

# Sumi-e Ink Animals

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

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## Materials:

Provided by Art to Remember for this example:

- Paper

You'll need to bring:

- Pencils, water, brushes, black ink or black watercolor
- Book "Super Simple Sumi-e" by Yvonne Palka (recommended)



Above image from "Super Simple Sumi-e" by Yvonne Palka (<http://yvonnepalka.com/>)

## Open the Conversation:

Intrigue students by showing them the first step of an animal—the gray reduction that is not yet recognizable. Then show the next steps until they say "It's a \_\_\_!" Sumi-e uses only watered black reduction (gray) and black ink. It is hard for younger students to think about leaving white spaces for a purpose, so this works best as a step-by-step project as a group.

## Step One:

First sketch in pencil very lightly the parts of your animal. Then have kiddos stop.

## Step Two:

Discuss painting in gray with the tippy toe of your brush for thin lines. Paint the outline.

## Step Three:

As a class, use black to create each appropriate limb, eyes, etc. It is fast!

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## National Standards for Visual Arts (2015 Standards):

Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard #2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.

Anchor Standard #10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

See more at:

<http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/content/national-core-arts-standards-anchor-standards#creating>

#### **Step Four:**

The most important part is to stop when it is done! Students might like to freely paint the frame around their picture to look like a design, bamboo, fish, etc. for the end of class.

#### **Step Five:**

Print name legibly on the front of the paper (at least an inch from the edge so the name will not be cut off).