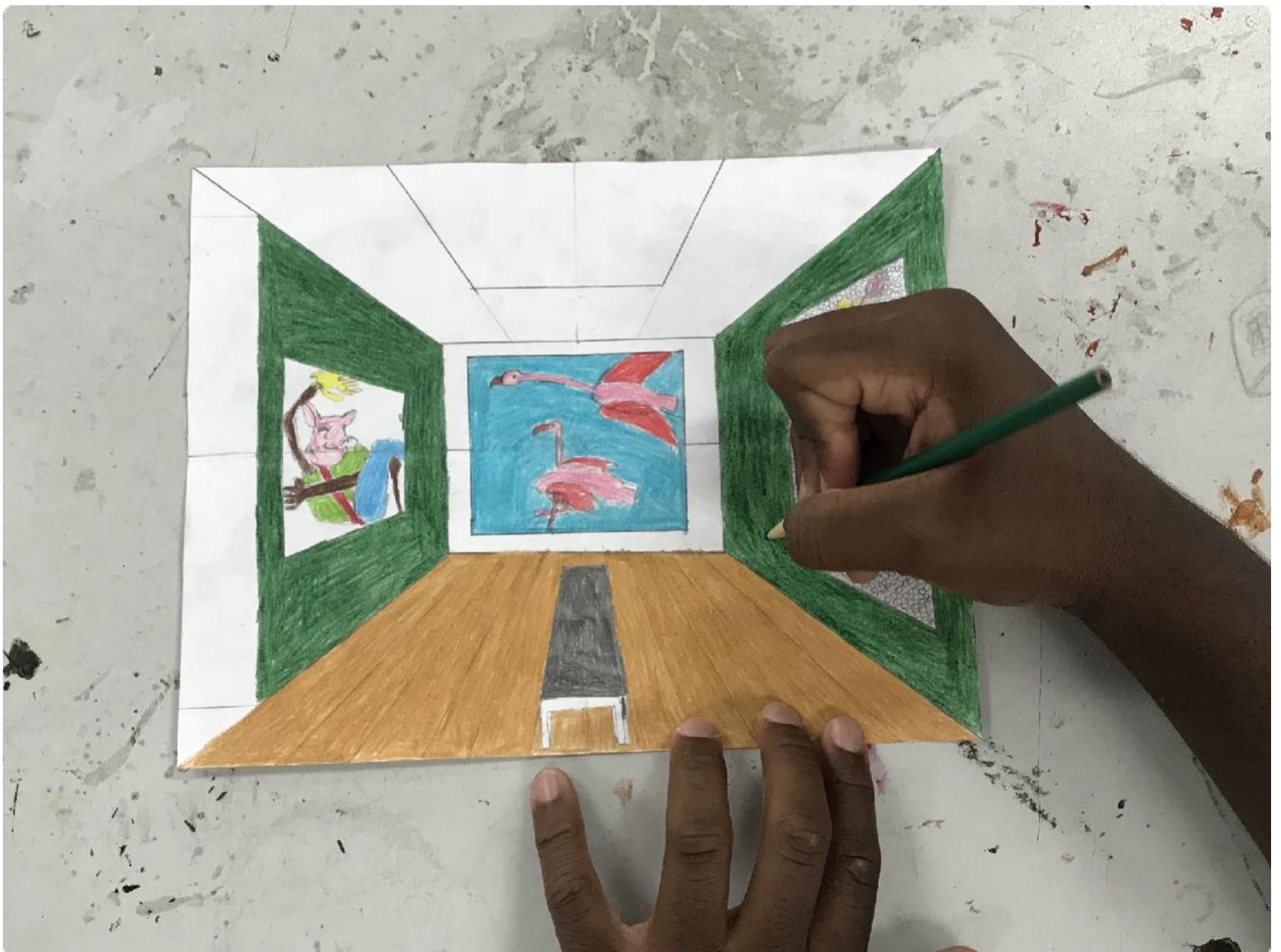


Lesson:

