

Optical Illusion Hand

Elementary

Objective

Students will explore optical illusions and practice using line and color to create their own!



Required Materials

- 8" x 10" art paper provided by Art to Remember
- Pencils, erasures, rulers, Black Sharpie Markers (fine) and water based markers with a wide tip (Crayola are best)
- Optical Illusion prints, a variety by M.C. Escher

Instructions

1. Discuss with students what they see in different optical illusions. What is the purpose of an illusion? Observe how the artist is trying to achieve tricking the eye.
2. Have students trace their hand in pencil with outstretched fingers on their paper. It does not need to be in the middle, but that is easiest.
3. Use rulers to create 1" stripes horizontally across the paper. Demonstrate how to make these even. Skip over the hand area without drawing in it.
4. **Next**, Show how to gently curve lines to connect over the hand creating a "bulge."
5. Trace all lines in black Sharpie marker. (Using waterbased black marker will bleed as you use more colors and look smudgy.)
6. Have students pick two marker colors that are either both hot (red, orange, yellow, peach, pink) or both cold (blue, green, turquoise, purple, violet) and color in the stripes NOT including the hand shape, alternating colors. Then be sure to alternate colors opposite on the hand, as pictured in the example. Happy Optics!