



CONFEDERATION
CENTRE OF THE ARTS

arts
education

**ART
CLASS**
FROM HOME

No. 1 | Looking out My Back Door - Drawing with Positive and Negative Space



Lindee Climo (b. 1948)

Door, c. 1975

oil on wooden door, 197.7 x 60.8 cm

Purchased, 1976

CAG 76.4.10



Activity Description

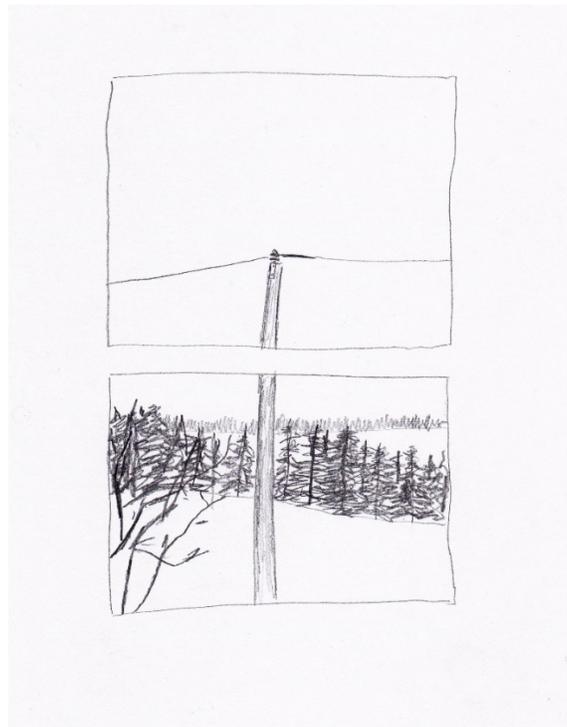
Lindee Climo's artwork *Door* depicts various farm animals seeming to peer through the windows of an old wooden door. This effect is created by utilizing the door's design in the painting's composition. The animals are broken up by the elevated sections of the door while the actual painting takes place in its shallower sections. The result is the illusion that the door has windows and that we are getting a view into another location. Using this artwork for inspiration, this activity will have you create a drawing of the outside by looking out of a window and playing with positive and negative space.

Definitions

Positive Space: Areas of an artwork that are considered the focus and contain detail. In Climo's artwork this would be considered the paintings of the animals.

Negative Space: The areas around the subjects. Usually these are open areas of colour or areas of an artwork that have no detail. In Climo's artwork this would be the elevated areas of the door, the parts that break up the painting and give the illusion of a window.

Example





Materials

1. Paper

2. Pen or pencil

Optional: Colouring materials

Instructions

Step 1. Get your paper and pencil and find a window in your home.

Step 2. Draw the general shape of your window. Mine has two panes of glass so I will draw two rectangles as seen above.

Step 3. Look out the window and draw what you see. Make sure to only draw within the windows that you have drawn. Try and put as much detail as you can onto the page.

Step 4. Feel free to add colour to your drawing.

When you finish your drawing consider sharing it on social media! Be sure to tag the Confederation Centre Art Gallery (@ccoag) and use the hashtag #ccagartclassfromhome!