

Virtual Visit

Positive & Negative Space Drawing

We have devised some activities to try while viewing our online museum's collection. You can visit us virtually at <https://www.culturenlmuseums.co.uk/>

Positive/Negative Space

Read the following information with your child.

“Look at this drawing of a vase. Look closely at the lines and shapes that make up the vase's form.

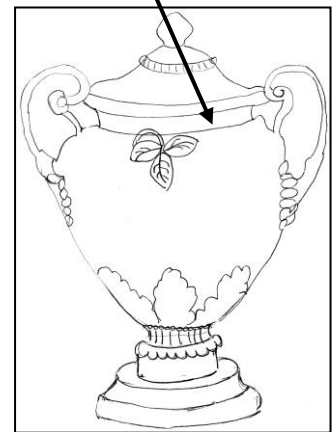
What shapes can you see?

When you look at an object most people only look at the physical 3-dimensional solid areas.

Did you look at the empty spaces in and around the object's form?

These empty areas are known as negative space, and the solid parts of an object are called positive space. Artists use both the positive and negative space to help them draw. Sometimes it can be very interesting to make a drawing of an object using only the negative space. Look at this example of the same vase, using negative space only.

Positive Space



Negative Space

Try it! Choose an object from the museum and draw it using only negative space shapes. There is a frame in the pack that will help you. Hold the frame up to fit your object inside the rectangle, this will help you to see the outside negative spaces. Colour in the negative space and see how this changes your drawing