

Pre A Level Art Project

- As you have chosen A Level Art it is important that you complete this project to enable you to make the best possible start to the A Level course.
- You may have a selection of Art materials at home. However if you don't please email me k.knowles@olcc.lancs.sch.uk by Friday 15th May and I will post you a box of materials.
- You have a choice if starting points – ONLY CHOOSE ONE.
- Isolation Diary (starts on slide 2) OR Natural Forms (starts on slide 22)
- Whichever you choose you must have / do the following...
- Initial research including where possible your own photos or observational drawings.
- Explore several different ideas before narrowing down.
- Use as many different materials as possible and experiment.
- Research relevant artists – there are some suggested here and you are welcome to find your own.
- Develop ideas and plan and complete a final outcome.

Option 1 – Isolation Diary.

Isolation, Diary, Identity

You don't need to worry too much about these words yet – you can decide which way you want to develop your work when we return to school. **For the moment, concentrate on keeping an Isolation Diary that contains lots of memories, ideas, exploration of themes, personal recordings and collections of materials. The more you have, the better your future work will be!**

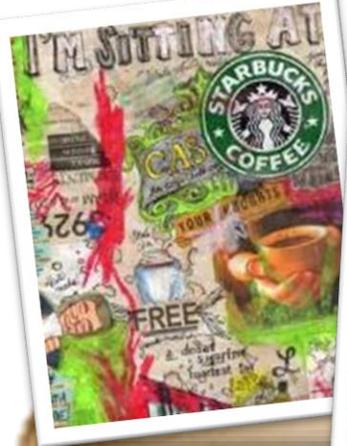
Question 4: Diary

Think of a diary as a journal which can take any form not just a traditional book. The project could focus recording **your** experiences, the everyday, big life events or specific observations. Alternatively, you could focus on the experiences of **someone else** who you know very well. These could include:

- Recording observations of your route to and from school each day. Artist: Steve Wilkin, Cas Holmes,
- Recording your meals/ drink each day. Artists: Sophie Calle, Heidi Zednik
- Recording your emotions/ thoughts each day. Artists: Maira Kalman, Lindsay Bottos, Jim Goldberg
- Recording your activities/ observations each day. Artists: Samantha Cotterill, Chandler O'Leary, Maira Kalman, Lindsay Bottos, Richard Billingham
- Recording the weather each day. Artists: Turner, Manuel Cosentino
- Using imagery related to specific memories of life events. Artists: Sophie Calle, Frida Kahlo, Nina Morgan, Jamie Showlin, Jim Goldberg
- Record the people you meet. Artists: Rosie James, Jim Goldberg

Other ideas; You could create a diary for a real person or a fictional character. You could base your response on a literary starting point, for example 'The Diary of Anne Frank'.

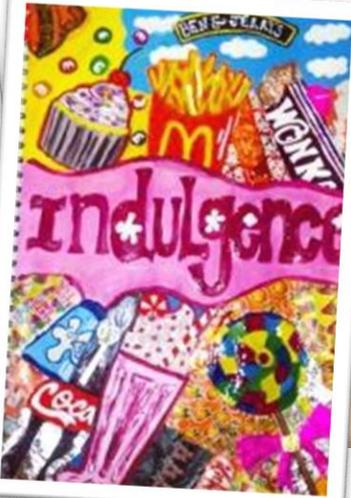
This is just ONE example of the additional resources and ideas that were created for this exam question in 2016. If you search for it, especially on Pinterest, you'll find lots of resources and ideas for how you COULD develop your Isolation Diary into additional work that relates to the theme of Diary, when we return to school.



Diary

Artists, craftspeople and designers have sometimes created work that records events over a period of time. 'Les Très Riches Heures' is a book of hours which includes colourful seasonal images of medieval life. Becky Adams makes embroidered books documenting important events in her life, and craftsperson Tracie Murchison makes wooden vessels decorated with images and text recording memories of people and places. Juliana Coles is inspired by personal recollections when making her collaged sketchbooks and paintings. Angela Moll makes diary quilts and Nearly Normal Design create handcrafted calendar journals.

Investigate appropriate sources and use suitable techniques to create your own work based on **Diary**.



Diary

A diary is sometimes used by artists to record ideas, experiences and observations. Ian Breakwell kept a diary throughout his career and based some of his most important work on the contents. Delacroix used images and words to explore ideas about colour in his notebooks during his visit to North Africa. The illustrated diary of Frida Kahlo reveals insights into her personal experiences. It also influenced many of her paintings. Janice Lowry has used text and mixed media in her diaries to develop personal responses to events in her life.

Investigate relevant sources and create your own response inspired by **Diary**.

In fact, DIARY has appeared as an EXAM QUESTION!

DIARY SYNONYMS:

Account, almanac, archive, blog, calendar, daily, journal, magazine, memoir, memorial, newspaper, note, paper, periodical, review, chronology, daybook, history, log, memento, observation, record, reminder, reminiscence, statement, **comic book**. AUTOBIOGRAPHY - adventures, confession, experience, letters, life, life story, personal history, self-portrayal. BIOGRAPHY - close-up, life history, personal account, personal anecdote, personal narrative, personal record, **picture**, profile, saga, **sketch**.

Let's make a start
with some background
Information!



The practice of keeping a diary or journal goes back hundreds of years, with the earliest known example coming from Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. Such an art of jotting down thoughts and daily musings has been found to be beneficial for everything from depression to organization and stress. Not surprisingly, this cathartic exercise is also good for your memory, allowing the recollection of events and ideas that might otherwise be lost.

Did you know...

There have been many famous diaries and diary keepers throughout history – many of them you'll know, but some, you may not. Have a look at these:

CELEBRITY DIARY KEEPERS:

Samuel Pepys - *'The Diary of Samuel Pepys'*, recorded the Great Fire of London amongst other things.

Anne Frank - *'The Diary of a Young Girl'*, recorded her time in hiding during WWII.

Daniel Defoe - *'A Journal of the Plague Year'*, recorded the Great Plague. (See the link?!)

Robert Scott - *'Journals: Captain Scott's Last Expedition'*, is an account of his fatal expedition to the South Pole.



Hollywood film star **Jennifer Aniston** uses a diary, or at least that's what those close to her say: "Jen has been keeping journals since she was 13 years old. She considers them to be her therapy sessions."

Lady Gaga notes everything down in her diary as she tours the world. It contains her thoughts, feelings, sketches, pictures and even letters between herself and mum Cynthia".



