

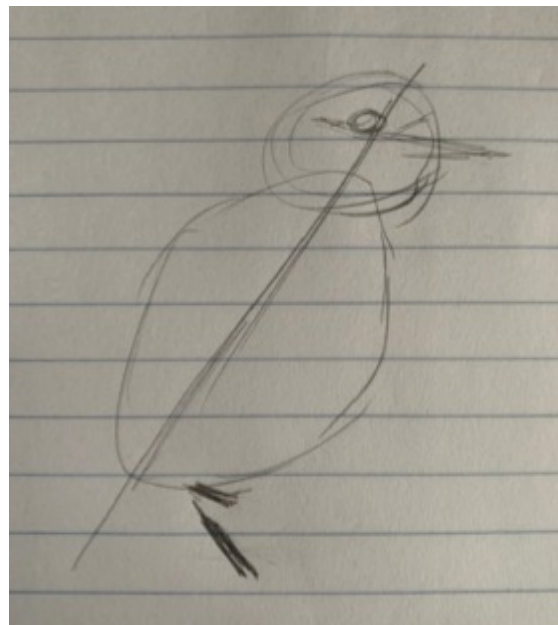
Sketching Birds

At first thought, sketching birds might sound like a difficult task. But with a few helpful tips, you'll be drawing birds in no time! Grab your notebook, a pencil, and an eraser and let's get started.

1. The first thing you will want to do is to observe the birds you want to sketch and really take notice of the position the bird is in.



2. Draw a line in the general direction of the shape of the bird. Roughly sketch out circles that outline the shape of the body, head, eye, feet and beak. It's okay if not everything is perfect – you just want to be sure that things are in right general proportion.



3. Start filling in more detail and smoothing out the rough contours on the body. At this stage you'll want to start to see your sketch look less like a snowman and more like the final version. Continue to pay attention to the scale of things like the beak and the feet.



4. Finally, start removing your guideline and circles. Fill in the detail of the feathers and pay attention to shading. Use the edge of your pencil to really highlight the contour of the bird. Make sure you document all the details of your outing in your journal so you look back on that information later!

