

Reviews of *Drawing is a Class Act, Years 3–4*

Start (magazine published by the National Society for Education in Art and Design)

All three books in the series follow the same presentation format. This book covers all the National Curriculum programmes of study related to drawing. Programmes of study are listed for each lesson.

In it, author Meg Fabian, clearly sets out the progression of skills and provides lesson plans for lower juniors which can be adapted for small schools with mixed age ranges, or single-age classes where there is a wide range of ability. The book includes examples of pupils' artwork showing the skills at each stage and gives examples of how the skills can be applied. There are responses to works of art integrated into each unit and there are photocopiable reproductions of works of art and other resources.

Judy Grahame, Consultant for Art and Design

I think this is going to be a really useful resource for teachers. I like the format – in particular the emphasis on key skills and the way they are introduced, revisited and consolidated. Teachers lacking confidence in art and design (and that's probably the majority in primary schools) will be able to use the activities off-the-peg or adapt them to suit their needs and will decide for themselves whether to work through them sequentially or pick and choose. I think they'll also find the suggested introductions very helpful. I've never been particularly keen to promote books which simply outline lesson after lesson, but this has a clear rationale and those teachers who take the time to read the explanations (in addition to simply using the ideas) will begin to understand and appreciate the need for progressive skills teaching. It's plainly written in a way that will be accessible to most teachers. I've shown the book to a few teachers now and I've had some very positive feedback. A primary school in Greenwich where I was working yesterday will almost certainly be buying a set – so that's a start!