Actress **Emma Watson** must have 10 different personal diaries. "I keep a dream diary, I keep a yoga diary, I keep diaries on people that I've met and things that they've said to me, advice that they've given me. I keep an acting journal. I keep collage books."

American musician **Courtney Love's** 2006 memoir, *Dirty Blonde*, is an intriguing collection of diary entries and letters. Love uses her diary entries and personal artefacts to show the highs and lows of her life in the public eye.



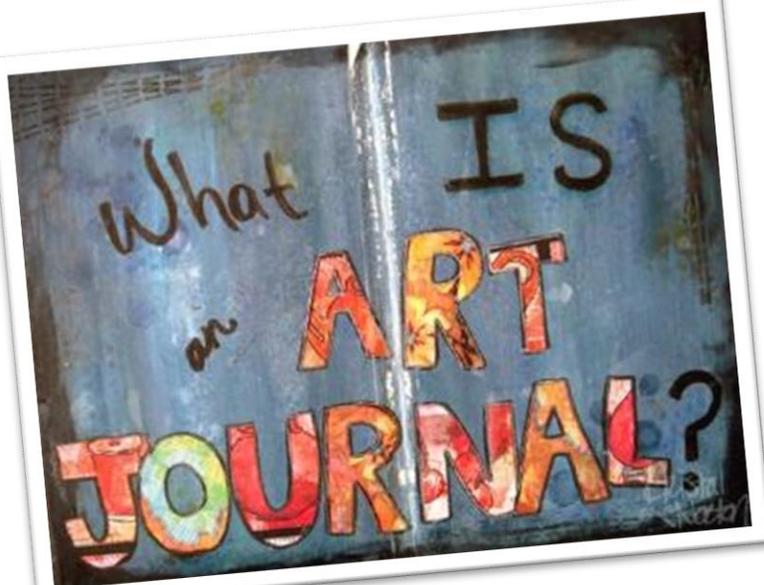
What is an art journal?

Watch this YouTube video:

<https://youtu.be/Q244CIDT-Mk>

Check out Kristal Norton's website:

<https://kristalnorton.com/art-journaling-101/>

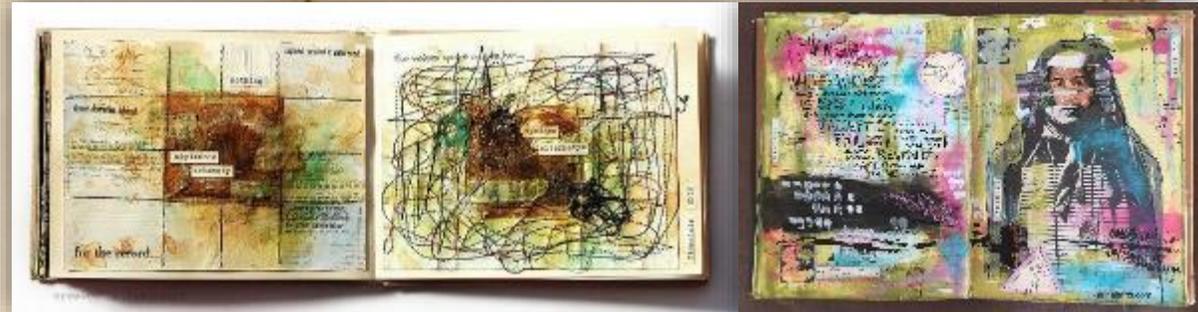


An art journal is the same as a written diary, except that it incorporates colours, images, patterns, and other materials. Some art journals have a lot of writing, while others are purely filled with images. There is no right way or wrong way to make one!

Journals/diaries are not written for an audience, but rather for yourself.

By keeping a journal/diary, you get personal freedom and space to be creative as well as develop your artistic skills.

Keeping an **Isolation Diary** means that you can record your daily life during the lockdown period. You could create a page every day and start with the date at the top. Filling it with what you did that day, what you saw, collected, what happened in the news, facts, figures and anything else that caught your attention, no matter how small or mundane. OR, you could give each page a theme, for example; Food that you crave, TV that you've watched, your family, your pet, items that you can't live without, conversations you've had with friends, your favourite music, dreams you've had or games you've played. Anything!

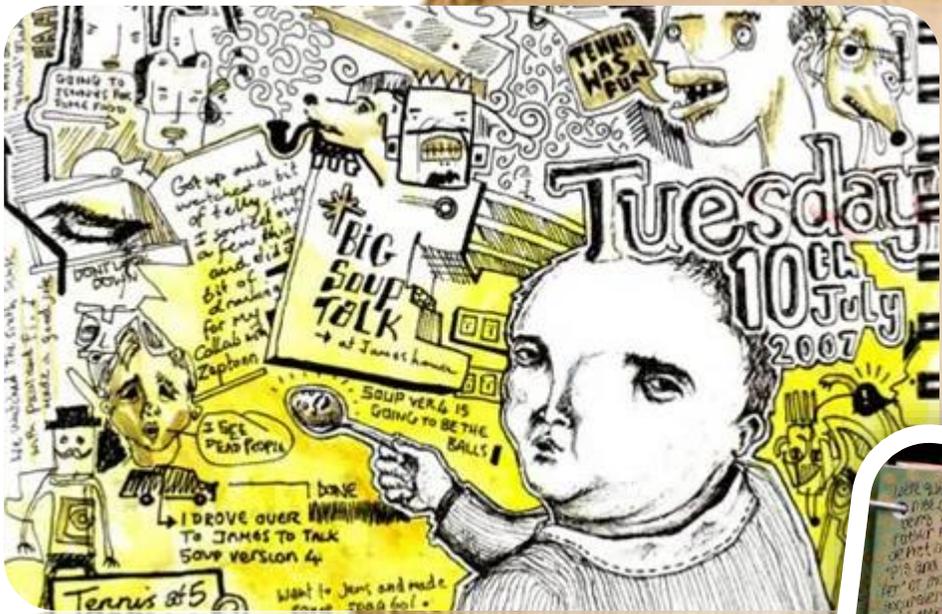


<https://slideplayer.com/slide/15063918/>

Search: *Art Journal Tips* for LOTS of ideas!

**WATCH
THIS ONE!**

Look at some famous examples:



TOM JUDD

INGRID DIJKERS

(Did an Alice in Wonderland inspired Altered Book.)



