

Make sure you are looking at source images and not drawing from your head. -SH

Don't spend too much time on idea generation. Keep your thumbnails a reasonable quality so you can quickly do your preliminary drawing and start the project. Keep goals in mind for where you want the project to be in the time span. - JH

Don't do the same thing more than once. If you've made a landscape before try something new, it's a lot more interesting and fun. -EM

When doing the word as opposed to the picture idea generations write down anything and everything. Every idea counts so it is important to put it all down even though you may already have an idea. By writing it out it helps improve your current idea. -MC

Write down everything that comes to mind b/c it will almost always lead to better ideas. If you're running late on the previous artwork, just do the idea sheet at home. Don't spend too long on it, it won't really matter as much as the actual artwork. - ES

Don't take too long on one idea. Keep going and branch out! -JB

Don't judge any of the ideas until they are all done. Come up with as many ideas as you can and try not to settle on one idea until you're done making all your ideas. -MS

Use lots of stuff that you are interested in an love because it will be easier to expand on it and it will be easier to work with. -MS

Start with a broad idea and then make use of remaining idea blocks to draw in by experimenting with that broad idea in detail. e.g.: if drawing a dog, do closeups of hair, fur colour, expressions, blending, etc. -MS

Your teacher will tell you that you can work on your ideas into the time that you should be spending painting/drawing - don't! Bring idea stuff home if you must. Come in at lunch if you're behind. -LS

Although the idea generation may seem redundant (especially when you have an idea already in mind), expanding and coming up with additional ideas that pertain to your original ideas can help you improve your idea by making it more unique, complicated, insightful, or wacky! You may also find yourself coming up with a better idea for the given medium, or an idea to keep in mind for future projects. - LF

If you are printmaking, painting, drawing, using clay, etc. always ALWAYS use reference images it will make your art work so much better. -CD

Advice from former students Ideas for Textural Explorations

