
Daily Drawing Challenge: 31 Pattern Motifs with Courtney Cerruti with Courtney

Chapter 1 - Daily Drawing Challenge: 31 Pattern Motifs with Courtney Cerruti

Series Overview

(upbeat music) - Hi everyone, I'm Courtney. I'm an artist and author and I'm always making something. This month, for the draw a day challenge we're actually going to be working on index cards with some very simple materials. I've got index cards and card stock cut to 4X6 and I'll talk about how those differ as we go throughout the days. I've got a few highlighters because you know I love my neon. And I'm primarily working with Sakura of America koy brush pens. Brush pens are a nice hybrid between paint and markers. Because they have that brush tip you can get both a thick and thin line and they're really fun to use. Each day, we're gonna be working with a different theme. And I'll talk about different ways that you can incorporate that theme into your index card. Which means you'll wind up with a lot of cards by the end of the month. And you can send them to your friends as post cards. (upbeat music)

Day 1: Lines

- It's day one of our drawing challenge, and I'm gonna start using an index card. You can get these with a blank on both sides or you can do lined. It depends on how you wanna use it or send it as a postcard. And I have all my brush pens laid out here, so I can easily grab the color that I like. You don't have to have all of these brush pens. You can follow along with whatever you have at home. This also comes with a really handy cheat-sheet reference guide for your colors, which is super fun to fill out when you first get your markers. And I've got a little bit of scratch paper, because I like to draw right off the card. And we're gonna start with lines as our theme for today, because it's an easy way for me to demonstrate how these brush tip pens work with thick and thin lines. So let's start with a bright pink. (click) If you press down, you can get a thicker line with these brush tip pens, and if you lighten your pressure, you can get a really thin line. (light scratching) And I like to just draw lines quickly. Everything I do is really quick for these, because it helps with the kind of irregularity and I like that look. It's gonna go right off the page, that's why we're working on scratch paper. (rattling) Let's rotate this. I'm essentially creating plaid. This is a great way to test color-combination just by doing lines, and it's sort of addictive. You'll see that that'll happen. You could just draw plaid for 30 days. That's sort of one interpretation, and I can set that aside. I wanted to show you just on the index card, it's a little more floppy as far as the texture. I did choose the ones that had the lines on the back, which allows me to easily write a postcard. I'm gonna switch to four by six card stock for this next one, which is a little more rigid. It has a little more body, more like a traditional postcard, and it's unlined. And you can get these at the art supply store as well. Let's go for a paler pink this time. (scratching) Just gonna do some quick lines here. I'm really holding this on its side to get a really thick line. And I did three and four so that I have an odd number, which I prefer. Then turn it this way. (light scratching) It's kinda like '40s color palette. And I'm leaving some empty spaces as well. Let's go back in with one darker color. (clicking) Maybe... You can play with overlapping colors here. Because the markers are slightly transparent, so you can see where the green crosses into that pale pink; you get a secondary color. (scratching) And you can, of course, play with that even more. There's a second lined postcard. You can also do curvy lines. For this one, just sort of meandering lines, almost like waves, or just little curlicues. I'm gonna add in (clacking) a red, because this feels sort of like an abstract piece of binder paper. Do it more

like a heart. This one I'm gonna send to my friend Brian. He lives on Castro Street. (rattling) And you can do a fun little swash a color, if you want. (scratching) Missing You! It could be as simple as that. You wanna make sure that you add a postage stamp, and you can actually buy postcard-appropriate stamps. The ones that are out right now are really cute. They kind of were like Charlie Harper-inspired birds. You can, of course, put a regular stamp on this. It might get there a little bit quicker. Postcards can be anywhere from 3 1/2 by 5 1/2, up to five by seven. I like the four by six, which is kind of the classic size. If you have anything square, then you need to add extra postage.