Barnes commentates for BBC Radio Newcastle and creates a detailed two-page spread for each match. The left-hand page contains background information on the opposition, while the right-hand side is updated in real time as the action happens. "They are there purely as a crutch and a point of reference if need be," he said. "If I was a newspaper reporter, I could keep my match reports, but radio is transient, so my notebook is my personal record of the matches I cover."

NICK BARNES FRIDA KAHLO

From 1944-54, Mexican artist **Frida Kahlo** kept an illustrated diary filled with personal musings, poems and conceptual designs for future works of art. More than any other diarist on this list, Kahlo complemented her personal feelings of loneliness or jubilation with dramatically colourful illustrations.

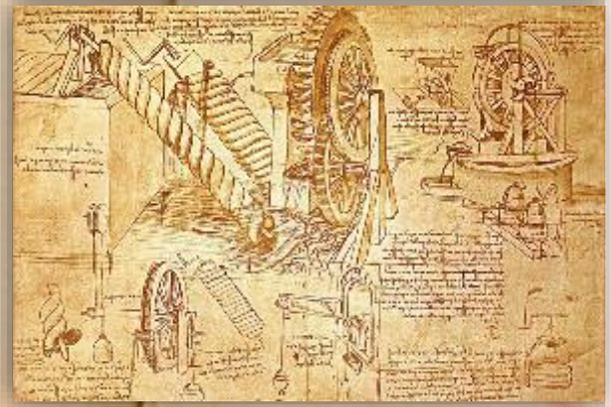


He is the Academy Award willing filmmaker behind; Hellboy, Blade II, The Hobbit, Pan's Labyrinth and The Rise of The Guardians, amongst others.



GUILLERMO DEL TORO

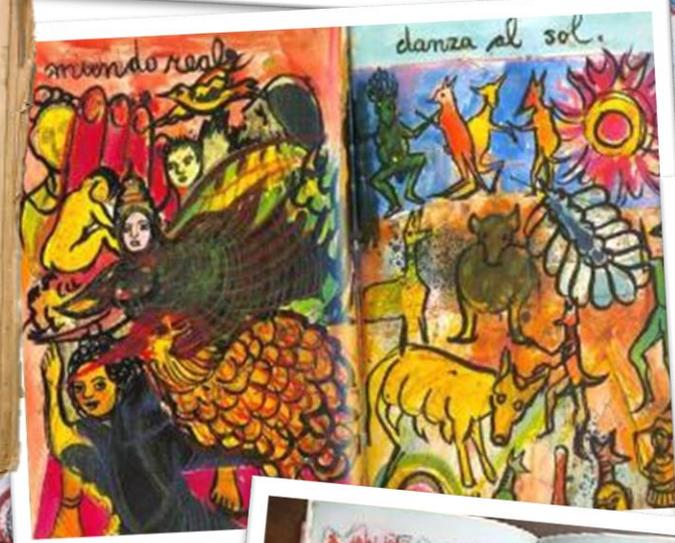
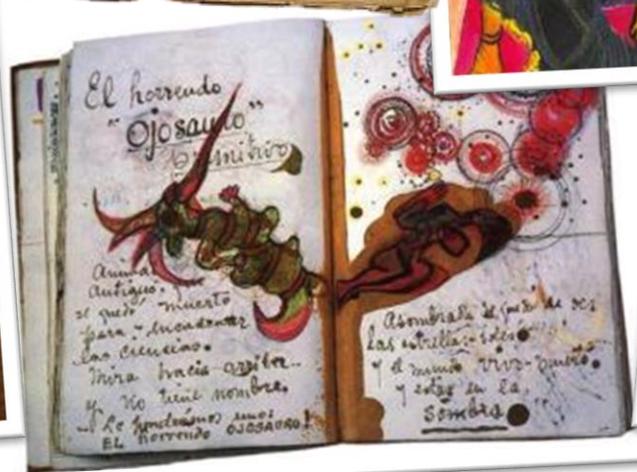
LEONARDO DA VINCI

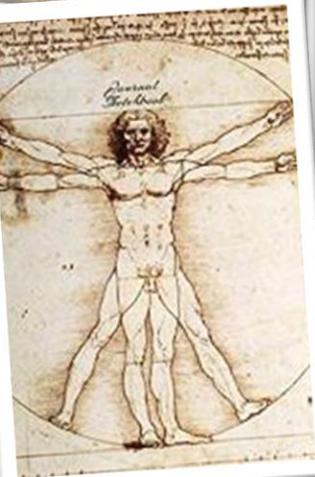
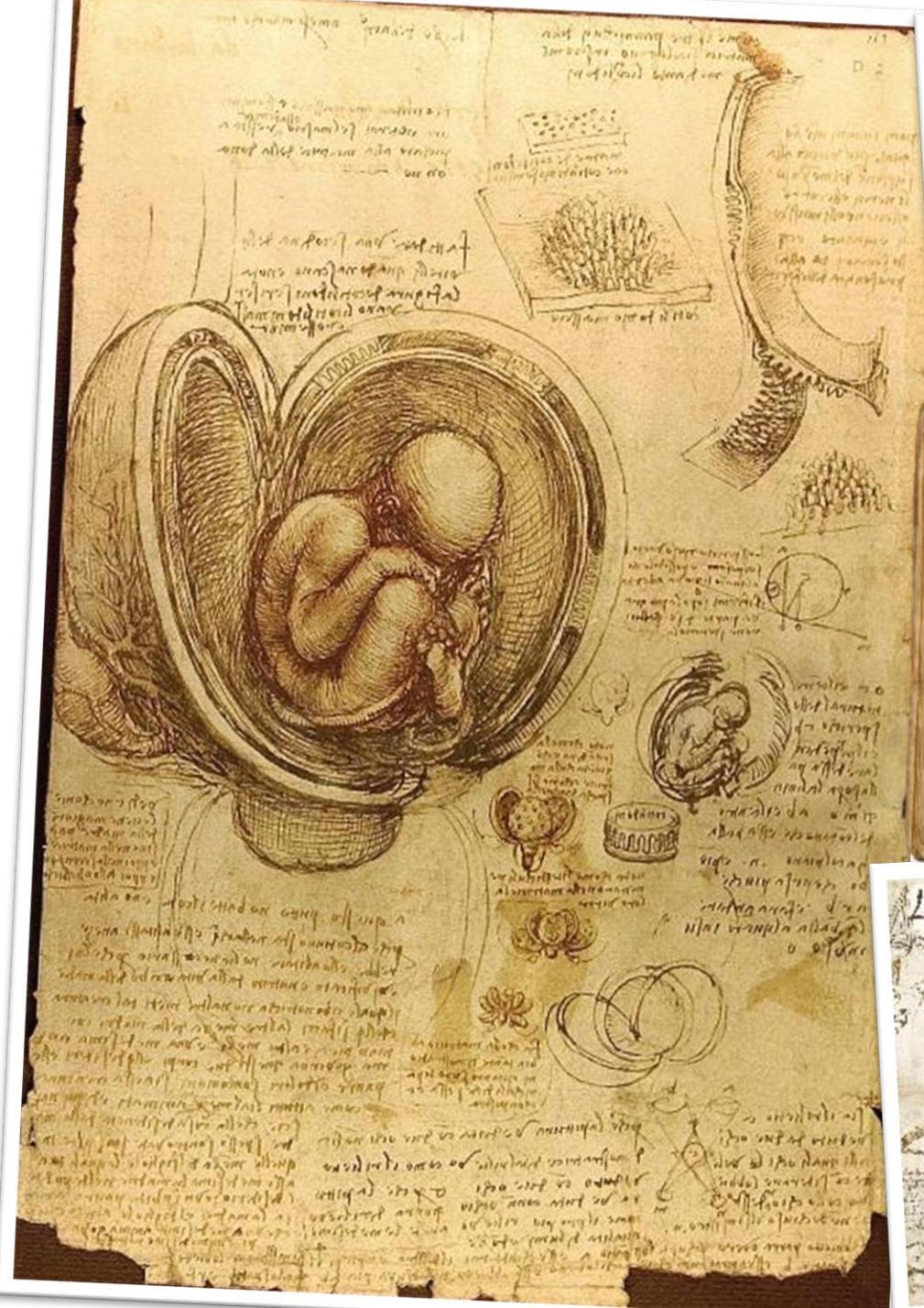


