

Artist Kelly Reedy will be sharing some of her favorite kids' art projects with students, parents and teachers over the coming months. Students aged 6 and 10 made the following project, but children of all ages will also enjoy doing it!

## Discovery!

with artist Kelly Reedy

Studio Arts  
4 kids + adults



Students drawing in the garden.

Imagine what life was like before photography! Every image made had to be drawn or painted by hand. If you wanted a “snapshot” of your family, you would have to commission an artist to do their portraits, an activity that could mean them posing for hours in the artist’s studio! The same was true for scientists who were trying to document the natural world around them. As well as taking detailed research notes about the characteristics and habits of specific plants or animals, scientists would often make drawings and watercolour paintings of their subjects. These works had to be really “precise” so that others could later recognize exactly which plant or animal was being depicted. There was little

room for personal artistic expression, but rather keen observation skills were required. Professional artists often accompanied scientists on their expeditions in order to document the most recent “discoveries” in nature! Let’s become artistic scientists for a day and prepare botanical studies of plants or zoological studies of animals. Don’t forget to look as closely as you can!

To get started you will need paper, watercolor pencils, an eraser, a brush and water. Here are some tips on how to crosshatch and blend with watercolor pencils.



Alyssa Spaeth, age 10

### Drawing Techniques:

- to hatch, draw semi-parallel lines in the same direction
- to crosshatch, draw semi-parallel lines over the first set of hatched lines in the opposite direction.
- hatched lines do not need to be too regular



Mariella Hutton, age 10



Frederika Buehne, age 10



Frederika Buehne, age 10



Alyssa Spaeth, age 10



Huei Ming Lim, age 6



Paloma June, age 9

- when making shadows, the closer the lines are hatched the darker the tone will be
- hatching with colour allows you to layer different colours to make a new colour, for example red over yellow makes orange
- when creating a watercolour effect with watercolour pencils remember to use just a little bit of water if you want to keep the details of your lines.

For more information about the artist and Studio Arts courses for children, teens and adults, please visit [www.kellyreedy.com](http://www.kellyreedy.com)