Perspective Drawing

Create your own museum exhibition space



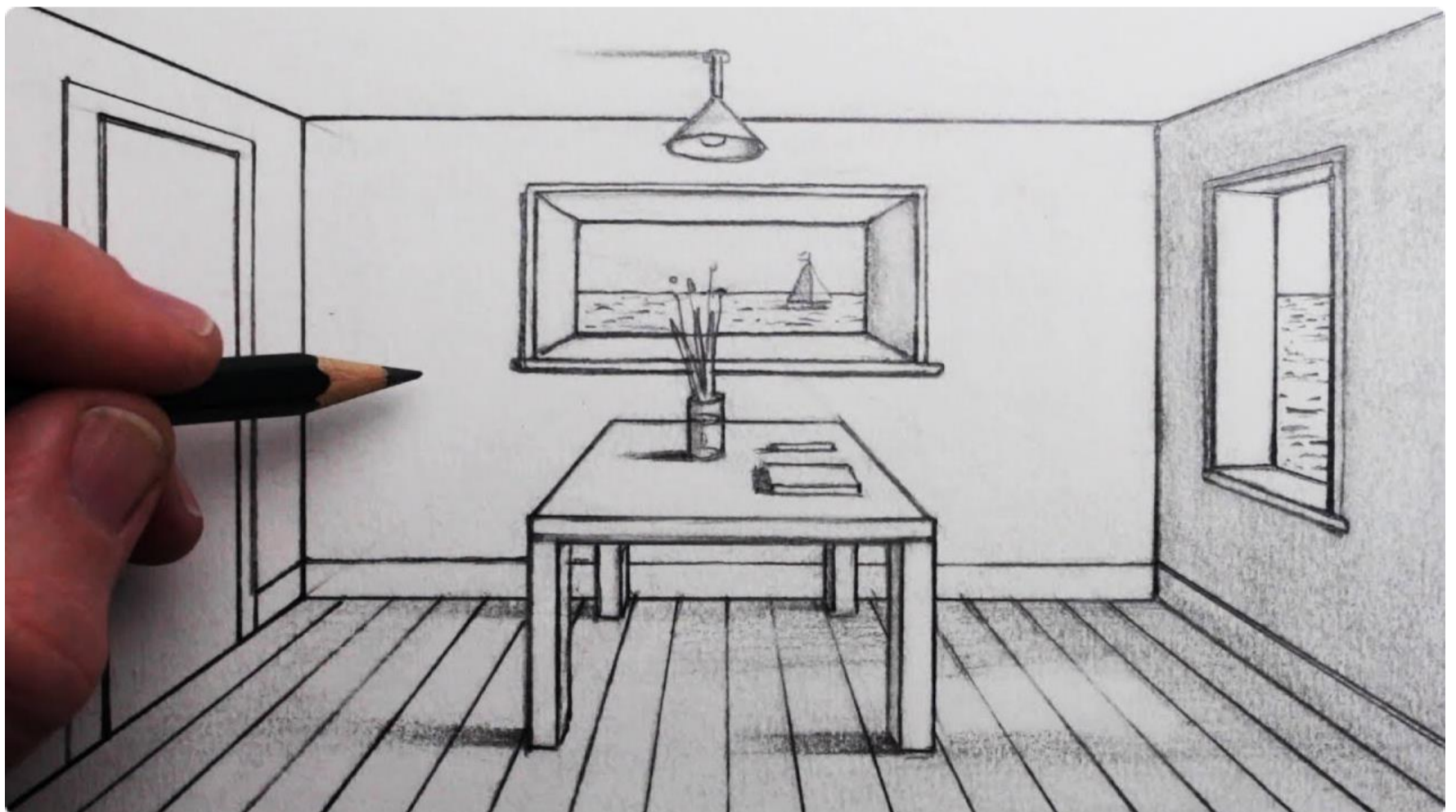
Overview

In this lesson, students will practice their perspective drawing skills to create a museum exhibition space. They will also become more familiar with the artworks that make up the National Collection at the NAGB by researching and recreating some of the artworks to include in their exhibition.

Content

Perspective drawing is a technique where all lines meet at one point, called the vanishing point. Perspective creates the illusion of depth, distance and dimension on a two-dimensional (i.e. flat) surface. For artists, observing, understanding and expressing perspective is an age-old problem. Very early artistic drawings and paintings did not show perspective or foreshortening. Long ago, paintings and drawings made by artists showed the thematic importance of figures by size and placement on the picture plane, which made space and depth appear distorted. It was 15th century Italian architect and engineer Filippo Brunelleschi who rediscovered the laws of perspective. He demonstrated a mathematical approach that proved how forms and space shrink in size according to their location and distance from the eye. Artists throughout history have devised mechanisms to help translate the reality of the three-dimensional world on two-dimensional planes (like paper or canvas) and perspective drawing is one of those mechanisms.

