PALEONTOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTION

JUNIOR ILLUSTRATOR ACTIVITIES

During the summer of 2021, Museum of the Earth ran an illustration club to accompany its temporary exhibit on Women in Paleontology. Many of the first women involved in paleontology contributed as scientific illustrators, a profession that exists and is important to this day. Though scientific illustrators are well educated about the subjects they draw and very skilled, anyone can look closely at the world they way they do, and learn something about it!

Though the illustration club was aimed at adults and teens, during each class an activity was available for the younger members of the audience. They featured different fossils and all kinds of art materials. The coloring pages that went along with those activities are compiled here!

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- 6-7-- Lining and coloring crinoids- pens, colored pens
- 8-- Shading a mastodon skull chalk or soft pastel
- 9-11-- Creating a mosaic on an ammonoid- colored papers, scissors
- 12-- Using watercolors to paint flowers- watercolor paints,

Recommend sturdier paper to print this out on, such as cardstock

13-14-- Painting crystals- paints (any kind you like)

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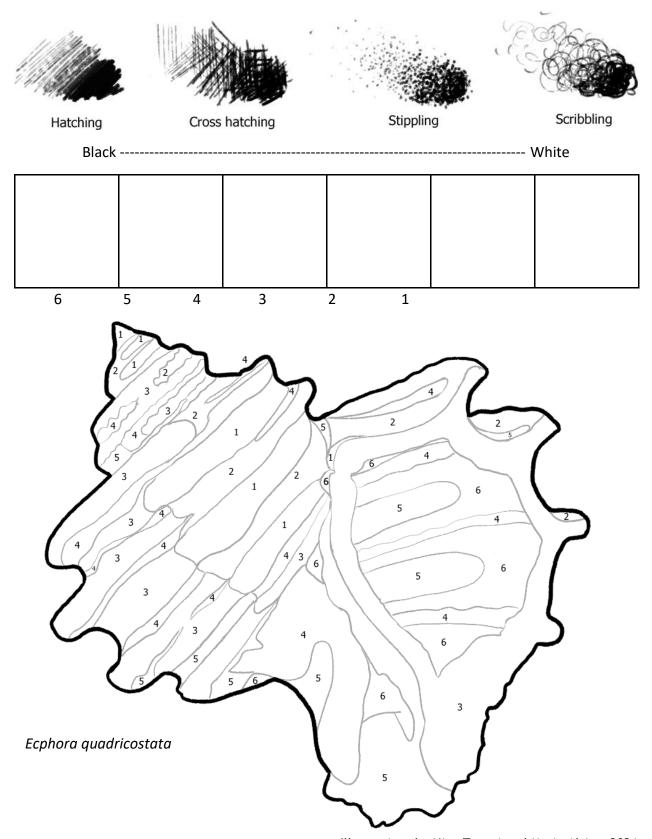
CONTOUR LINES: Bryozoan: Outlining is one of the most basic tools an artist has to show the shape of something. It is called Contour line drawing. Use a pencil to connect the dots, starting at one and ending at sixty-eight, to create the outline of the bryozoan!



