Capturing the Industrial Spirit: A Lowry-Inspired Study

Learning objective: I can create an original drawing using the techniques and perspective styles of L.S. Lowry.

About 45 minutes. Grown-up tip: Encourage your child to look at images of industrial towns to see how chimneys and chimneys create interesting shapes against the sky.

Laurence Stephen Lowry was famous for his 'matchstick men' and industrial landscapes. He often used a 'bird's-eye view' to show a whole street at once. When drawing your figures, keep them simple: a small vertical line for the body, a circle for the head, and thin lines for arms and legs. Example: To show depth, draw buildings at the bottom of the page larger and more detailed than those at the top.

Draw: Create a bustling street scene inspired by an English industrial town. Use a high-angle perspective to show the layout of the streets. Draw tall, terraced houses and factory chimneys using dark, geometric shapes. Fill the street with small 'matchstick' figures in different poses (walking, talking, or standing). Use cross-hatching to add texture to the brickwork and shadows.

Label words: Industrial · Perspective · Matchstick figures · Urban landscape · Horizon line

Steps:

1. Explain why Lowry might have chosen to draw his figures as simple 'matchstick men' instead of detailed,

realistic portraits.

2. Look at your drawing space. Mark a faint horizontal line near the top. Why is this 'horizon line' important for creating a sense of distance?

3. Lowry often used a limited, muted colour palette (like grey, white, and ochre). How does using these colours change the mood of your industrial scene?

4. Identify one 'industrial' feature (such as a chimney or factory wall) you have included and describe how you used shading to give it a 3D appearance.

5. Step 5: Add a 'human' element. Draw a group of matchstick figures interacting in the street. How does their placement show they are moving?



I did it! **Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

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