

WALDORF DRAWING GUIDE

For children in the early years



By Erica @thesteinerconnection

thesteinerconnection.com

WALDORF DRAWING GUIDE

For children in the early years

By Erica @thesteinerconnection



This guide will provide you with all the information needed to start Waldorf drawing with young children. The suggestions here are appropriate to use with children up to the age of 7.



Materials

- A small selection of Stockmar beeswax crayons - we include the rainbow spectrum; red, yellow, blue, orange, green and violet. You may also like to include black or brown.
- A large wooden board (a drawing board) or newspaper to protect your table
- Plain A4 or A3 paper

Routine

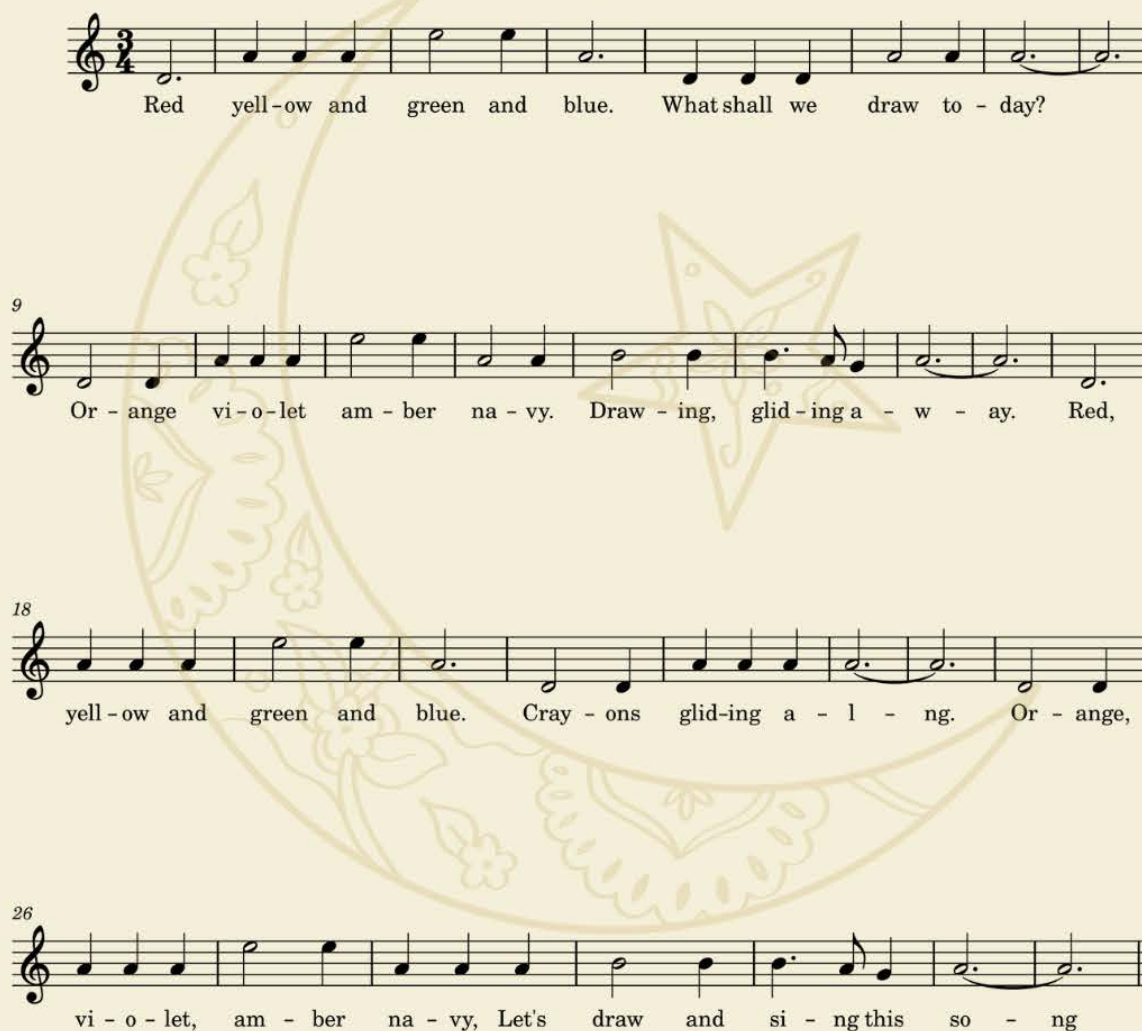
Drawing in our home takes place on a weekly basis. I set up the drawing board, crayons and paper after my son's

WALDORF DRAWING GUIDE

nap. When he realises what I am doing he normally rushes over to help.

As I am setting up I sing this song:

Drawing Song



Red yell-ow and green and blue. What shall we draw to - day?

9 Or - ange vi - o - let am - ber na - vy. Draw - ing, glid - ing a - w - ay. Red,

18 yell - ow and green and blue. Cray - ons glid - ing a - l - ng. Or - ange,

26 vi - o - let, am - ber na - vy, Let's draw and si - ng this so - ng

This song is set in mood of the fifth (a style of music based on recommendations from Steiner) and is centred around the note A - the sun tone - a note which is thought to be most appropriate for children aged 0-7.

WALDORF DRAWING GUIDE

When everything is set up we sit down and start to draw. I try not to give instructions other than the occasional reminder of, 'crayons draw on the paper.' He is free to draw what he likes (or to not draw at all). This indirect approach is most suitable for toddlers. As your child grows older you may like to include a short story before drawing, but it is not necessary with younger children. By simply drawing alongside them you are giving instruction enough.

As we draw I may continue to sing or we draw in silence depending on the day.

When we are finished I start to sing our pack up song and my son knows that it is time to finish. Normally by this stage he has lost interest, but if he needs help finishing up I will say 'last crayons' and give him the opportunity to choose one more colour. We finish with our final colours and pack up.

Rhythm

Drawing can fit into your rhythm in many different ways. For us, the best time is after nap time. Another lovely time for drawing is first thing in the morning. It is a quiet activity and a lovely way to lead in or out of a period of rest.

WALDORF DRAWING GUIDE

Uses for drawings

If you bring drawing into your rhythm on a weekly basis you will soon have more drawings than you know what to do with. Here are a few uses for them:

- Gift wrapping paper
- Birthday Cards
- Easter Egg Baskets
- Midwinter Lanterns
- Origami activities



‘When children draw or do rudimentary painting, the whole human being develops an interest in what is being done. This is why we should allow writing to develop from drawing.’

Rudolf Steiner