Archimedes bryozoan

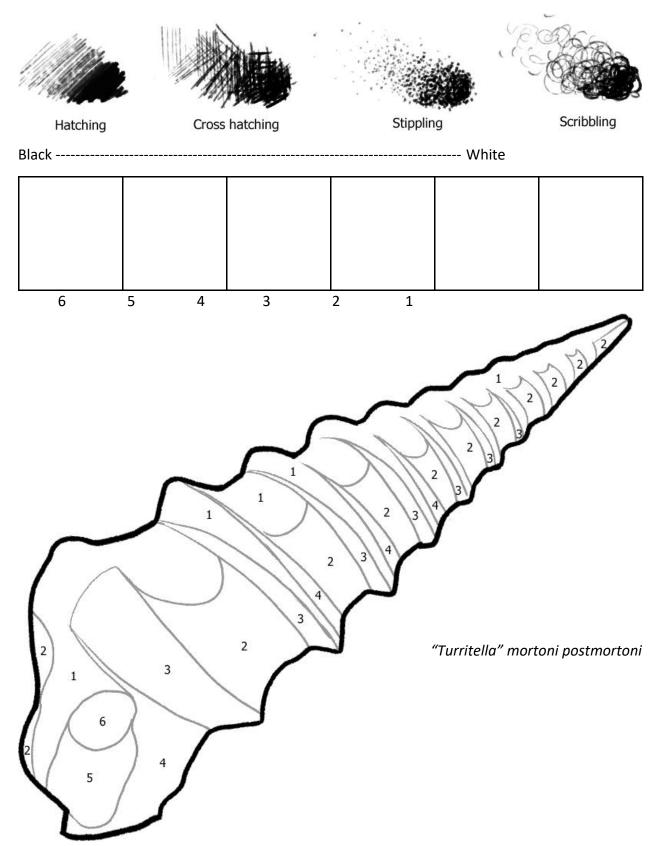
SHADING- Gastropod: An artist uses shading to create areas of light and shadow on a drawing. Using a pencil, practice filling in the boxes from darkest to lightest (hint: do not shade in the white box) using any of the techniques demonstrated below, then use those values to fill in the snail shell!

Some ways to shade:

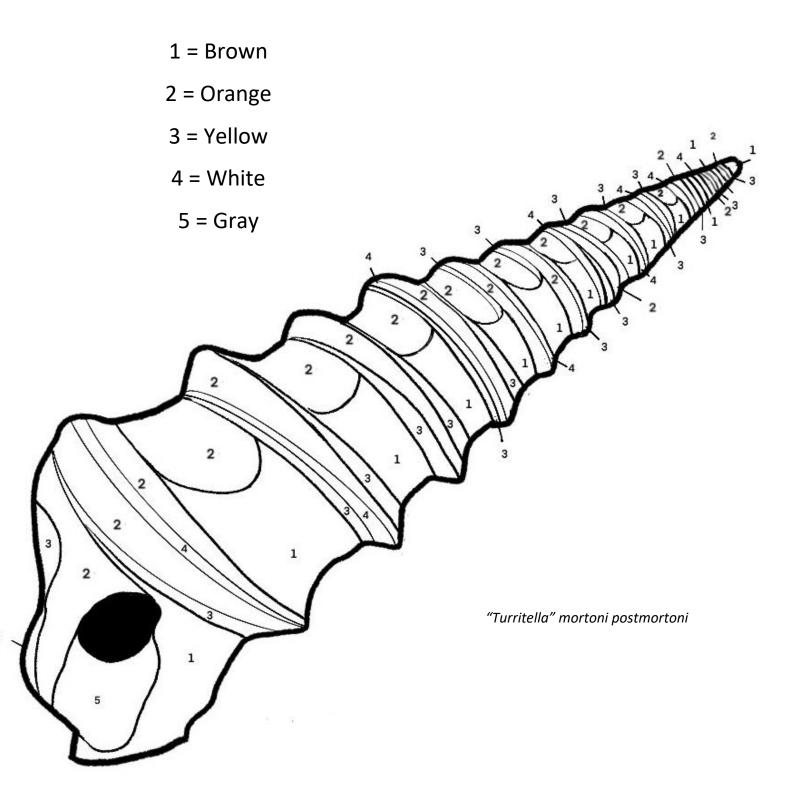


An artist uses shading to create areas of light and shadow on a drawing. Using a pencil, practice filling in the boxes from darkest to lightest, then use those values to fill in the shell!

