

Mini Art Lesson:
The Dancer by Max Weber

In this Mini Art Lesson, we'll make art like Max Weber's drawing *The Dancer* (1946). A modernist painter active in the early 1900s, Weber's versatile artistic practice encompasses many of the popular art movements of that time—such as Expressionism, Cubism, and Fauvism. Follow along as we share step-by-step instructions to create drawings that identify different parts of the body with kids ages 2–6, while kids ages 7 and up explore artworks that represent memory, music, and movement.

●FOR TEACHERS, CAREGIVERS, AND PARENTS
 Access a [free teaching guide](#), featuring questions for viewing artwork as well as other great activities and resources.



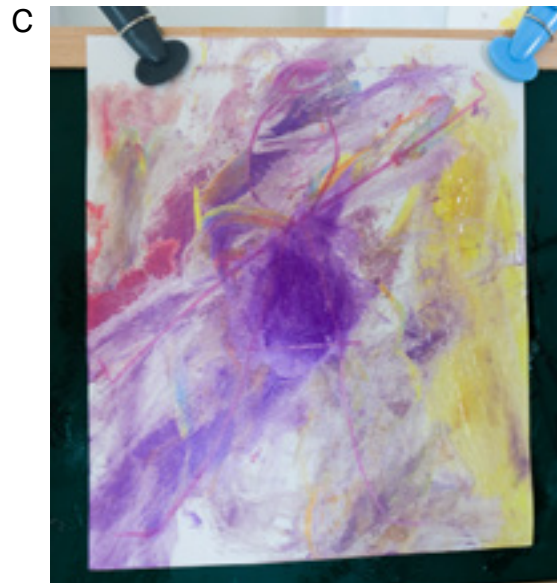
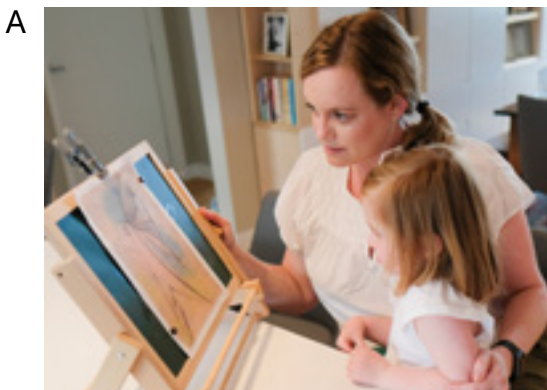
FOR AGES 2–6:
LET'S PLAY

Step 1: Identify all the colors and shapes in *The Dancer*. Then, point out parts of the figure's body in the drawing and ask your child what they think they're doing. (A)

Step 2: Now, take stock of the different parts of your own body by singing and dancing to "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes."

Step 3: Using one color, have your child draw their own body—including their head, shoulders, knees, and toes from the song. Or, draw an outline for them and talk about the different parts of the body. (B)

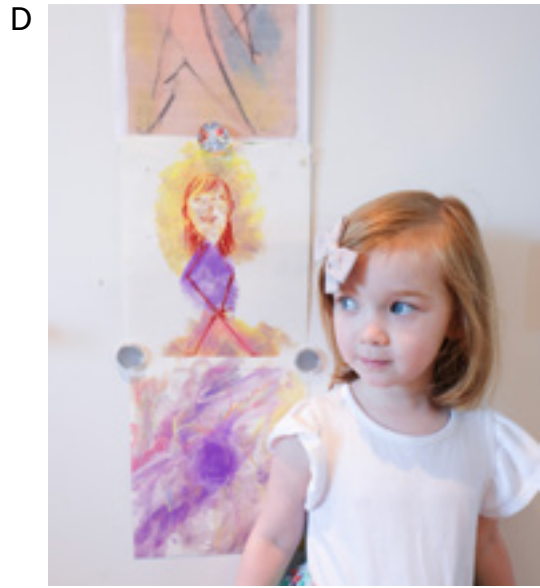
Step 4: Finish off the artwork by adding three different colors, just like the artist Max Weber did in his work. (C)



FOR AGES 2–6:
LET'S PLAY (cont.)

Step 5: Talk with your child about where different parts of the body are located in their drawing and what action their figure is doing. (D)

Thank you to Lauren and Ava for their help on this project!

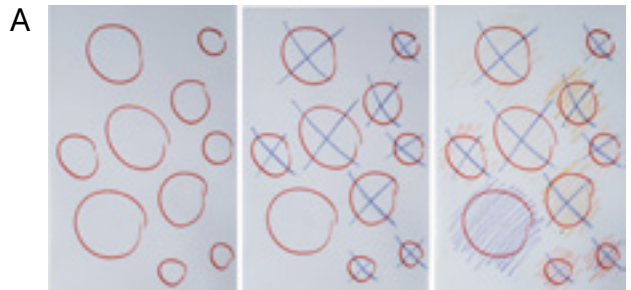


FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE

Step 1: Just like Max Weber, we'll explore themes of memory, music, and movement in this art lesson. Pick a song that helps you feel better when you're down. Think about what this song would look like as a drawing. Here, Senior Instructor Noé Gaytán picked "99 Luftballons" by Nena. (A)

Step 2: Now, think about how you dance when you hear this song. Can you make a drawing that represents that movement? (B)

Step 3: Do you remember where you were when you first heard this song? What did you see, smell, or feel? Try creating a drawing that captures that entire memory. (C)



FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE
BONUS!

What other visual elements can you create to express your connection to this song?

From top: Max Weber (American, born Russia, 1881–1961). *The Dancer*, June 1946. Pastel on brown, moderately thick, rough-textured laid paper. Brooklyn Museum; Gift from collection Hannelore B. Schulhof, New York, 87.46.1. (Photo: Brooklyn Museum) For ages 2–6: (Photos: Courtesy of Calendarkiddo) For ages 7+: (Photos: Noé Gaytán, Brooklyn Museum)