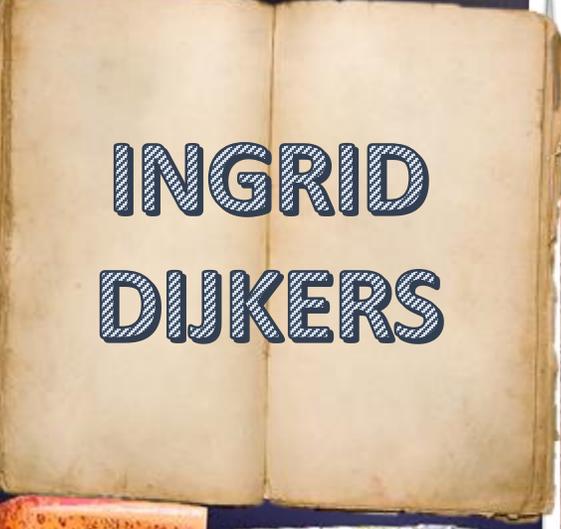
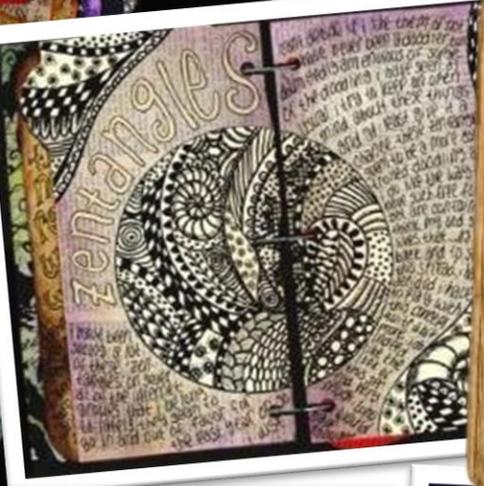
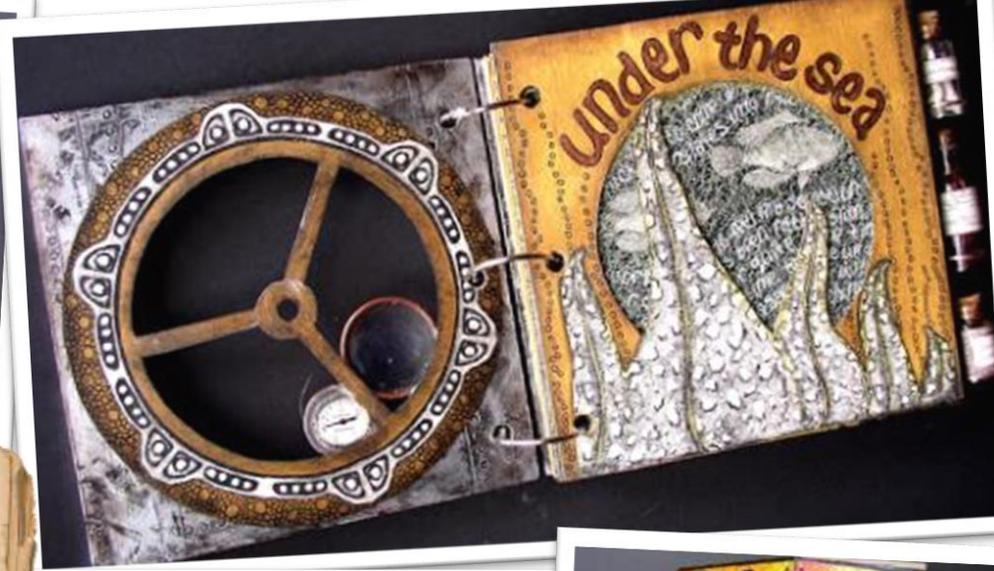
Considered one of the greatest artists and intellectuals of the Italian Renaissance, **Leonardo da Vinci's** notebooks cover everything from the flow of rivers to optics, astronomy and architecture. Because he never intended them for publication, the pages also feature little personal reminders about day-to-day tasks and purchases.

LOOK THESE ARTISTS UP!