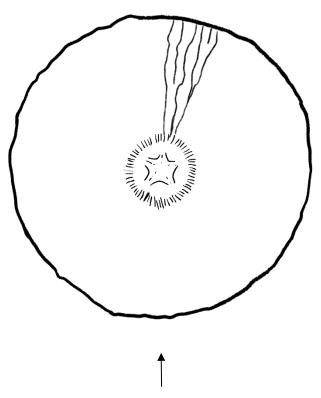
Some ways to shade:



COLOR- Gastropod: Color can bring a picture to life! Below is a list of colors with numbers associated with them. Color each of the numbered spaces in with the corresponding color pencil



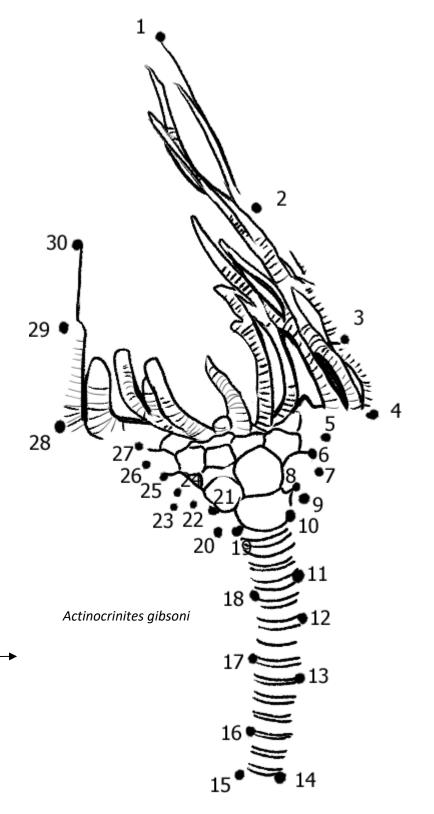
PEN & INK LINE DRAWING- Crinoids: Artists use lines to show where the edges of things are! Lines have many qualities, like thickness and straightness, that can change how a drawing looks. Experiment with all kinds of lines using a pen!



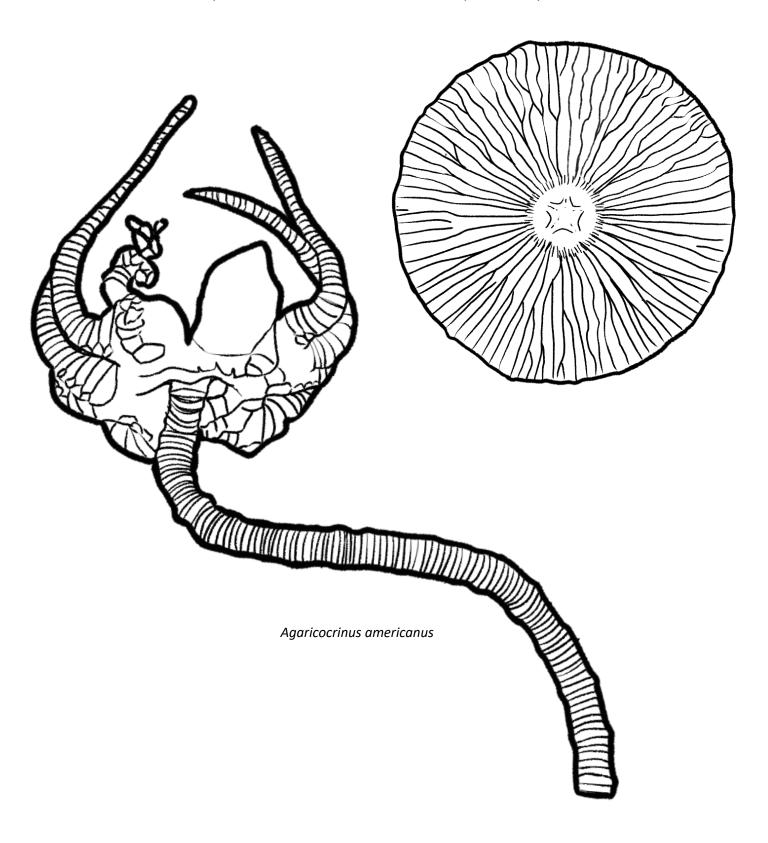
Practice drawing lines by connecting the outside circle to the star on the inside!

