

Laura McShane

## Power of the PEN (and Pencil) 45 min

### Objective:

Understand that drawing is a life skill

### Big Idea:

Drawings can change the world

## 1. Warm Up / Anticipatory 15 min

**Graphite** ([/ ˈræfə](#)), archaically referred to as **plumbago**, is a [crystalline](#) form of the element [carbon](#) with its atoms arranged in a [hexagonal structure](#). It occurs naturally in this form and is the most stable form of carbon under [standard conditions](#). Under high pressures and temperatures it converts to [diamond](#). Graphite is used in [pencils](#) and lubricants. It is a good conductor of heat and electricity. Its high conductivity makes it useful in electronic products such as [electrodes](#), [batteries](#), and [solar panels](#).

Read [My Pen](#) by Christopher Myers



Christopher Myers ends the book with

"There are a million pens in the world and each one has a million worlds inside it - So if you have a pen, see what you can do-Let those world inside your pen out!"

Encourage students to complete continuous line drawings of their friends.

## Resources

- Continuous Line Drawing [https://youtu.be/2t\\_evhNwAjo](https://youtu.be/2t_evhNwAjo)

## 2. Investigation and New Learning 20 min

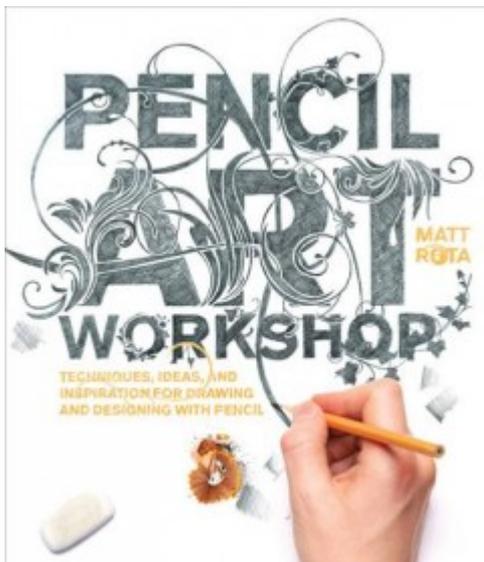
Research history of drawing with chalk, charcoal, graphite, conte crayons, and ink.

**Koh-i-Noor Hardtmuth** -The company was founded in 1790 by Joseph Hardtmuth of [Austria](#). In 1802, the company patented the first [pencil lead](#) made from a combination of [kaolin](#) and [graphite](#).

**Faber-Castell** is one of the world's largest and oldest manufacturers of pens, pencils, other office supplies and art supplies.

Books to share:

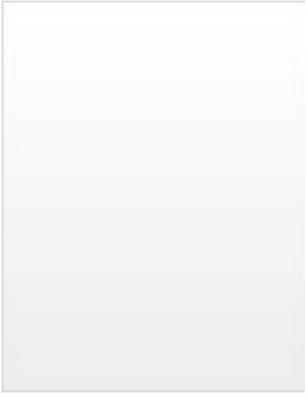
[Pencil Art Workshop](#) by Matt Rota



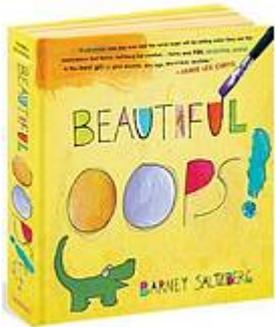
The [Big Adventure of a Little Line](#) by Serge Bloch



[Harold and the Purple Crayon](#) by Crockett Johnson



[Beautiful Oops!](#) by Barney Saltzberg



Visit art museums, like the Cleveland Museum of Art --and, keep a sketchbook!

<https://www.sketchbookproject.com>

[Michelangelo: Mind of the Master](#)

### 3. Review & Check for Understanding 30 min

Review Wonderopolis link on history of ink

<https://wonderopolis.org/wonder/what-makes-ink-per...>

**Note:** Have students draw a caricature drawing of themselves with one continuous line. Pair students to draw the person across from them or allow students to work w/mirrors or selfie photos.