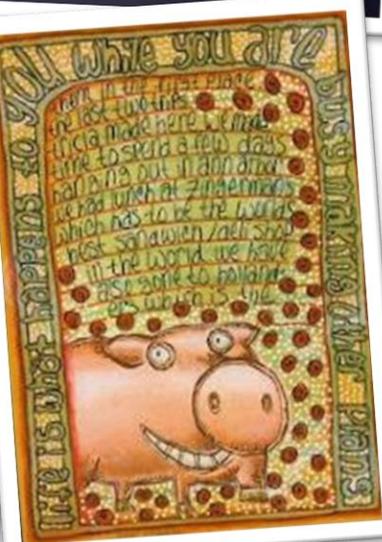
FRIDA KAHLO

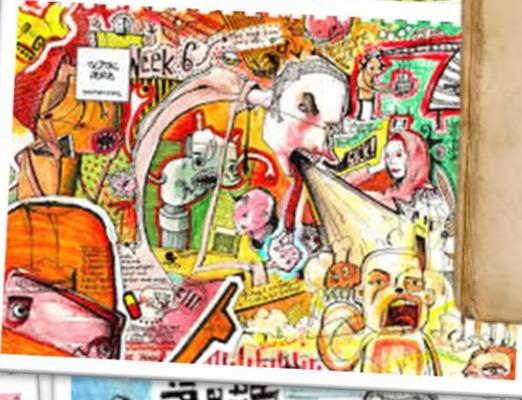
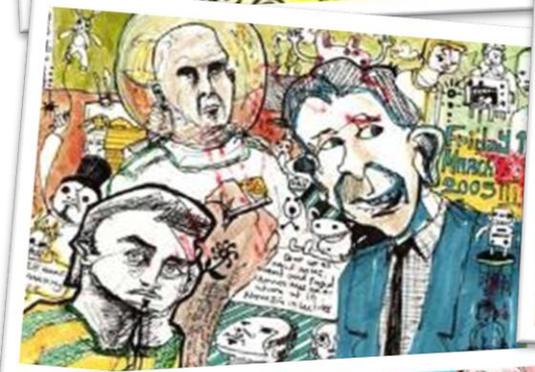


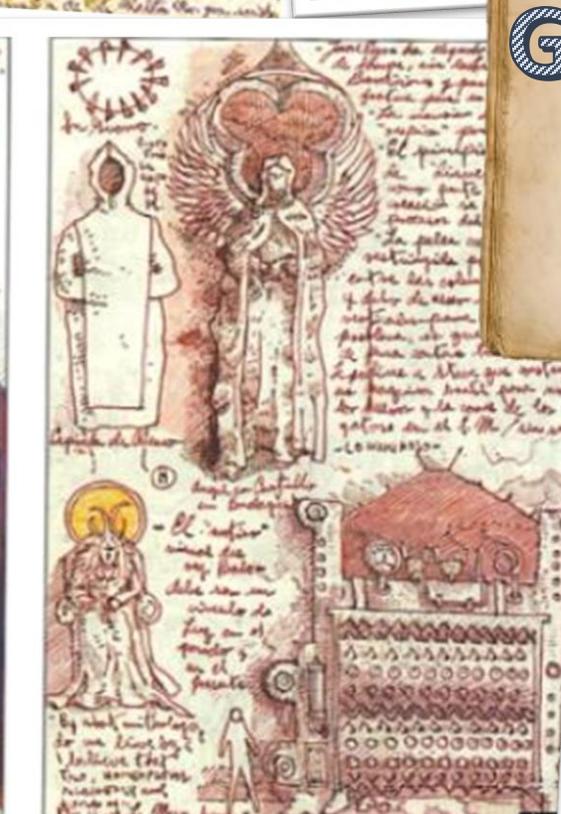
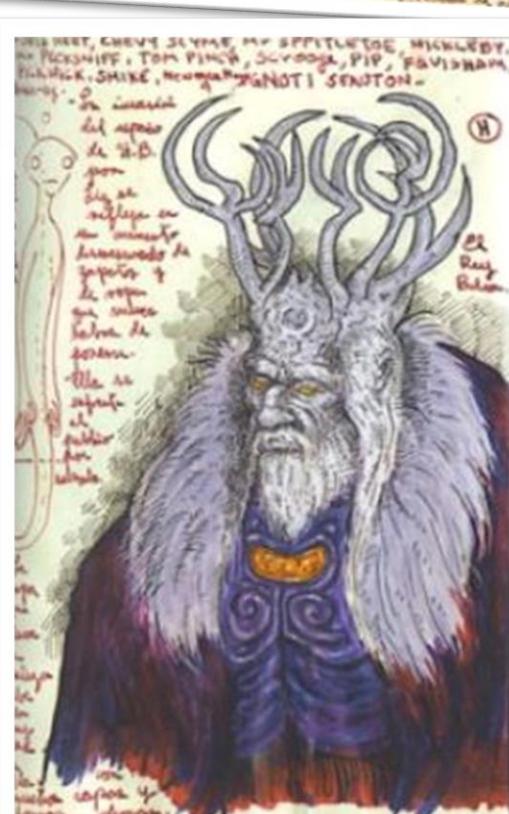
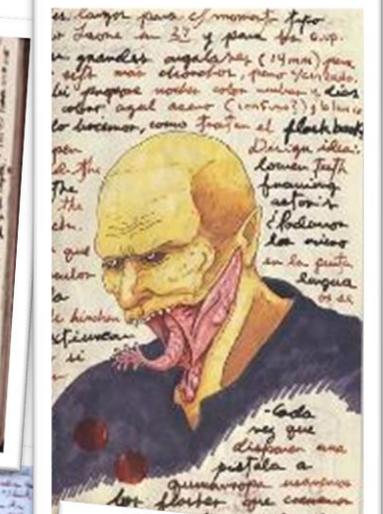