If you want, you can try to give the lines you make feelings: make them happy or sad or mad or excited by using your pen in different ways!

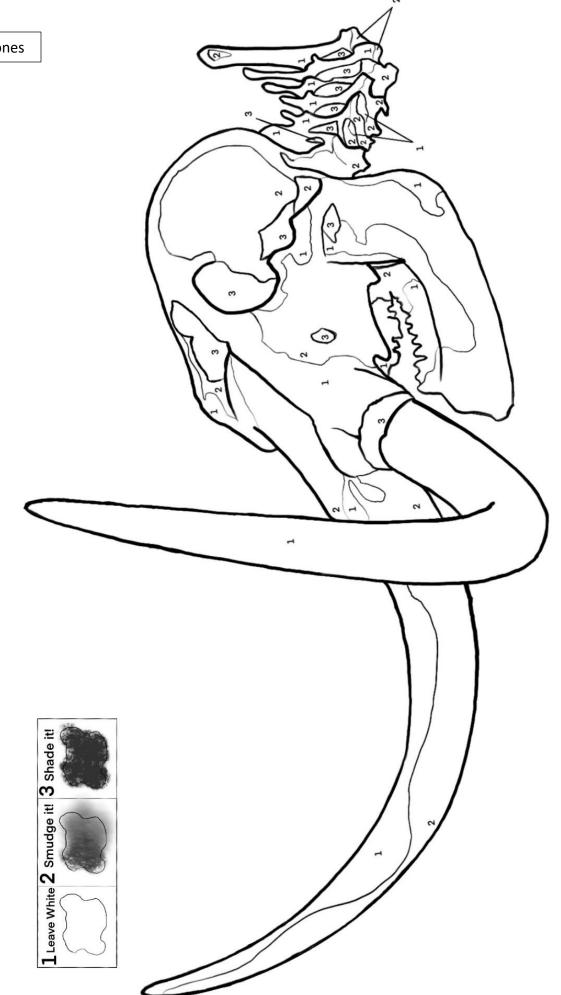
Then use your new linedrawing abilities to complete the dot-to-dot of the crinoid!



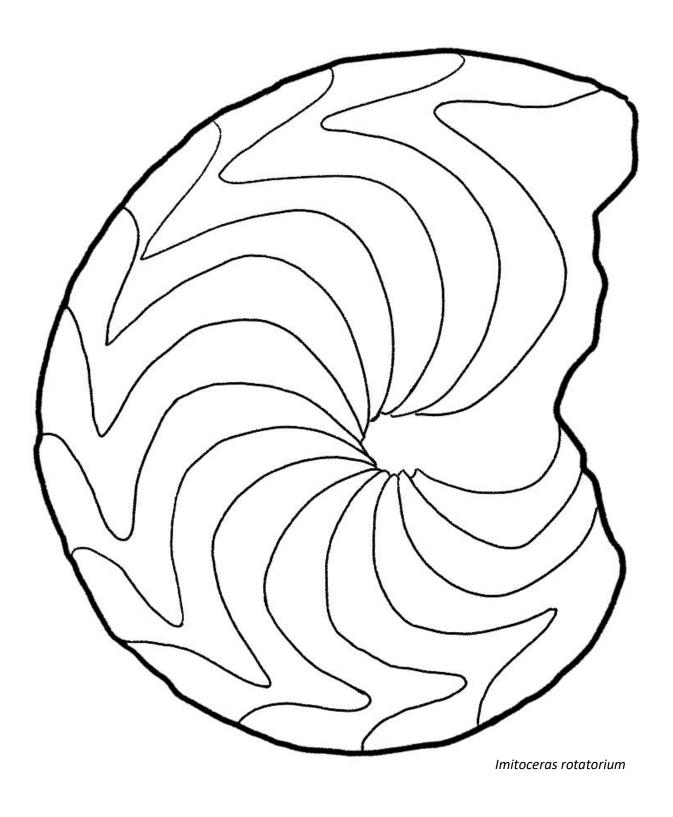
Color can be used in all kinds of ways- to make a drawing look real, or to make it look fantastical. Try experimenting with will differently colors when you color in this crinoid and the piece of the crinoid stem! Use colored pens or crayons!

