

# Line and Tone Self-Portraits

This method of drawing focuses on Tone and helps build self-confidence.

## Start with simple exercises in sketchbooks

1. Ask the children to draw an area of diagonal lines and see what they come up with. Pick out two examples - one showing dark tone and one showing light tone. Ask the children if they can identify the differences. Verbalising how the different tones have been made is important in understanding the concept.
2. Teach the children how to do hatching and cross-hatching if they don't already know this.
3. Do similar quick exercises with curving lines to show that the same tonal values can be produced regardless of the type of lines drawn.

## Materials

Black & White photos.  
Tracing paper.  
Ballpoint pen.

Cartridge paper.  
Drawing ink.  
Paintbrush.

## Method

1. Take a photograph of each child and print in black and white.
2. Lay a sheet of tracing paper over the photo and start filling in the darkest tones with lines placed closely together.
3. Continue to work over the photo using different tones for each area.
4. Look at the completed self-portraits and discuss briefly.
5. Use the ballpoint pens and cartridge paper to draw a self-portrait using the same techniques, this time without the photograph underneath.
6. When the drawing is complete mix up a single colour of drawing ink. Mix 3 tones - dark, medium and light.
7. Use a paintbrush and paint the darkest tone over the darkest area of drawing. Repeat with the medium and light tones and allow to dry.

