

ArtStream

Written Instructional Guide



“Exploring Renaissance Techniques”

“For 6th-8th Grade Students”

With Teaching Artist Ms Andrea DiPalma

Lesson 3: “Chiaroscuro”

Terms/Vocabulary:

- **Chiaroscuro**- Italian word mash up of “**chiar**” meaning light/bright and “**oscuro**” meaning obscure/dark. Shading technique for a dramatic effect of contrasted light and shadow juxtaposed
 - This means literally putting a dark color right next to a light color
 - Renaissance man, Leonardo DiVinci was the first to use “chiaroscuro” with color
- **Monochromatic**-“**mono**”-one, “**chrome**”-color, all the colors of a single hue, ie different shades of red. Shade variations are achieved by adding white if painting or pressing lighter and leaving space between colored lines when using colored pencils or crayons.

Materials:

- Required:
 - Paper
 - #2 pencil
 - Straight edge (such as a ruler)
 - 1 colored pencil
 - a clean, flat surface
- Recommended:
 - Eraser
 - Ruler

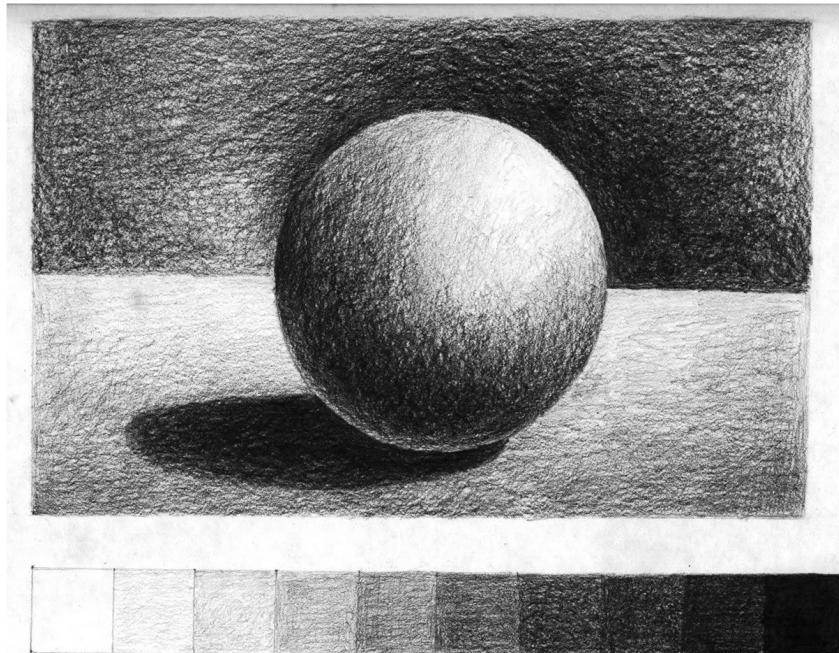
Create Color Continuum

1. Orient paper horizontally and fold bottom part so that fold flap is approximately 1 inch
2. Open up paper and divide the bottom 2 inch lap into 5 rectangular sections approximately 2 inches each, use ruler
3. Start with section 5 and use 1 colored pencil to shade it as dark as possible
4. Shade section 4 slightly lighter in value and work like this all the way toward section 1
5. Section 1 should be made by shading with a very light touch with colored lines far apart
6. This continuum will help students shade their “chiaroscuro” drawing with 5 different values of 1 color of their own choice



Chiaroscuro Shading Activity

1. Draw a ball, identify where the light source and shadows are and plan out accordingly-either mentally or physically block off area where color will be shaded lightly
2. Shade ball using different color values (use monochromatic color continuum as a guide) with 1 colored pencil
3. Demonstrate “chiaroscuro” when shade areas by deliberately putting very dark color right next to very light color



Thank you!

Continue working on shading drawing to emphasize the “chiaroscuro” technique or clear your work surface. Identify at least 3 places where you shaded very darkly right next to where you shaded very lightly.