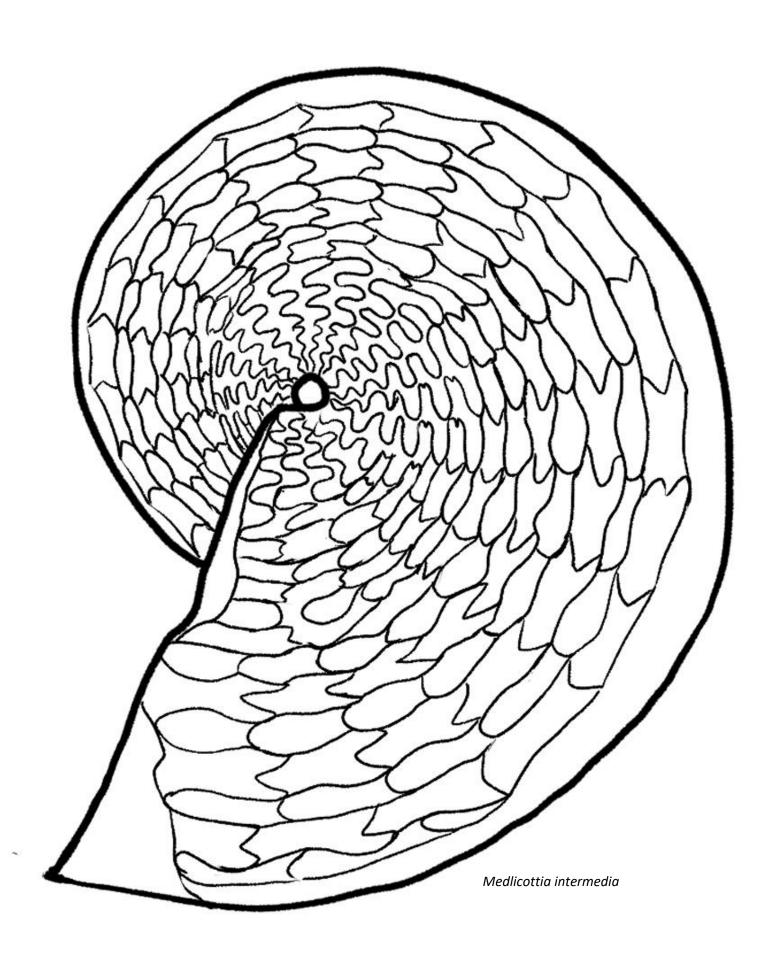


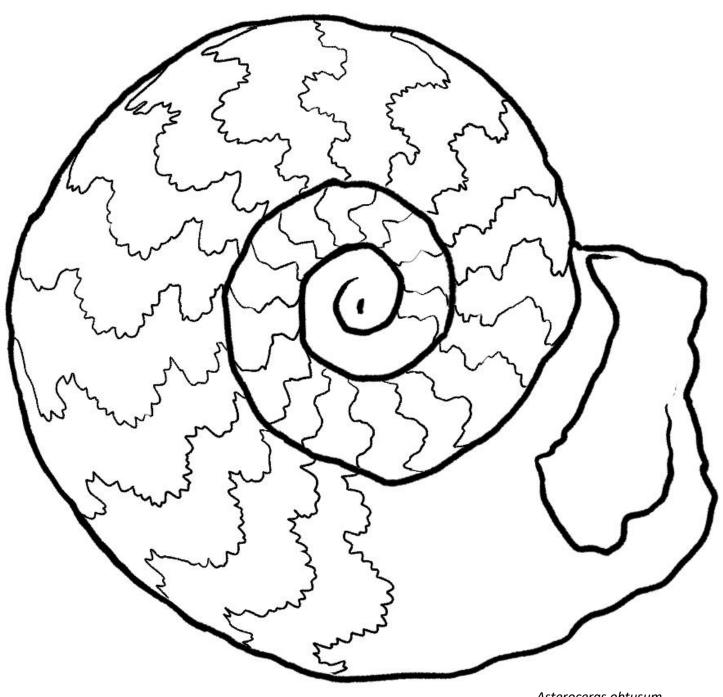
Most shading and coloring doesn't stay within the lines. When one color fades into another, that's a gradient! Using gradients of dark to light can create soft shadows or the illusion of round surfaces. On the drawing below, color anything numbered "3" a dark color using chalk, soft pencil, or oil pastels. Leave anything labeled "1" white. Then smudge the "3"s into anything labeled "2" so that it creates a gradient between the "3"s and "1"s! You can use your fingers, or a Q-tip, or get creative!



