

How to Draw a Walrus

K - 5th | 45 minutes

In this lesson, artists will learn how to draw an arctic walrus along with several fun science facts. It is recommended to use a large piece of paper to draw an original background.



I can...

- Discuss scientific facts about arctic **walruses**
- Use oil pastels in a variety of ways to create **texture**
- Draw a walrus using **line** and **shapes**

Materials:

- Oil Pastels (or crayons)
- Construction paper 12x18 recommended (9x12 will work for smaller scale)

Key Terms:

- **Line** - a mark on a surface that can be as small as a dot or go on forever. It has a different end point from where it begins
- **Shape** - When a line or lines connect or cross to enclose a space, giving an object length and width but no height
- **Texture** - The way things feel, or how they appear to feel
- **Walrus** - An arctic animal that resembles a seal but with long teeth known as tusks (like an elephant of the ocean)

Resources:

Walrus Song



How to Draw a Walrus

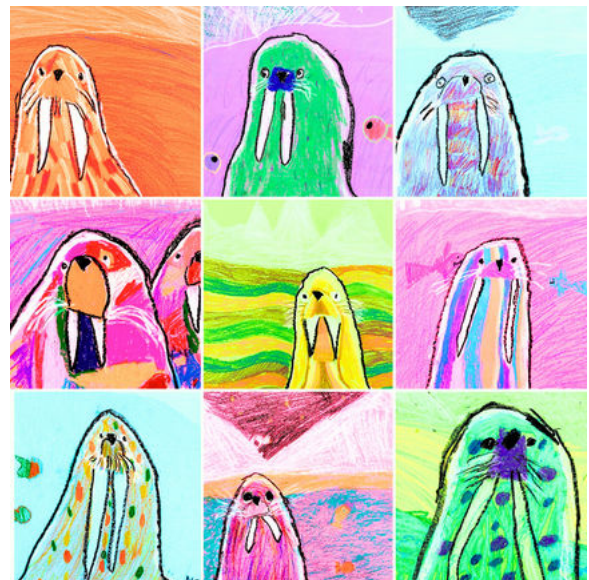
Teaching Tips

- Work on large 12 x 18 paper so artists can develop a background of their choice
- This is a great project to incorporate choice with colors and materials

Walrus Facts

- There are two types of walrus, the Atlantic Walrus, and the Pacific Walrus, and they live in different areas of the Arctic.
- Male Pacific Walruses can weigh over 1.5 tons!
- Walruses can live in freezing temperatures as low as -31°F . The blubber beneath their skin protects them from the freezing cold.
- Both male and female Walruses have tusks which they use to haul themselves out of the water and onto the ice. They also use their tusks to defend themselves.
- Walruses prefer to stay in shallow water where they forage and eat a lot of shellfish, such as clams, mussels, sea snails, and crabs.
- Walruses can stay underwater for up to 30 minutes with one breath.
- Climate change is the greatest threat to walruses. As the earth becomes warmer, sea ice melts, and the Pacific walruses are forced to rest on land further from where they feed.
- Walruses like to hang out together in large numbers, called herds.
- Walruses have two natural predators—Orcas and polar bears.

Examples



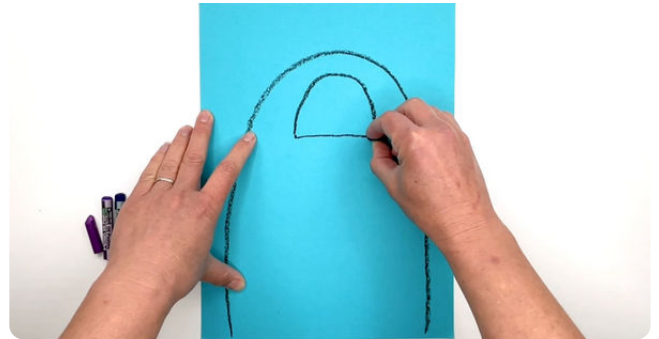
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Process:

STEP 1 For your materials, you can use crayons, chalk, or oil pastel. You will need black, white, light and dark purples, blues, and peach tones if you have them. Choose a color of construction paper for your background. (2:49)



STEP 2 Using black, draw a giant arch starting from the bottom of the paper. Next, draw another little arch inside the big near the top. Close it off with a straight horizontal line at the bottom. (3:12)



STEP 3 At the bottom of that small arch, draw two tusks that are similar to the shape of a carrot. (3:27)



STEP 4 Inside the top of the small arch draw an upside-down triangle and fill it in with the black, creating a nose. On either side of the muzzle, draw two dark dots for the eyes. (3:38)



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Process:

STEP 5 Using white, color in the tusks. Add a little highlight of white around the eyes as well. (4:08)



STEP 6 Create a thick white outline around the walrus. Be careful not to touch the black outline so it does not smudge. You can take your black and redo the original outline to make it bolder if you would like. (4:36)



STEP 7 Lightly color in your walrus with purple. On the muzzle, you can layer blue over the purple. (5:10)



STEP 8 Layer and apply more pressure to make your color darker. You can use this method to create shadows on one side. On the other side, you can layer the peach tones in areas where the light would be. (6:23)



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Process:

STEP 9 Using your other purple, go back and fill in areas you may have missed. Use your finger to smudge in the color so they blend together. You can also touch up the white areas in the eyes and tusk if you need to. (7:19)



STEP 10 Use black to go over any lines that need to be darkened. Use white to create whiskers stemming from the muzzle. (8:15)



STEP 11 Use your white to lightly color the background of your paper for a snowy scene. (8:45)



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Standards:

National Core Art Anchor Standards & Enduring Understanding:

Creating:

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

EU: Creativity and innovative thinking are essential life skills that can be developed

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

EU: Artists and designers experiment with forms, structures, materials, concepts, media, and art-making approaches.



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