

**Teacher:** Gabrielle Gamboa  
**Unit:** Observing Your World  
**Lesson Title:** **Tromp L'oeil**

**Objective:** To make a small tromp l'oeil still life drawing

**Standards:** 2.5 Create an expressive composition

**Vocabulary:** tromp l'oeil, illusionism, realism

**Materials:**

Instructional: one sheet of 9" x 12" drawing paper, 2B & 4B pencils, erasers, small square sheets of foam core (1 for each student); pins, glue, stik tak, tape, etc. for mounting objects

Art Materials: 8.5" x 11" paper, pens, pencils, colored pencils, erasers, ruler

**Preparation:** T will get out all supplies, set up video projector, set up a sample still life

**Introduction:** T will introduce the characteristics and a brief history of Tromp L'oeil with a visual presentation. I will then demonstrate how to draw the still life. Ss should use 3-5 different objects of low relief (3/4" or less).

**Procedure:**

**(Session 1)**

1. Each student will draw an 8" x 8" border around their paper. They will also tape a small slip of paper on their viewfinder to make a square.
2. Ss will arrange their objects into a still life on the foam core. After getting T's approval, ss will attach their objects to the foam core using pins, tape, stik tak, glue, etc.

**(Session 2-8)**

1. Ss will now lightly lay out their objects on their drawing paper.
2. Ss will slowly move from lightest grays to the darkest, using all 6 values from their value chart.
3. T will circulate around the room and check student progress at the beginning, middle, and end of each class.

**Time:** 4-8 sessions (40 min. each)

**Perception & Response:** Ss will be aware of the playful traditions of Tromp L'oeil, and how its hyper realism forces us to appreciate the beauty of mundane, everyday objects.

**Visual Arts Heritage:** Historical: John Frederick Peto, Cornelis Gijbrechts, William Michael Harnett, Victor Dubreuil Active. Contemporary: David Brega, Molly Springfield, Julian Beaver.

**Aesthetic Valuing:** Appreciation of art as play, appreciation of the effects of illusionist art techniques.

**Creative Expression:** Ss will choose and arrange their own objects to create a composition. Ss will develop their own drawing style.

**Connections:** Social Studies (History)

**Closure:** Ss will hang their work on the gallery wall, and we will have a class critique.

**Extension:**

- Ss can paint the still life in color
- Ss can work collaboratively, or use the same model setup
- Ss can create still life setups for each other to draw
- Lighting can be used (small clip lamps, flashlights) for dramatic effect
- Still life subjects can be chosen thematically