Perspective drawing is often used to draw the interiors of buildings and rooms as shown below:



The National Collection

The National Collection consists of early paintings, drawings, and watercolors from the turn of the 20th century: a wide range of recent contemporary works in diverse media including ceramics, photographs and other mixed media works to further highlight the evolution of creative and conceptual practices. The National Collection tracks the course of a

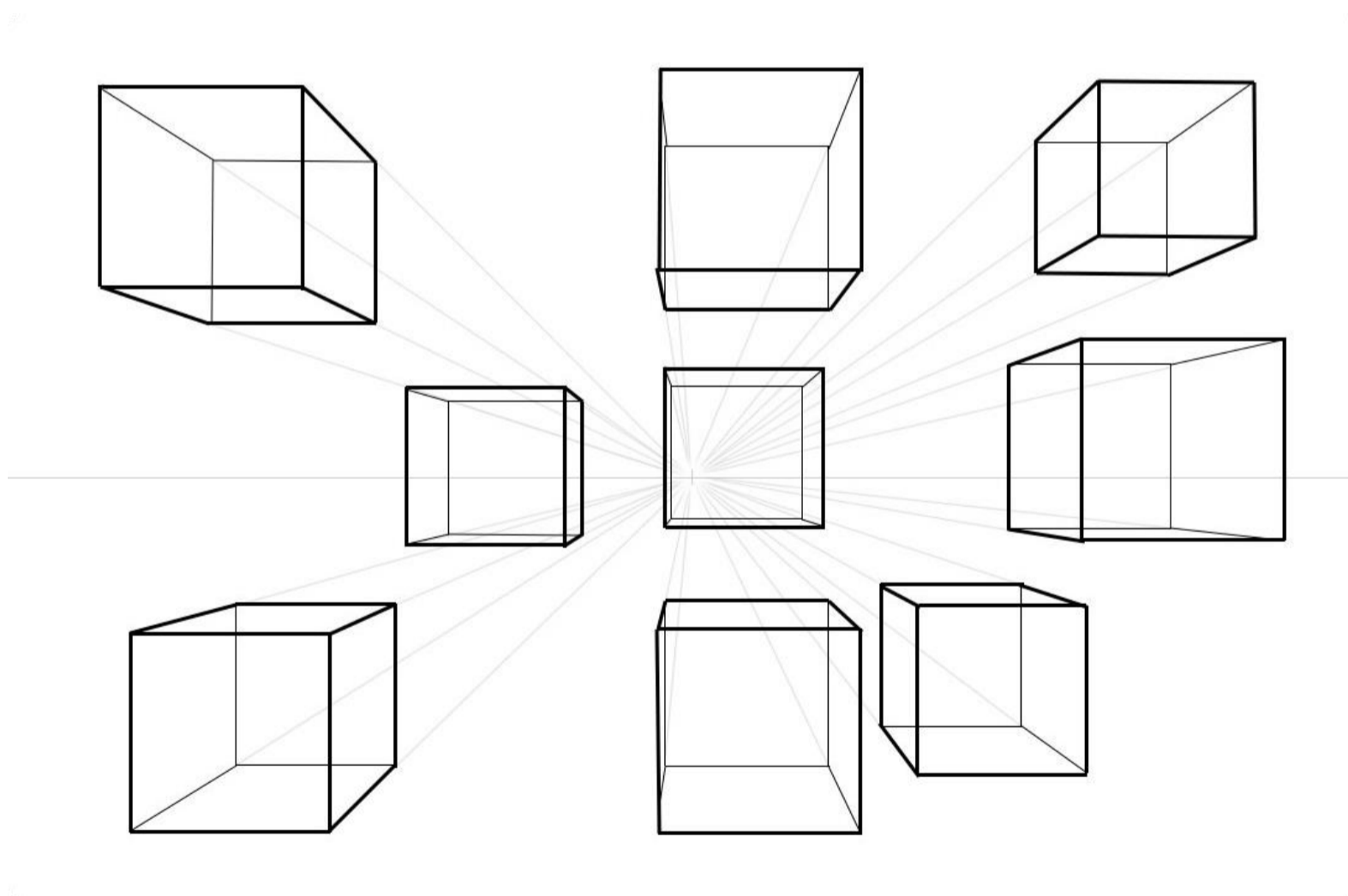
nation discovering its own voice both artistically and politically, through times of oppression, social change, independence and in a postcolonial context.

Discussion Questions

1. How do artists use perspective drawing in their work?
2. What is the purpose of perspective drawing?
3. What would artwork look like without perspective drawing?

Activities

1. To practice perspective drawing, have students draw a horizon line and a vanishing point in the middle of the paper. Then students will draw a series of simple geometric shapes (squares, rectangles) in different sections of the paper. Students will connect the edges of the shapes with the vanishing point and transform the two-dimensional shapes into three-dimensional forms.



2. Students will draw an exhibition space using one-point perspective. They should include three artworks from the National Collection (or artworks from other Bahamian artists) to recreate on the walls of their exhibition space. Students can use whatever medium is available to them: pencil, colored pencils, paint, pastel, crayons.



Sample student work

Extensions

Students research one of the works of art they choose to include in their drawing. They write a biography of the artist, include the media they work with, some of their key works and an assessment of the work.

Resources

- [How to Draw a Room in One-Point Perspective](#)
- [NAGB National Collection](#)
- One-point perspective steps and practice worksheet *(on next page)*

