TAKE ONE PICTURE

Look

Imagine

Think

Create!

Can you remember - what is the name of the picture and who is the artist?

It is The Battle of San Romano by Paulo Uccello

This picture was revolutionary at the time because the artist took pains to make the picture look 3D (3 dimensional).

Have a close look at the picture and see if you can see how he did this?

There is a **foreground** and a **background**

The people in the background are small and the people in the foreground are large

The broken lances on the floor are positioned so that they are in a grid like pattern using 'linear perspective' which the artist was very interested in.

There is shading on some of the objects (look at the white horse in particular)

The patterns on some of the horse tack get closer or further apart to give the idea of perspective

Not all of the perspective is correct though – can you see anything in the picture which doesn't look the correct size or shape?

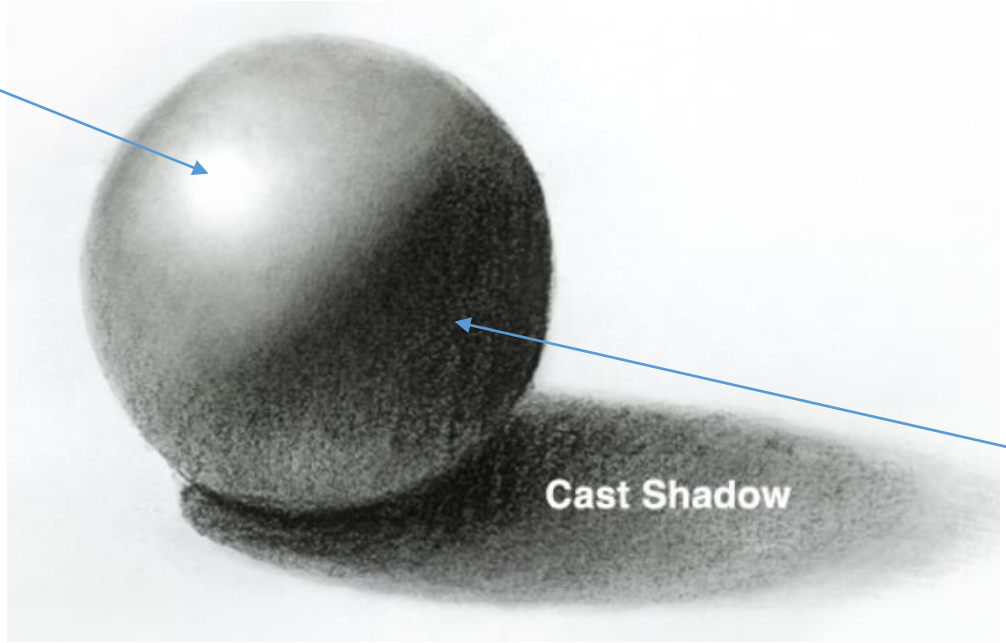
Look at the fallen knight on the floor – he is very small compared with the other characters who are the same distance from us and his shoulders are larger than his feet, so that he looks back to front in comparison with the rest of the painting.

Activity 1

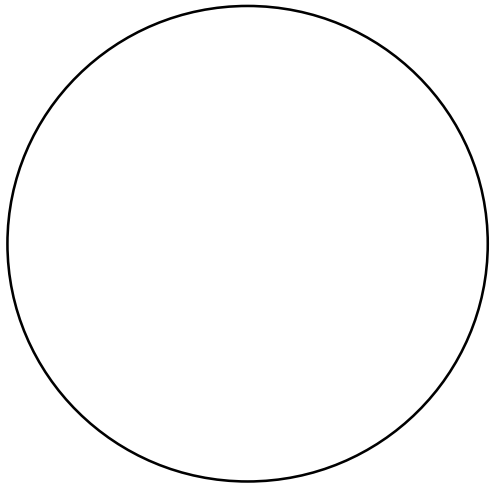
Let’s make an object look 3D by using shading

Look at a pencil on the desk. See if you can see where it looks darker and lighter (to help you do this it is helpful to screw up your eyes and the dark parts become darker). This is because light hits 3D objects on one side (which then looks lighter) and the other side is left in the shade (so it looks darker). See how shading can make a 2D circle look like a 3D sphere.

