



Wilmington Public Schools Department of Visual Arts

## Middle School Sketchbook Information

As an artist in Wilmington Middle School you need to do *at least one* finished sketch every ten days in your sketch book. The purpose of a sketchbook is to encourage you look harder at things, use your imagination, and explore ideas and techniques that interest, challenge, and stimulate you. In addition to the sketchbook assignments, you are encouraged to fill this space with your own work and drawings of your choice. Use your sketchbook as a place to let out your ideas and thoughts through your art. Use the same sketchbook for all three years and save your sketches forever; you'll want to look back at them someday!



### What am I looking for in a sketchbook assignment?

Students should spend approximately 45 minutes-one hour (or more!) on each sketchbook assignment. On occasion, you will have an opportunity to do some of the work in class, but sketchbook assignments are generally considered homework assignments.

Sketchbook assignments are worth up to 100 points according to the rubric on the back of this sheet. You don't want to blow them off. A zero is hard to recover from if you don't turn in a sketchbook assignment.

SKETCHBOOKS ARE DUE APROXIMATELY EVERY 7-10 DAYS. The due date and the assigned topic is always posted on the small whiteboard in the classroom and online.



### Why a sketchbook anyway???

- They are a place where you don't have to know the answer!
- Sketchbooks make you really think about things-they help you concentrate & gain ideas!
- They help you to be curious and inquisitive – a good thing to be!
- Sketchbooks are a place where you can be brave, plot, try and dream.
- Sketchbooks keep all the things you like, think about or do in one place!
- Sketchbooks become part of you-like your favorite shoes, they are a comfortable place to let loose!

**Grading:** You will receive an A for drawings that meet the following expectations:

- Drawing must fill the entire page.
- No Tracing – ever. I can tell!
- Drawing must employ full color or shading (media of your choice-**NO MARKERS, ever!!!**)
- Drawing must show great attention to detail and must include a background.
- Subject of drawings must be the one assigned.
- Format is set up properly. (see other side)
- Is labeled with your name/section and the title along with a one sentence explanation.
- **DO NOT COPY FROM THE INTERNET!!!! (I can Google too!)**

## What kind of sketchbook and where do I get one?

- Sketchbooks with a spiral binding are best (Not just wire bound) and hold up to the constant travel back and forth to school. These are available at A.C. Moore (coupons online), Staples, Walmart, Target, etc. The sketchbooks at the dollar stores do not hold up very well. Another option is you can always make one yourself very easily with blank paper and a binder.
- These sketchbooks should last all three years.
- **Example:** Bienfang R237117 Sketchbook, 100 Sheets
- There are other wire bound sketchbooks that aren't spiral bound. They just fall apart and frustrate the students. I do accept these as well, but they will also need to get a 3 ring binder to put drawings and paper in when this type of sketchbook falls apart. I call this type the "claw". It has a gap in middle and papers fall out. DO NOT GET THIS ONE, if you have a choice!



## Proper Sketchbook set-up:

### Points deducted for:

- Not in a sketchbook -10 points
- Late -20 points per school day
- Proper format including description. -10 points

*Take your time!  
Have fun!  
Be Creative!*

### YOU MUST DRAW A BORDER.

(Maximum of 1" wide on the top and sides and 2" on the bottom)

Label each drawing inside of the **bottom** border with:

1. Your name and section
2. The prompt you were given
3. A one sentence description of your drawing

**DO NOT DRAW WITHIN  
THE BORDER!**



**Save all sketches!!! Sketchbooks will be collected towards the end of the semester for a final review. (They will be returned to you)**