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1. Robert Gordy  
American, 1933 – 1986  
**To The North**  
Circa 1979  
Silkscreen on paper  
Museum Purchase Fund
2. Christine Kennedy Smith  
American, born 1932  
**Autumn Landscape #3**  
Circa 1981  
Mixed media on Masonite  
Museum Purchase Fund
3. William Charles Anthony Frerichs  
American, 1829 – 1905  
**River with Man on the Bank**  
Circa 1860  
Oil on canvas  
Partial Purchase with Museum Purchase  
Funds and Partial Gift from Mr. Cleve Harris

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4. Chris Coffey  
American, born 1955  
**Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, AZ, 2002**  
Silver gelatin print on paper  
Purchased with the proceeds from the  
Annual Azalea Arts and Crafts Festival,  
cosponsored by the Art Patrons League  
and the Mobile Museum of Art
5. Missy Patrick  
American, born 1940  
**Lagoon**  
Circa 1998  
Acrylic on paper  
Gift from the Watercolor and  
Graphic Arts Society of Mobile

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# CREATING A LANDSCAPE

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ART AT HOME

Art tells a story – a story of a culture, of a people and of a land. Landscapes, through their artistic styles and subject matter, can trace the passage of time in a particular culture.

Take a look at these landscapes from our collection, currently on view in the exhibition, **All American: From the Collection**. Notice the different artistic styles from the earliest picture to the later ones. Which landscape features the most ornate (fanciest) frame? Which includes a body of water? Which landscapes are the most realistic? Which are more abstract? In which landscapes do you notice the most color? Notice that four are paintings, while the other two were created in some other way.

These landscapes are all quite different, but most landscapes have several things in common, and those aspects involve how to show **distance (perspective)**. The parts of a landscape will often include three areas: 1) the **foreground** (the space at the bottom of the picture), which includes the area closest to the viewer; 2) the **middleground** (the space in the middle of the picture), which may feature the most important figures and nature that the artist decides to include, 3) the **background** (the top portion of the picture), which includes the area that is farthest away from the viewer.

The objects in the foreground should be drawn larger than those in the middleground, and the objects in the background should be the smallest of all.

There's one more thing! The **horizon line**, the point on the picture where the earth meets the sky, may be low on the canvas, in the middleground or higher up. Try to find the horizon line in each of these landscapes. **Now you try!**

# SUPPLIES

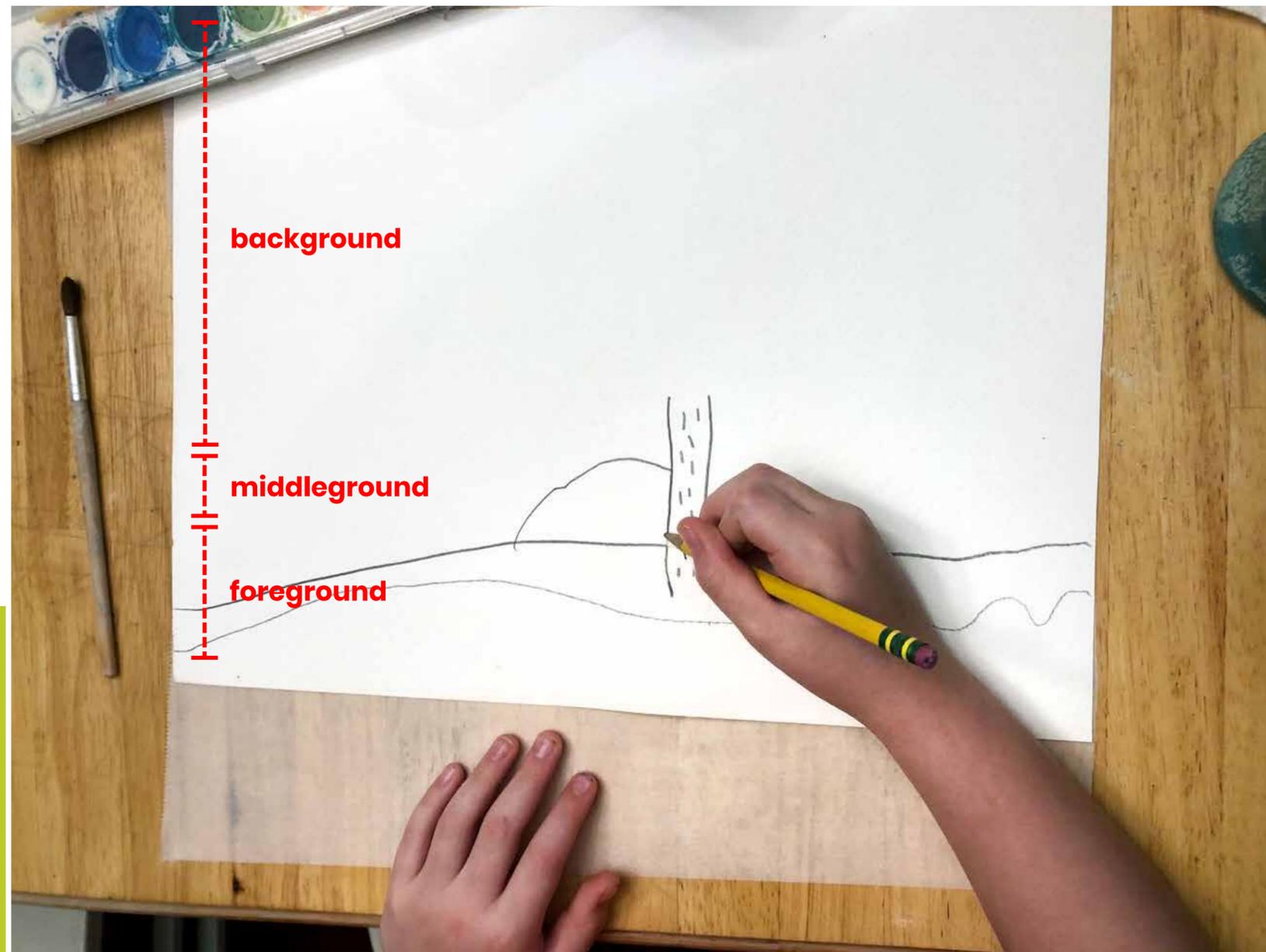
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- PAPER
- PENCIL
- PAINTBRUSH
- A WATERCOLOR PAINT SET OR ANY PAINT, CRAYONS, OR MARKERS YOU HAVE ON HAND
- WATER (IF USING WATERCOLORS)
- TABLE COVERING