INGRID DIJKERS

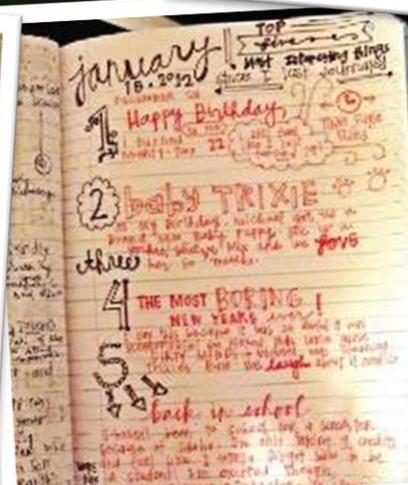




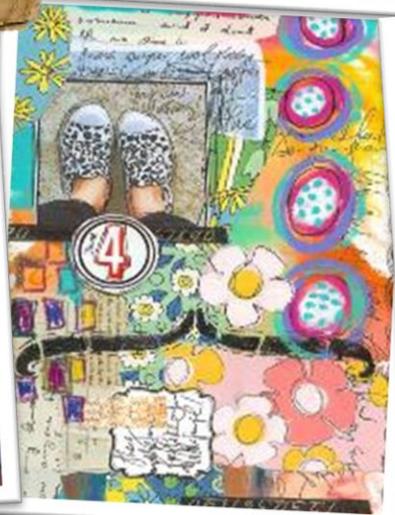
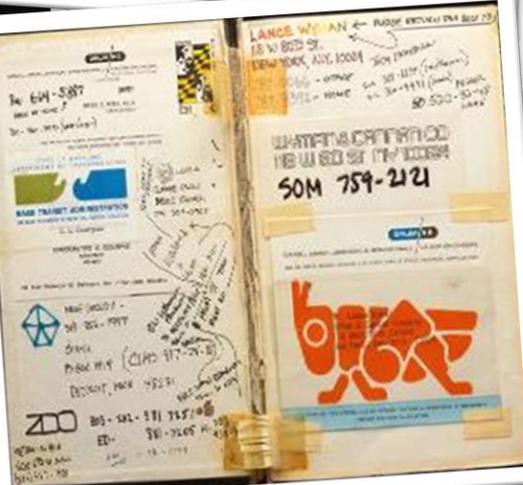
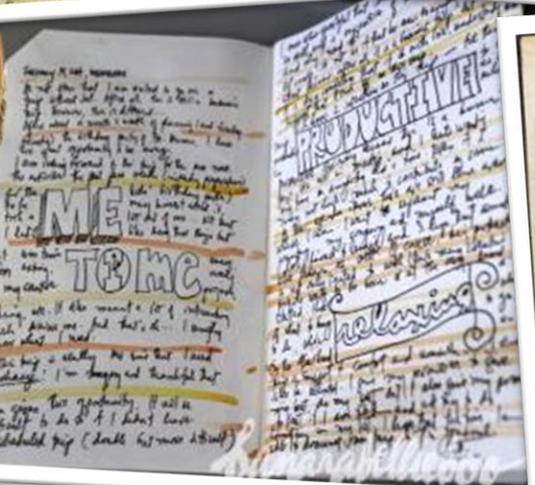


GUILLERMO DEL TORO





Example Pages



How to be successful...

STUDENT EXAMPLES:

A SUCCESSFUL diary will...

- Have something on every page.
- Include attempts at lots of different recording techniques.
- Consider and experiment with layout.
- Have a title on every page – even if it's just the date, or the page theme.
- Have clearly readable lettering/handwriting.
- Use colour.
- Experiment with fonts and lettering and will often mix and match them.
- Include found objects and use them as layers, backgrounds or build them in to the composition.
- Experiment and mix techniques and materials on pages for variety.
- Attempt to match text and drawing in most cases.
- Show how the artist has attempted to improve.
- Reflect on experiences and include observations, memories, thoughts, feelings and facts.
- Have additional decoration to enhance the appearance of each page. *(If YOU want to!)*



https://www.demilked.com/amazing-notebook-art-jose-naranja/?fbclid=IwAR0SBIdANQvcXIajs_kGaQAT2IrfWrMdSvW48c1txEa_QeaO9-DRwISyG6A

Follow the above link to an article on Naranja's work. Here you will see more images of his incredibly detailed journals.

Watch this YouTube video:

<https://youtu.be/xYDx0-YM5HM>



Topical?!

Jose Naranja has his own YouTube Channel: Naranjvideo
He has a website: <http://josenaranja.blogspot.com/>
He has a Facebook Page: Jose Naranja Site
And, he's on Instagram: @jose_naranja

Titles are a good way of drawing in the viewer

Annotations and written notes about the drawings.

Small images and work in boxes to fill up empty spaces.

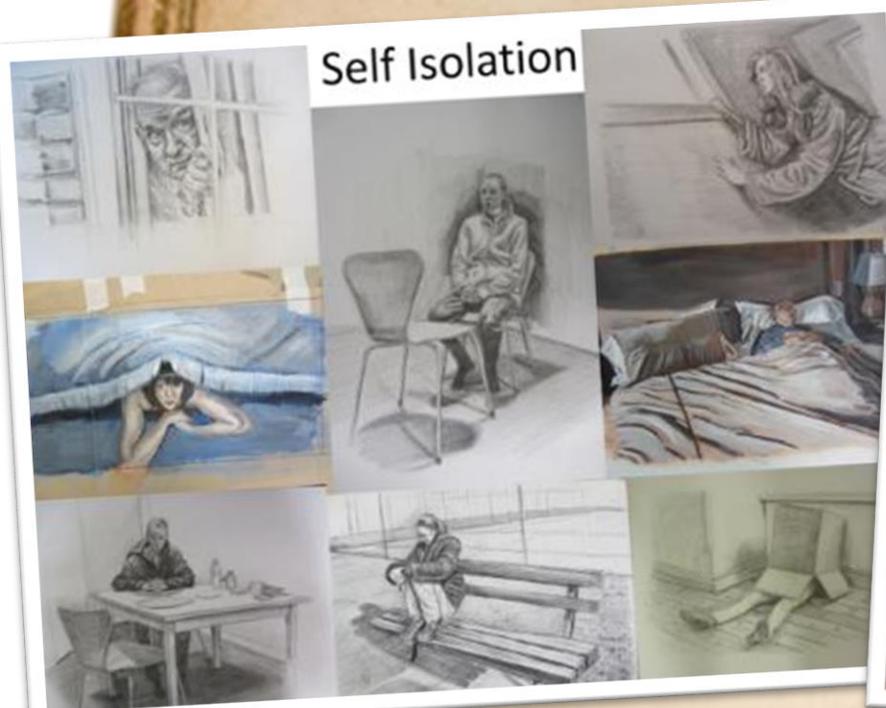
Collected imagery stuck in as mementos and variation.



