

Drawing our clothes

by Florence Dwyer

I am an artist living in Glasgow. I enjoy making objects out of clay and textiles for other people to use and enjoy.



The textures, patterns and colours in our clothes are important to us. In this activity we will have a go at creating some drawings inspired by 3 items of clothing. We will also make a small sketchbook for our drawings, but you don't have to do this if you'd prefer not to – you can skip this stage and just draw on individual sheets of paper.

You will need:

3 Sheets of A4 Paper and something to draw with (pens, pencils, crayons etc.)

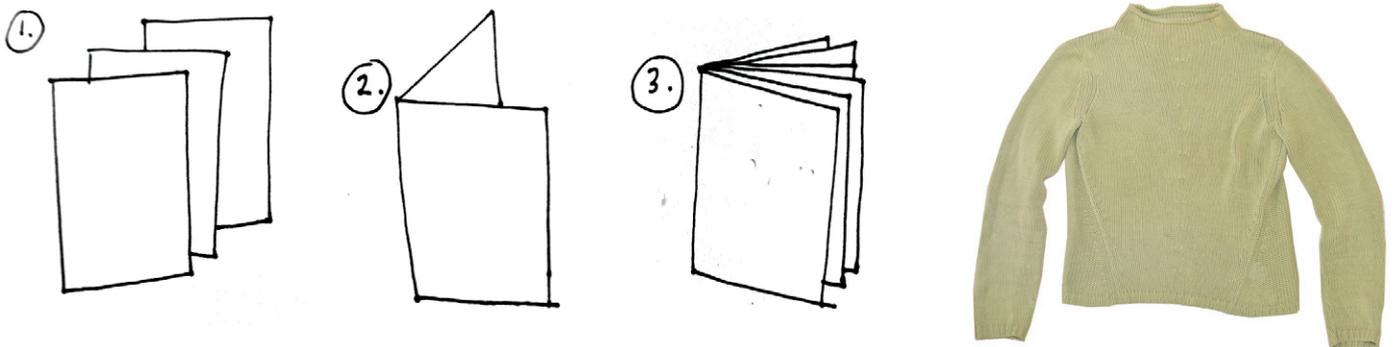
Items of clothing to have to hand:

- Your warmest piece of clothing
- A piece of clothing you love
- A piece of clothing that has a pattern on it

You don't have to have all three items of clothing to take part in this activity. If you'd prefer, just choose one and have a go at some of the activities below.

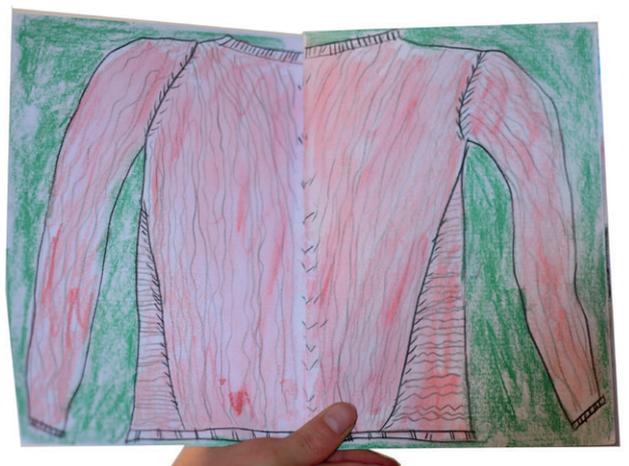
Constructing the sketchbook:

Fold each piece of paper in half and slot one inside another to form a small booklet. This will be our sketchbook which we will start to fill with drawings.



Drawing prompts:

- 1 Lets start with your warmest piece of clothing. Lay it out in front of you or hang it up so you can see it clearly. To get you warmed up, try quickly drawing the whole piece of clothing across two pages of your sketchbook so it's nice and big. Don't worry about it being perfect, just try and capture an essence of the shape and style. Is the fabric tight, bulky or baggy?



- 2 On a new page, let's try and draw some of the detail of this piece of clothing. Pretend that you are zooming in on it and focus on drawing just a small section. You could try drawing it whilst touching the fabric with your other hand – what is the texture like? How could you represent this in your drawing?
- 3 Next, let's take your piece of clothing you love. Write down the reasons why you love it, then draw a small picture of the item next to these reasons.
- 4 On the next page, have a think about the kind of event or place you would like to wear this item of clothing and try and draw this scene using your imagination. Who would you be with? What would you be doing? What kind of location is it in?



- 5 Now let's take your third piece of clothing: something that has some pattern on it. On a new page, draw a small section of the pattern across the whole page. If you can, add as much colour to this – this doesn't have to match the colours on the piece of clothing.
- 6 Have a think about a time when you have previously worn this patterned item of clothing. On a new page, have a go at drawing this occasion.

Feel free to add as much or little colour to these drawings as you want. You could even add more pages if you want to keep on drawing!