

## Friendly Monster Drawings Inspired by Fay Jones

A HANDS-ON ART ACTIVITY  
DESIGNED BY JOSEPH WERDER

### Description

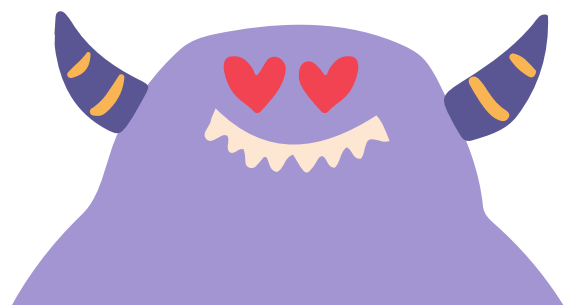
Students will write a description of a monster using their knowledge of the art elements: Line, Value, Shape, Color, and Texture. A partner in the class will then draw an image based on this description and inspired by the work of Fay Jones.



Example by Lynn Prewitt

### Materials

- Examples of Fay Jones' work (included in this lesson)
- Colored pencils
- Drawing paper
- Writing paper



## Instructions

- 1) Display Fay Jones art piece(s) and practice using VTS (Visual Thinking Strategies) to guide students in a discussion of the artwork. Full-size images, VTS tips and resources are included at the end of this lesson
- 2) Students can use inspiration from artwork to start drawing their own friendly monsters with colored pencils and drawing paper.
- 3) Then, students will write descriptive essays using the **Art Elements Vocabulary** word choices.
- 4) Next, students will trade written descriptions with a partner in the class.
- 5) From these descriptions, they will draw an image of their partner's monster.
- 6) When both students have finished, they can compare completed drawings.
- 7) Finally, students will edit their essays to be more specific based on the feedback they received.

## **Art Elements Vocabulary**

- ✓ **Line**
- ✓ **Value**
- ✓ **Shape**
- ✓ **Color**
- ✓ **Texture**

## Learning and State Standards

Fulfills **Washington State Arts Learning Standards:**

- **VA:Cr1.1.6** (Combine concepts collaboratively to generate innovative ideas for creating art)
- **VA:Cr2.1.6** (Demonstrate openness in trying new ideas, materials, methods, and approaches in making works of art and design)

# About the Artist: Fay Jones



Fay Jones, "Memento Mori" 2019  
Acrylic and collage on paper  
Image credit: jamesharrisgallery.com



Photo of Fay Jones  
Image credit: Wikipedia

Fay Jones is a Seattle-based painter who has been exhibiting her work across the West Coast for over 30 years. Her whimsical work often features fictional characters made from watercolor, acrylic, or sumi ink. Jones has been awarded two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships during her career. [Click here for an Artist Talk with Fay Jones.](#)



Fay Jones, "Two Pools: Riddle and Ghosts" 1992  
Sumi, acrylic and collage on paper  
Image credit: jamesharrisgallery.com

# Visual Thinking Strategies

MoNA's Education programs utilize Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), which is a research-based teaching method that promotes aesthetic development including critical thinking and communication skills. Here in the MoNA, we use VTS to engage students and general visitors with art encouraging them to observe closely, think critically and discuss respectfully; however, VTS can be effectively used across curricula. This approach teaches its participants how to take the time to observe closely, describe what they see in detail and provide evidence for their observations. Students learn that their reflections and thoughts are valued and appreciated in this inclusive teaching method.

In order to facilitate a VTS discussion, you first encourage viewers to take a quiet moment to observe the work you are going to explore. Then you ask the following questions and paraphrase the responses without adding any of your own judgements. You can insert additional vocabulary and point to specific parts of the artwork.

*What's going on in this picture?*  
*What do you see that makes you say that...?*  
*What more can you find?*

## Visual Thinking Strategy Links

If you are interested in learning more about VTS, [here is their website](#). If you already know and love VTS, but want help finding great images to VTS in your classroom, here is a [fantastic gallery](#). You can also visit this website for additional resources: <https://www.monamuseum.org/resources-for-educators>





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