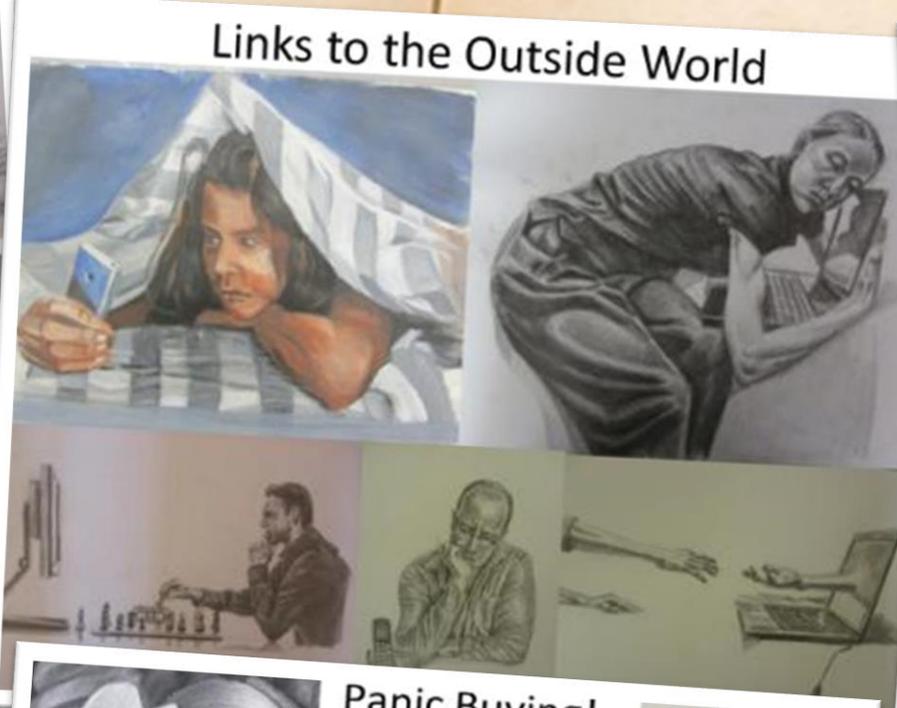
WHAT DO YOU NOTICE ABOUT HIS WORK?

I like how he's used a **SMALL** notebook. It doesn't have to be **HUGE** in order to still have impact and detail.

Self Isolation



Links to the Outside World



Keep 'em clean!
DON'T GIVE GERMS A BREAK.

Wash Your Hands

Physical/Symbolic Barriers



Panic Buying!



Looking Outwards

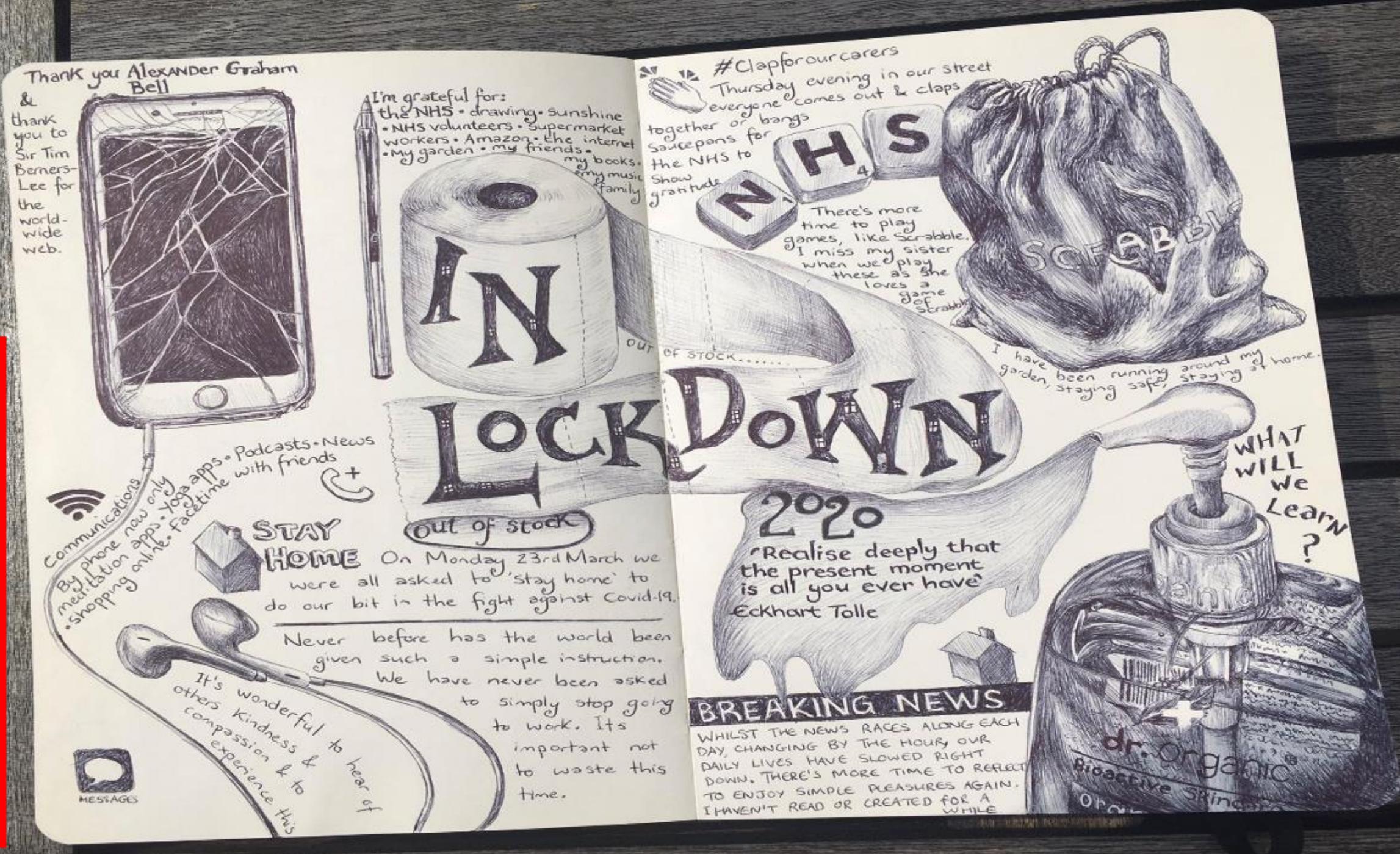


Here are some theme examples...

ISOLATION

How cool is this example?!

And it's all done using **ONLY** a Biro pen...



Thank you Alexander Graham Bell

& thank you to Sir Tim Berners-Lee for the world-wide web.

I'm grateful for:
the NHS • drawing • sunshine
• NHS volunteers • supermarket workers • Amazon • the internet • my garden • my friends • my books • my music • my family

#Clapforourcarers
Thursday evening in our street everyone comes out & claps together or bangs saucepans for the NHS to show gratitude

NHS

There's more time to play games, like Scrabble. I miss my sister when we play these as she loves a game of Scrabble.

I have been running around my garden, staying safe, staying at home.

WHAT WILL WE LEARN?

