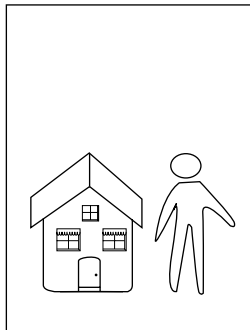




ART & VISION: SEEING IN 3-D[®]

SIZE SCALING DRAWING & CUTOUTS

ACTIVITY



STEP 1

MATERIALS
paper, pencil, scissors,
markers or crayons, ruler

TIME
15 minutes



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SIZE SCALING

STEPS

step 1. On a piece of paper, draw a house and a child that are about the same size (say, about 4" tall).

step 2. Cut out both the house and the child.

step 3. Take a second piece of paper and orient it vertically. Draw a horizontal line across the paper about half-way up. This line represents the horizon line—the line between the sky and the earth.

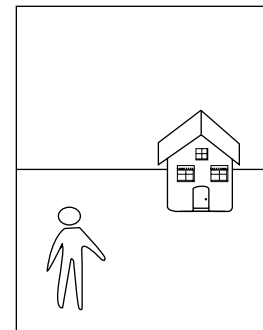
step 4. Place both cut-outs on the second piece of paper. Play around with the positions of the two cut-outs. Place the person in the foreground and the house in the background. Place the house in the foreground and the person in the background.

Which arrangement looks right?
Which arrangement of the cutouts creates a sense of depth in the picture?

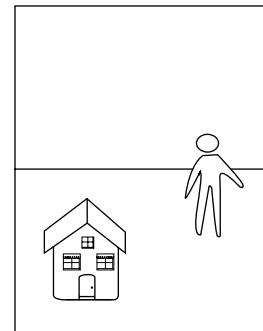
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STEP 3



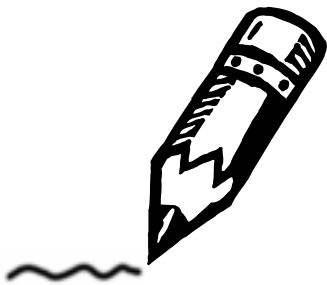
STEP 4



STEP 4

SIZE SCALING DRAWING AND CUTOUTS

continued



step 5. Now draw a child that's twice the size of the house. Try playing around again with the positions of the house and the child. What do you notice this time? (The house looks even farther away when the child is in front of the house.)

DISCUSSION

Your brain knows that people are usually smaller than houses. So when you see the person in front of the house, your brain thinks the person is close and the house is far away.

But when you see the house in front of the person, it looks strange. Your brain knows that people are not usually bigger than houses, and it can't make sense of this picture.

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SIZE SCALING