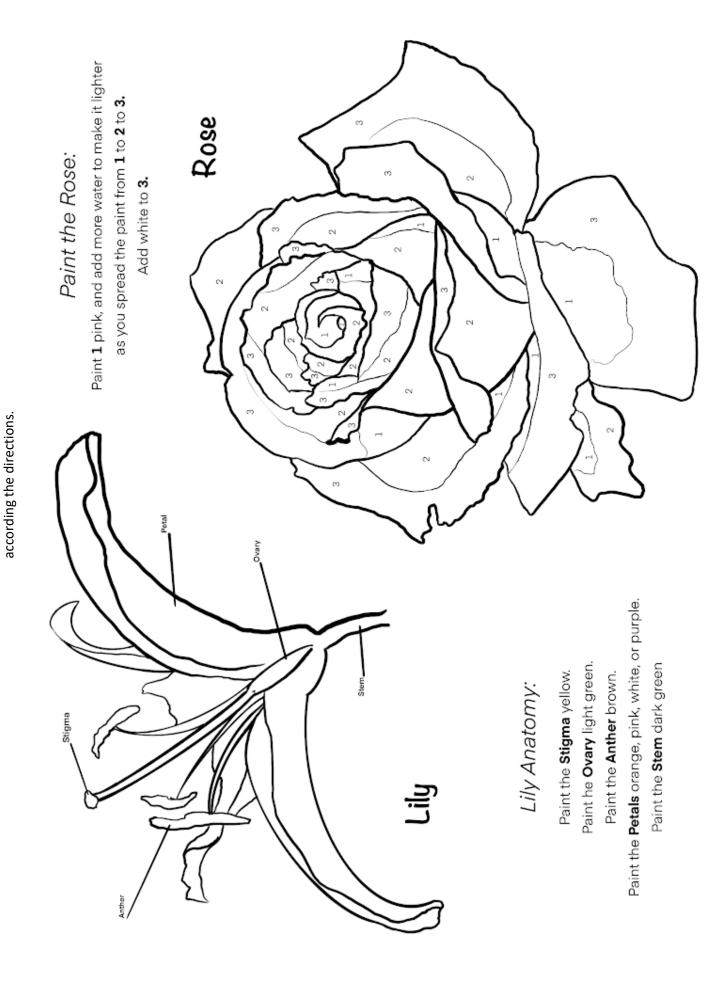
MOSAICS: Ammonoids: Not every artist uses pencils and paints! Cut up pieces of colored paper and glue them into the chambers of these ammonoids to make them into beautiful mosaic collages!







Asteroceras obtusum



PAINT- Geodes & crystals: There are many more kinds of paint than watercolor. Using any kind of paint you want, color in the quartz crystals!



Illustrations by Nico Tutoni and Maria Altier. 2021