Realise deeply that the present moment is all you ever have
Eckhart Tolle

BREAKING NEWS
WHILST THE NEWS RACES ALONG EACH DAY, CHANGING BY THE HOUR, OUR DAILY LIVES HAVE SLOWED RIGHT DOWN. THERE'S MORE TIME TO REFLECT TO ENJOY SIMPLE PLEASURES AGAIN. I HAVEN'T READ OR CREATED FOR A WHILE

STAY HOME
On Monday 23rd March we were all asked to 'stay home' to do our bit in the fight against Covid-19.

Never before has the world been given such a simple instruction. We have never been asked to simply stop going to work. It's important not to waste this time.

Communications
By phone now only
• meditation apps • Yoga apps • Podcasts • News • Facetime with friends
• Shopping online

It's wonderful to hear of others kindness & to experience this compassion



You can use any sketchbook ... Or you can make your own...It doesn't have to be very big, it doesn't have to have high quality paper inside, it could even be a lined paper exercise book or a telephone notepad. If you don't have white paper, use newspaper, pages from old books, take-away menus or old birthday and Christmas cards and just draw on top - whatever you have will work fine!

So, let's get started on your own Isolation Diary!

First...

You need a book!



The rest is up to you...

You must have initial research including where possible your own photos or observational drawings.

Explore several different ideas before narrowing down.

Use as many different materials as possible and experiment.

Research relevant artists – there are some suggested here and you are welcome to find your own.

Develop ideas and plan and complete a final outcome.

Option 2 – Natural Forms



Natural Forms

Initial Exploration

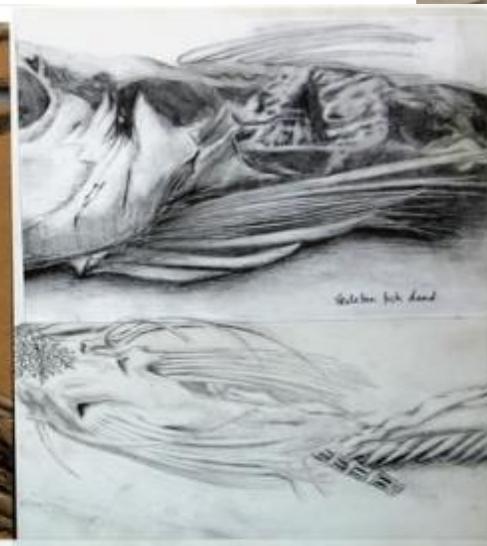
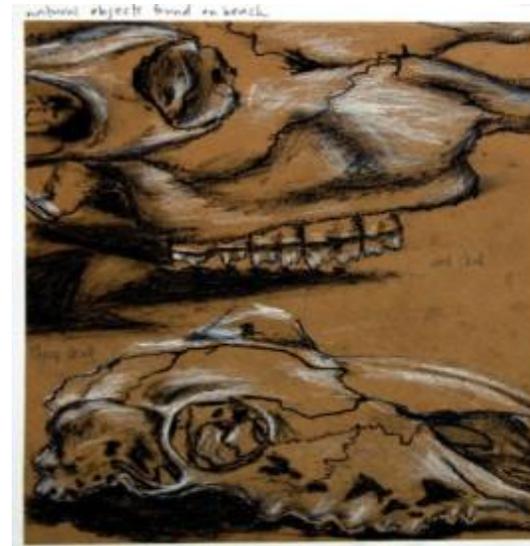
Explore the theme 'Natural Forms' collect images, including your own photographs and drawings from direct observation where possible. Use as many different media as possible.



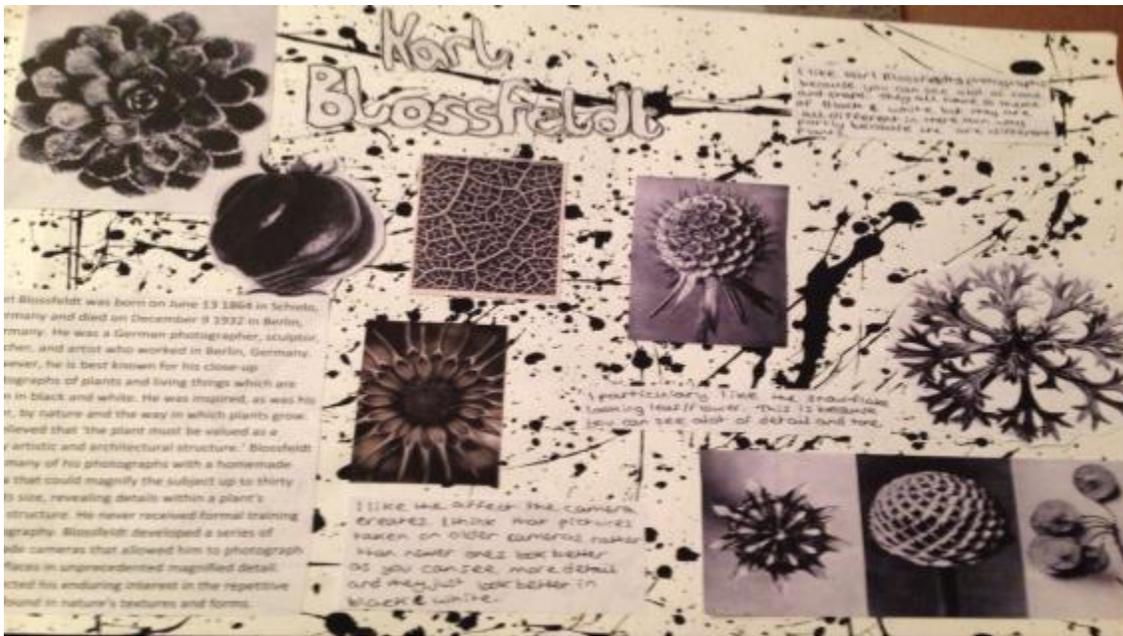
Once you have thoroughly explored the theme of Natural Forms, narrow your research to the type of Natural Form you want to focus on. Explore this type of Natural Form thoroughly, using as many materials as possible.



Experiment with materials as much as you can at home. Select from your research which images you want to take forward.



Research relevant artists to your chosen Natural Form. Present research in sketchbook including images of artists work, relevant information and your own drawings. Annotate your work to explain how your chosen artists link to your work.



Develop ideas – use all your research to start developing ideas.
At this stage you should be working towards ideas for a final outcome.



Once you have explored and developed as much as you can plan and create a final piece(s) for your final piece. This should be a culmination of your research and must be a Personal Response but also show influence of your artists.