Direction of light

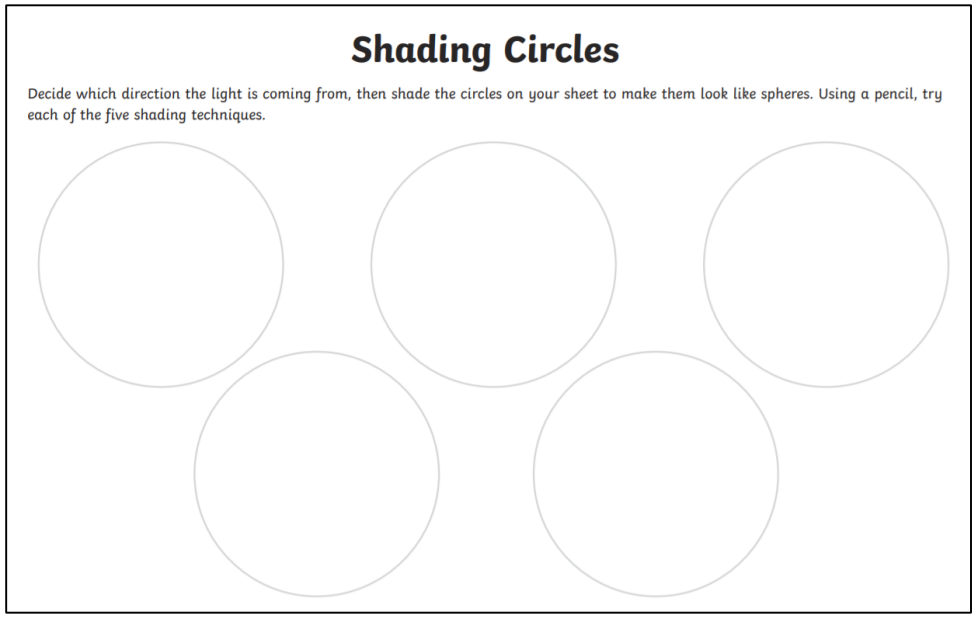


Darker side as light is not shining directly on this area



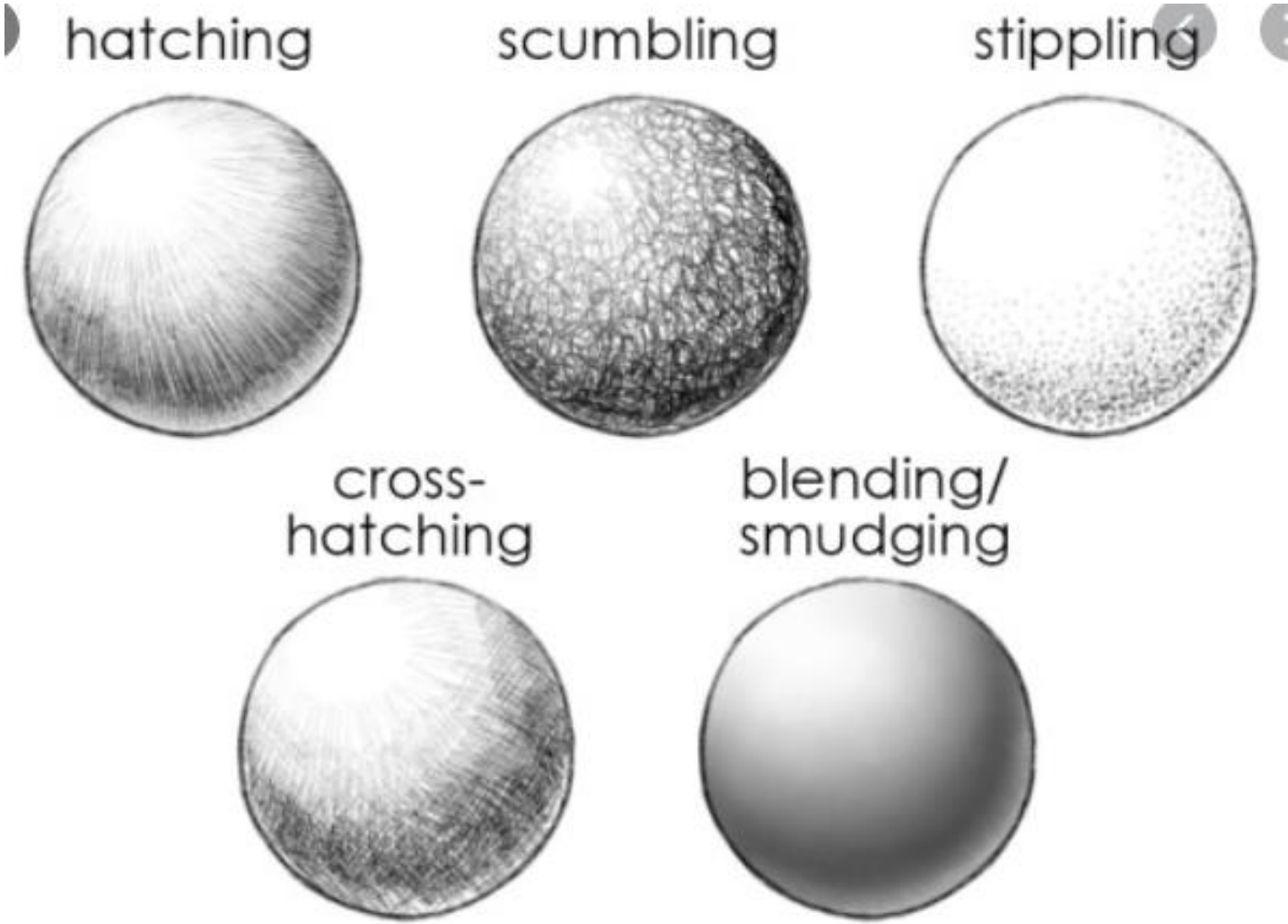
If we didn’t use shading the sphere would look like this – it just looks like a circle – not 3D at all!

