I Can’t Draw…Until I Practice!

Animals

This step by step “how to draw” book will help build confidence in the ability to draw. You will be learning to draw like I draw. I looked at real objects and photographs and made up the steps. The best way to learn how to draw is by looking at three dimensional objects (real things). Whether I learn to draw from “how to” sheets, photographs or real objects, I begin by looking for simple lines and shapes and drawing what I see. We can learn to draw, if we really want to. As with any skill, how good we get depends on how much we practice. This step by step format is used in many “how to draw” books. The learner compares each step with the next step to see what new lines or shapes have been added. Then, add the shapes or lines to our own drawing. Observing, identifying & analyzing lines & shapes builds higher order thinking skills (strengthens the brain). That’s how I created the images in this book.
Read, like a book, from left to right. Look for the simplest shapes and start there. One at a time, add shapes and lines until the picture is complete. Practice! Practice! Practice! I looked at actual objects and photos to figure out how to draw these images. Step by step lessons build confidence, but drawing from life, that's the best. Mistakes are our friends. Enjoy making “mistakes”, goofy drawings you might not like; it is how we learn.
I Can’t Draw...Until I Practice! Dogs

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I Can’t Draw...Until I Practice! **Dogs**

Draw from real life objects when you can. Every time we look and draw, we strengthen our brains. Sometimes drawing from real life seems difficult. If so, begin by drawing models that don’t move. Stuffed animals, toys, or familiar items found around the home are great to draw. 3D items can be drawn from many different angles or points of view. Don’t worry about how it looks. Practice strengthens observation skills.

You can practice drawing these photos, but it is much more beneficial drawing from your own 3D (real) items.

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Drawing from photos is helpful especially when the model won’t be still.
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Start with a circle or an oval...

Does it have to be exactly like this one? No! Lions come in all shapes and sizes.

For variety just echo the line of the front leg to make the other back leg.

Add rounded rectangles or ovals for the front legs.

Then add a circle or oval.

Add part of another oval or circle.

Female lions don’t need a mane.

For Variety just echo the line of the front leg to make the other back leg.

Add four curved lines to make the ears.

Add two curved lines, and two jagged lines to make the tail.

Female lions don’t need a mane.

Does it have to be exactly like this one? No! Lions come in all shapes and sizes.

Add zig-zag or any kind of a variety of lines to make the mane.

Add curved lines and shapes to make the face:

two triangles for the nose

Curvy lines for the mouth

Erase unwanted guidelines.

Add details.

Remember...

Lions come in all sizes, shapes, and temperaments.

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Start with an oval or a rounded rectangle...

Does it have to look just like this one? No! Lions come in all shapes and sizes.

Add a circle or an oval for the head.

Add four curved lines for the ears.

Add rounded rectangles for the legs.

Does it have to look just like this one? No! Lions come in all shapes and sizes.

Erase unnecessary guidelines.

Try making many different looking lions (a variety) by changing shapes and lines and adding different detail. Try to not make any two look alike. (See the simple example of making manes using different lines.)

Add a second wavy line and a pointed oval to finish the tail.

Add shapes and lines to make the face.

Add detail.

Circle inside oval to make the eye.

Upside down triangle for nose.

Straight line and curved line for mouth.

Try making many different looking lions (a variety) by changing shapes and lines and adding different detail. Try to not make any two look alike. (See the simple example of making manes using different lines.)

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