Mastering the Art of Sketching

Learning objective: I can identify key sketching techniques and understand how to use different pencils to create texture and tone.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to show you how they can use different pressures with a pencil to create a gradient of light to dark.

Read the term on the front of each card. Think about how you would describe it in your sketchbook, then check the answer on the back. Example: If the card says 'HB Pencil', the answer is 'A pencil with medium hardness used for general sketching.'

What is a 'sketch'?	A quick, rough drawing that captures the main features of a subject without needing fine detail.
What does an 'H' pencil indicate?	It stands for 'Hard', meaning the lead is firmer and leaves a lighter, thinner mark.
What does a 'B' pencil indicate?	It stands for 'Black', meaning the lead is softer and leaves a darker, thicker mark.
Define 'Tone' in a drawing.	The lightness or darkness of an area, used to show light hitting an object and create 3D effects.
What is 'Hatching'?	Using a series of parallel lines close together to create shading or texture.
What is 'Cross-hatching'?	Layering sets of parallel lines in different directions to create darker shadows.
Describe 'Blending'.	Smudging or rubbing pencil marks to create smooth transitions between light and dark areas.
What is 'Composition'?	The way objects are arranged on the page to create a balanced and interesting image.
What does 'pressure' control in sketching?	How dark or light a line is; pressing harder makes darker marks, while a light touch makes faint lines.
What is a 'vanishing point'?	A point on the horizon line where parallel lines appear to meet in perspective drawing.