On your worksheet try making your circles look 3D by adding different types of shading. Try to think which side the light is coming from. Which do you think is most effective?



Shading Circles

Decide which direction the light is coming from, then shade the circles on your sheet to make them look like spheres. Using a pencil, try each of the five shading techniques.



To get a better idea watch this clip on shading

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zxyxfg8

Activity 2

Now let's look at perspective

Look at the closest person in the room, hold your finger and thumb at arms length and 'measure' how large their head is. Now do the same thing with someone far away – what is different? What can you say about how large their heads appear? Are their heads really different sizes? Why do they seem to be so different in size?

Look at this picture of people – who is closest to us – how can you tell? Tell someone close to you

Look at the size of the people – some are large and some are small – is this their real size?

No! - because of perspective we understand that those who are further away appear much smaller.

Now look at the pavement that the people are walking along. Do you think that the pavement actually gets narrower or is it really the same width all along its length?

Why does it look narrower towards the top of the picture?

So using perspective helps the artist to make the picture look 3 dimensional

Watch this BBC bitesize clip to find out more about using perspective

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zvq6sbk

This is a picture of a road, it is very wide at the bottom of the picture and very thin further up the picture

Why does it look like this? Is the road really getting narrower?

Again, this is because of PERSPECTIVE – the road **looks** narrower as it gets further away, but really the actual road is the same width all along its length.

Next time you are in a vehicle travelling along a road can you see the road looks narrower where it is further away and looks wider closer to you?

Let’s look again at The Battle of San Romano

Look again at the broken lances on the floor – can you see how the artist has tried to use **perspective** to make the drawing appear 3D by positioning them carefully?

Activity 2

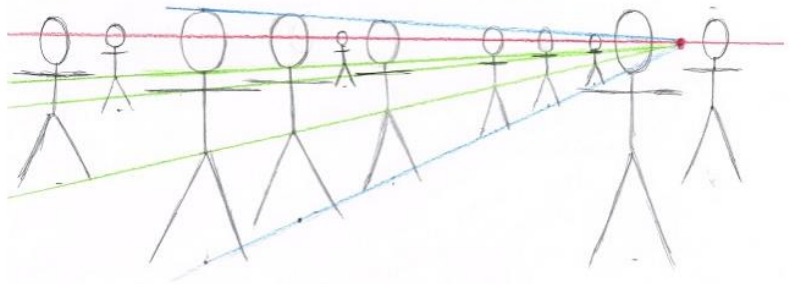
Drawing with perspective

On a sheet of paper draw a pathway, leading from the **foreground** (starting low down, at the front of the picture) to the **background** (further up the picture) where it gets narrower.

Now draw on some people walking along this path – what will happen to the size of the people as they go further along the path?

Will they stay the same size, get larger or get smaller?

Use this picture to help you remember what happens to the size of things as they get further away



Really think about the perspective and relative sizes. For an extra challenge can you add details and colour to your drawing?

Activity 3

There are lots of repeating patterns in this picture – can you spot them?

Activity 3

Make your own repeating pattern

On a piece of paper draw your own repeating pattern taking inspiration from The Battle of San Romano – do not make it too complicated – simple will work better. Now you will create your own printing block. You can do this in one of two ways – potato block printing or cardboard block printing:

Potato block printing:

Get a potato and cut it in half. **With adult assistance** use a knife to **carefully** cut out your shape from one half of the potato. If you have more than one shape in your repeating pattern use the other half of your potato to create this shape.

Apply paint to your potato printing block and print! Don't forget to use different colours – use your imagination and have fun!

For a great demonstration of potato block printing watch

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t696x03g3-k

Activity 3

Make your own repeating pattern

Cardboard block printing

You will need 2 pieces of cardboard
Copy your pattern onto one piece of cardboard and cut it out – keep to simple shapes – it will work better.
Stick it onto your larger piece of card. This is now your printing block.
You can use a paintbrush to spread paint over your printing block or you can use a roller or brayer to spread paint onto the block.
Put your paper flat on your work surface and pick up your painted block and print onto your paper, pressing down firmly
See if you can make a **repeating** pattern by creating a second block and alternating your prints. Enjoy your printing!