



Finish My Drawing Kay Adamson

Here is an idea that I use in my artroom when there is only a minute or two left of class or those days when there is an assembly and there is only ten minutes of class.

My students' favorite short activity is one I call Finish My Drawing. I draw a simple line drawing on the board and call a student up to finish the drawing. At first, students draw something simple like a shape or a cloud but I encourage them to look deeper and draw with more detail.

Students take turns creating a picture from abstract lines.

I tell them I am looking for an actual picture. For example, the student may have drawn a circle. I encourage the student by saying, "Yes, that is a nice circle, but what could you make from that circle?" Then the

student would continue his or her drawing and possibly turn the circle into a bowling ball. Don't stop there, ask the student, "Where is the bowling ball?" Then the student could add the pins and the lane.

The activity continues until time is up or until the drawing is complete. Once completed, the student describes their art and then it's time for another student to have a turn. In my grade book, I put a check mark beside the names of the students who have had a turn. No one gets to have a second turn until everyone has gone. If a student is talking, making guesses as to what the artwork is, or being rude, I place a check mark by their name and that counts for their turn.

Variations

Another option for this activity is for a student to start the drawing, and, at a set time, call another student up and see where they take the drawing. This helps get through the list of students faster. You can also use the activity in project centers or have students work independently at their desks by making paper copies of a variety of different line examples. This is a quick and fun activity that keeps the students' attention and encourages them to draw with great detail. 🌀

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NATIONAL STANDARD

Students select and use subject matter, symbols, and ideas to communicate meaning.

