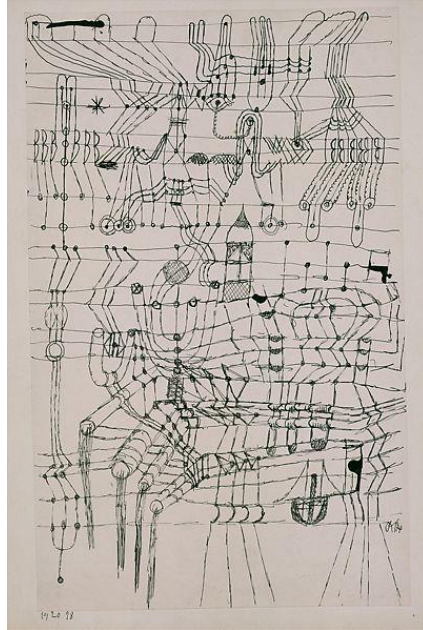


Over 2's Visual Arts Activities

Taking A Line for A Walk



Featured Artwork:

One of the most celebrated artists of the 20th century, Paul Klee, was also a prolific teacher, serving as a faculty member of the Bauhaus school between 1921 and 1931. "An active line on a walk, moving freely, without goal." So begins Klee's Pedagogical Sketchbook, which served as something of a textbook for many Bauhaus students. Many of Klee's lessons centre around this type of categorization, demonstrating the multiple ways in which a point can become a line, a line can become a plane, and so on. Beginning with the fundamentals, Klee modelled his teaching methods after the way children learn to read. "First letters, then symbols, then, finally, how to read and write".

Resources needed:

- Any mark making materials you might have at home, such as crayons, pens or pencils.
- Paper sheets of various sizes.

Duration:

Open ended, as long as children can keep their interest.

Intent:

- To promote interest in shape and colour.
- To support the children in developing their ability to create patterns.

Implementation:



Provide a variety of mark making materials, such as crayons, pens or pencils and paper sheets of various sizes. Demonstrate how to draw the following lines whilst encouraging your child to copy your movements:

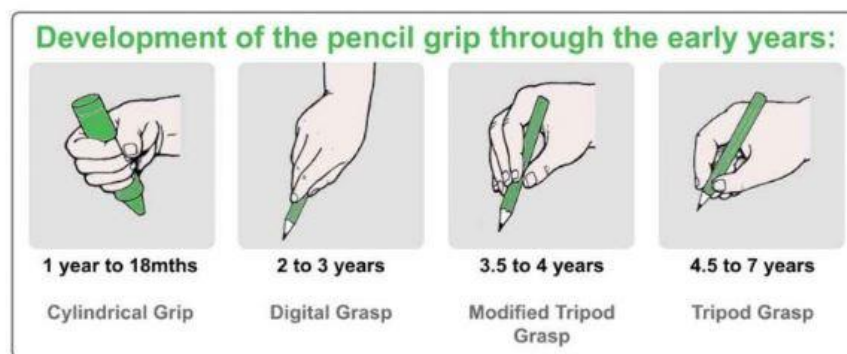
- Straight and curved lines.
- Short and long lines.
- Vertical, horizontal and diagonal lines that go "up and down", "sideways" and "across".
- Thick and thin lines (you might use different types of pens/crayons to demonstrate this).
- Clockwise and anti-clockwise lines.

Then, allow your child to use a combination of the lines above to draw a picture. As you are doing this, encourage your child to hold the pencil between thumb and two fingers (see chart below).

Finally, ask your child if the picture they drew has meaning or not (younger children might not have developed the idea of associating lines/shapes with a particular meaning when drawing).

Tripod grip development:

You should observe your child is holding the tools above correctly, the three fingers in the tripod grip should be used. Observe also, that they are using the tips of their fingers, not the side of their fingers. Children who are struggling with their grip often try to use as many fingers as possible to help them grip. Demonstrate the correct action and positively support your child to do the same.



The stages of pencil grip development from ages 1 to 7

Source: <https://www.fantasticdyspraxic.co.uk/tag/pencil-grip-development-in-young-children/>

Keywords:

Line, movement, up and down, side to side, round and round, across, curved line, straight line, short line, long line, thin line, thick line, meaning.

Art dictionary:



- Line: Lines and curves are marks that span a distance between two points (or the path of a moving point). As an element of visual art, line is the use of various marks, outlines, and implied lines during artwork and design. A line has a width, direction, curve, and length.
- Bauhaus: The Staatliches Bauhaus, commonly known as the Bauhaus, was a German art school operational from 1919 to 1933 that combined crafts and the fine arts.

EYFS Learning outcomes:

- Expressive Arts and Design: Exploring media and materials
 - Understands that they can use lines to enclose a space, and then begin to use these shapes to represent objects. (30-50 Months)
- Expressive Arts and Design: Being imaginative
 - Create simple representations of events, people and objects. (40-60 Months)
- Literacy: Writing
 - Sometimes gives meaning to marks as they draw and paint. (30-50 Months)
 - Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint. (40-60 Months)
- Physical Development: Moving and Handling
 - Draws lines and circles using gross motor movements. (30-50 Months)
 - Holds pencil between thumb and two fingers, no longer using whole-hand grasp. (30-50 Months)
 - Holds pencil near point between first two fingers and thumb and uses it with good control. (30-50 Months)
 - Begins to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines. (40-60 Months)
- Communication and Language: Speaking
 - Builds up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their experiences. (30-50 Months)
 - Extends vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words. (40-60 Months)

