

# Dragon Fire O C E A N M I S T

Walk, look, remember, draw!

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## Materials Needed:

Paper

Pencil or paint and brush

How does an artist learn to draw from their imagination? The answer to this question comes in part from building a visual vocabulary through looking. Just as a musician memorizes tunes, an artist memorizes visual shapes and forms. These memories slowly build the artist's ability to draw from the imagination.

For this art activity, you will use your body again – this time letting it take you places where inspiration might be found.

Take a “looking walk”. This walk could be around your yard, through the various rooms of your home, or around the block. You don't need to take anything with you, except your memory!

As you walk, practice “active looking”. When you look at something actively, you ask and answer questions about it to yourself. What color is it? What does the color remind me of? What shapes do I see? Does it look like anything other than what it is? What kind of light is around it? What kind of light is falling on it? These questions help you to make associations and better remember what you see.

After you have really enjoyed looking at something and discovering all that you can about it, it is time to head back inside.

Away from what you were looking at, sketch or paint an image of it from your memory. Take yourself through all the questions you asked yourself again, only this time, draw or paint your answers on the paper. Fill in anything that you cannot remember with your imagination. Remember, you can do several versions and there is no right or wrong – this is only a game, but if you play it enough you will amaze yourself with your powers of recollection!

After you have finished your art work, take it with you back to what you looked at and compare what you created with the actual object or place. What do you think?

