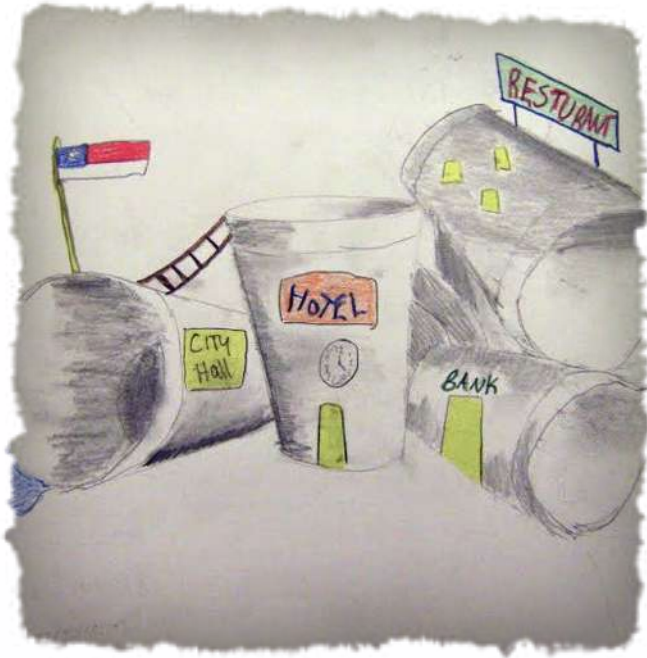


## “White Cups with a Twist”



**Objective:** Create an observational drawing of white cups with imagined details.

### Materials

- White cups
- Photos of white cups
- Clear plastic for tracing, like transparencies
- Markers for tracing
- Drawing paper
- Pencils and erasers
- Blending stumps

### Motivation

- Start by showing some photorealistic images by artists such as [Richard Estes](#), [Ralph Goings](#) and [Audrey Flack](#). Then surprise students by telling them they are paintings and drawings, not photographs.
- Discuss how much time and effort the artists had to put in to create such drawings.

### Step 1: Observe

Discuss the shapes that make up a white paper cup (what we think we know). As a warm up activity, have students lay transparencies on top of photos of the cups and trace the shapes. Then, discuss the resulting shapes (what we see). Discuss the difference between drawing what we think we know vs. drawing what we see. Drawing what we see is observational drawing.

### Step 2: Brainstorm and Draw

After the students have practiced drawing their cups, have them plan what they could do with the cups to make the drawing exciting. Could they add something? Turn the cups into something? Remove parts of the cup? Have students draw out their final compositions and add their creative elements.

### Step 3: Add Value

Discuss all the values students can see on the cups and discuss how adding those values to the drawings will make them appear three-dimensional. (You can reflect on the shading used in the photorealistic images here as well.) Have students add values to their drawings using the blending stumps as needed. Make sure students don't forget to add shading to their creative elements as well!

**Tip:** Have students create value scales using only the lightest of values before shading.

**Tip:** Having several different cup compositions photographed and printed can help students come up with their own arrangements.