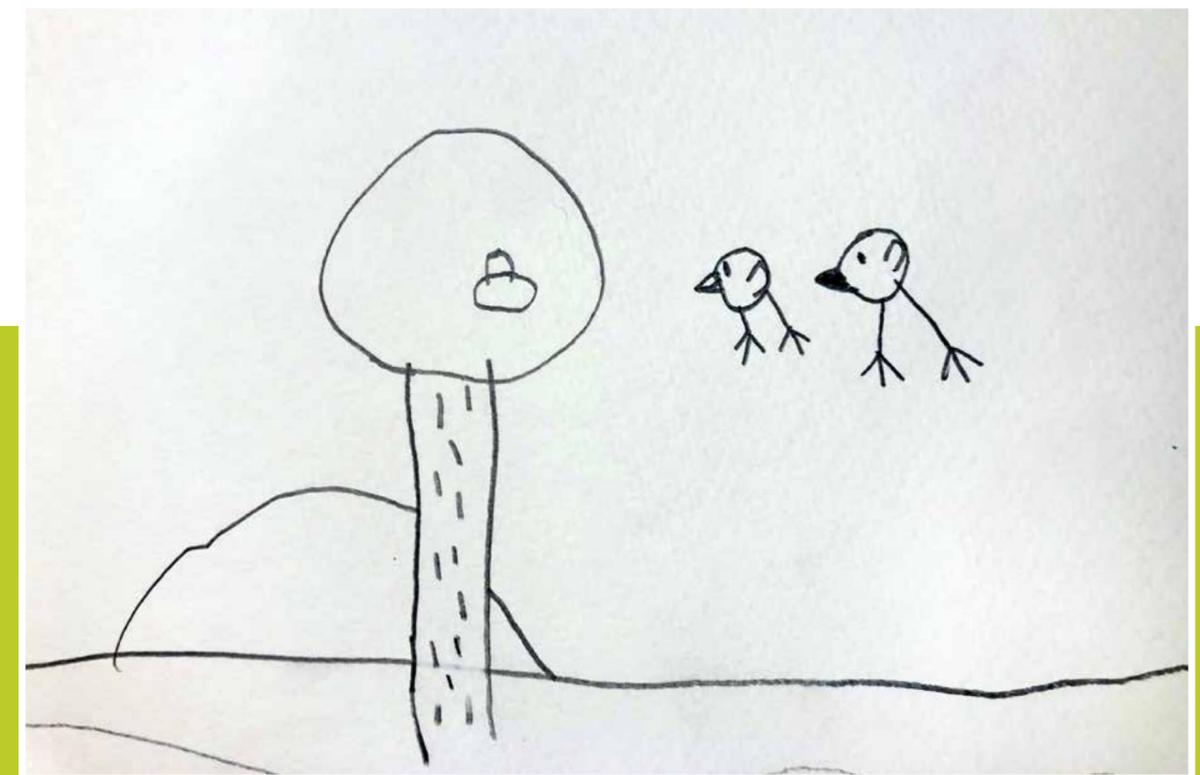
# DIRECTIONS

ART AT HOME



With your paper turned sideways, decide where your horizon line will be and draw it to divide your foreground, background, and midground.

With the horizon line as your guide, add different details in the background, midground, and foreground - like a sun or moon, trees, mountains, plants and/or animals.



# DIRECTIONS

ART AT HOME

**TIP:** If you decide something should be in the foreground, draw it larger, because it is closer. A tree in the foreground will be largest in the foreground, smaller in the middleground, and smallest in the background.

Get creative, experiment with scale and fill the page with what you want in your landscape, real or imaginary.

Add color with watercolor or any paint that you have on hand. With watercolor, add more water to make the color lighter, and less water to make it brighter.

You may want to fill your sky and background with softer color “washes” (paint with more water added), and use brighter colors (with less water added) in the middleground and foreground.

**Be creative & have fun!**

