

BIRD WATERCOLOR ACTIVITY

This activity is inspired by a ceramic vessel in the Museum's collection, created by the Nasca people of ancient Peru. Nasca art featured many different kinds of animals, including birds and fish, as in the pot pictured here. Birds have often been connected to water and agriculture by different cultures throughout time. Water birds, such as the pelican and the heron, were associated with the arrival of rains, and seeing them marked certain times of the year. Draw a bird you have observed in your backyard or neighborhood, or create an imaginary bird for your painting.

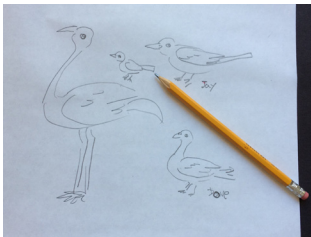


Double spout and bridge vessel with water birds and fish, 100-400 CE. Ceramic. SBMA, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest C. Watson.

MATERIALS

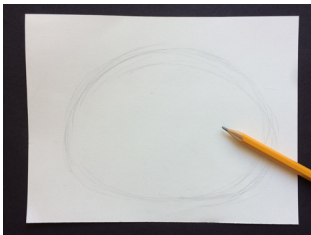
- Watercolor paper
- Drawing paper
- Watercolor paints or coffee or tea
- Pencil
- Paintbrush or Q-tip
- Crayons

DIRECTIONS



STEP 1

Practice drawing bird shapes on your drawing paper.



STEP 2

Draw an oval shape lightly on the watercolor paper and then draw a bird inside the oval.



STEP 3

Use crayons to color the inside of the bird and outline the oval. Use any colors you want!

STEP 4

Paint around the bird with watercolor or coffee or tea. The wax from the crayon will resist the watercolor a bit.

Your finished artwork might look something like the one below!

