Tree Silhouettes

Information for students

This is the ideal time of year to notice the beautiful trees that surround us. Before they are covered with leaves, deciduous tree silhouettes are most visible. This activity can be done outside or from inside.

The challenge is to observe and draw in as much detail as you can at least two tree silhouettes as you see them from where you are.

Make sure you notice the following:

- the overall shape of the tree (round, long, V-shaped etc.),
- the size of the trunk (long, short, shorter or longer that the rest of the tree),
- the direction of branches (going up, going sideways, pointing down, or a combination of these).

No matter the size of your paper, use as much of the space on the page as you can to draw the tree silhouettes. Draw up to three silhouettes per page.

Start with the general shape of the tree. Sketch this very lightly.

You can also use the steps above to sketch the silhouettes of evergreens such as pine trees. Don't forget to add your name and the date to your drawing. Be proud of your work!

Push yourself further and use coloured pencils, paint, food colouring, crayons, or markers to create a sunrise / sunset / sky scene in the background. Go over your tree sketches with black paint or marker to create a true sense of a silhouette.

If you want you can share your work on social media using the hashtag #IBartsHSB or you can email me a photo of your work at kvalade@nfsb.qc.ca.

As always, I love to see what you are creating!

~Ms. Valade



Giraffe silhouette Adele Moscaritolo 2013

Materials required

- · Paper of any size
- Pencil
- Optional: Coloured media of your choice (crayons, pencil crayons, paint, pastel, markers etc.)

Information for parents

- Observe the different tree shapes visible from your home (inside or outside)
- If you can see more than one tree, draw attention to the differences in their silhouettes: the overall shape of the tree, the sizes, the way branches grow up or sideways.
- Discuss ways your child could enhance the background of the work
- Optional: Research what type of tree it could be.
- Optional: Repeat the activity with evergreens.