

The basic ideas behind Sketchy Abstracts

RECREATION! – Have fun sketching! Think of each sketch as a puzzle with many possible solutions. Your visual vocabulary includes the marks and shapes you draw, where you add color, the colors you choose, and how you apply them. The challenge is combining these elements to create an image that speaks to you. Whatever solution you find is the right one!

INEXPENSIVE SUPPLIES. –

- **DRY MATERIALS** - Simplify the making process, especially in a classroom. No paint, water, brushes etc. No charcoal or pastels, they smear.
- **Crayons, colored pencils and dual tip markers** - Used with care these will make very little mess. You do not need all three, but I like to switch up or mix my mediums.
- **SKETCH PAD** - of modest size (8.5" x 10 -12") and 50–70-pound paper will do fine.
- **Loose paper** is fine too.

PROTECT THE WORK AREA – place paper, oilcloth, poster board, etc. under the work area. Keep the classroom tables clean!

USE WHAT YOU HAVE - Check whether you, a family member, or a friend already have any of these supplies. Use what is available!

REPURPOSE/RECYCLE MATERIALS - Old calendars provide some of my favorite paper for sketching.

INVENT - Need a circle but don't have a compass or template? Trace a glass, bowl, lid, or anything else you have on hand. You can also use a drawing program such as Microsoft Paint or Microsoft Designer to create shapes. Explore the shapes available in your apps, then resize them with a printer or copier.

HUMAN MADE ART - There are all kinds of ways to create an image. Focus on art created by the human mind and hands. Using AI to create your image is not in the spirit of Sketchy Abstracts.