Day 2: Junk Food

- Day two, junk food. We're gonna draw all the things that we wish we could eat and we're gonna start with doughnuts. Just making these kinda oval-y, frosting shapes here. You can adjust them a little bit later. (pen scratching against paper) I like things to go right off of the page that's what's gonna help make this look like an overall pattern and I know that my doughnut itself when I draw in the cake is gonna go off the page here. Swapping to a sort of like other color. This is where my doughnut cake is gonna happen. That color felt a little dark, let's do slightly lighter, yeah, that's the color I want. This is a chocolate doughnut and then this one like that traditional plain cake style. Can just do a little bit refining if you need too. And I don't know about you but my brother and I used to fight over the doughnuts with sprinkles, so we're gonna add some sprinkles. This is the fun thing about these brush tip markers, you kinda just tap them down. And why not add some kinda wild sprinkles, just all over. Not just pink sprinkles, let's do some blue as well. Let's add some, different color sprinkles. They're just little dashes, this is very loose. Then maybe yellow, I feel like that's something you might see are some yellow sprinkles. Then I'm gonna put in a little bit darker color underneath the doughnut. Just kinda give it a little shadow. Maybe fix this doughnut a little. You can even take a darker pink and go underneath your frosting just to add... Kinda little bit of depth. Doughnuts. What other kind of junk food do you like? Hmm, for myself I think it's fries. We're gonna do our kinda iconic colors. The box for fries is kind of like, squarish. So, I'm just keeping this really loose. Kinda a graduated square. We'll use a yellow for our fries. And I'm keeping my strokes very up and down flat, so I kinda wind up with a squared off top like a fry. I'm not really using the tip, I'm doing this from the side. And then I want to add some dimension. I'm gonna go back with the same color we used for the doughnut, which in this case, if you are using exactly this, it's called Woody Brown. And I'm just doing little squares, to mimic the tops of fries in quick little lines... For the sides. This is like super, super loose. These are just fun, they're like gestures of junk food. You might want to do pizza, that would be a really fun thing to draw. And then I'm gonna come in with darker color and just do a little drop shadow. On the left side of these. Maybe for the last one, lollipops, those are always fun to draw. Just gonna go with some very basic, they're not, it depends on what kind of lollipop you're doing, if you think about a Tootsie Pop they're kind of a rounded, they're round, but they have kind of like a square edge. We could do a really round lollipop like those flat ones you get from the dentist office, that were like always, you thought they were really good but they were sugar-free, so they're actually really gross. My favorite flavor is orange. Do some orange ones. And maybe we'll just put in one lemon flavored one. Trying to keep it really random and allowing things to go off the page, that makes it feel more like a pattern. Come with our gray for the sticks and your lollipop sticks can be going in all directions. And then using the point of my brush tip here, I'm just gonna do that clear cellophane package. Maybe you're lollipop also has a little bit of shape to it. This can be overlapping because they're transparent. These are those gross

sugar-free kind. I'm just keeping it super loose. And maybe I'll come in with a really light blue. Just add that here. To the sticks and maybe to the left side of every lollipop. There you have it, a whole suite of junk food.

Day 3: Vintage Fabric

- I love the color in vintage fabrics. And I just watched this awesome documentary on Iris Apfel who was an interior designer and she is a complete fashionista in her 90's. So this little drawing for today is gonna be inspired by vintage fabric. And sort of the color palettes. When I think about like kinda 60's fabric. I'm working with a peach, a sand, and this dark maroon color. You'll see that I have reoccurring themes with my color palettes. I'm just doing little ovals. Kind of squat ovals. Almost like we started our donut frosting. It's like little rings or UFO shapes. And you can leave as much white space as you want or you can fill up the entire page. If you plan on drawing a lot, and doing a lot of layers with the markers, you may want to use the cardstock instead of the index card because it's a little thicker. That's good enough, we'll start with that one. Also think a lot about florals when I think of like vintage scarves and vintage fabrics. So maybe let's try a floral pattern. We'll do it this way. And I like to do really messy flowers kind of scribbly. This is my favorite way to draw a flower with a marker pen. Some little ones in there. Come back in. There's sand color. And then maybe, just do some kind of crazy, irregular background around these. So it's really just like free-form scribbling. Which is awesome. Forgive me, it's just a little bit of structure so it vaguely looks like a floral shape. It's a very muted kinda retro palette right now. And then I'll come in with my darker color. And maybe I'll do a little bit of line work so using the brush, kind of more on its tip. We'll make these look a little bit more floral. One thing I love about vintage graphics and sort of this aesthetic, is the off registration that can happen. Where you have line work that doesn't quite perfectly match up with the color blocking behind it. And I totally advocate for that. I love the way that looks. So the more that I can do that, the more I'm kinds drawn to the pattern or image I'm creating. You can do it a little more precise if you like or even more kinda wonky. I'm just adding some little details in here. Go back into the centers. That's my very, loose floral design. Maybe for this last one, we'll do something a little more geometric. I'm starting with some really loose diamonds. And I'm doing these right off the page and I'm gonna go back in and fill them in. Could do this in a different color or the same color. Can see how quick and dirty this is. Very loose. Think I'll go back in and add a little definition on the left side. And then I'm gonna do kinda more scribbles in some of this negative space. So maybe ... I've got these little, irregular shapes like that here. And then I can come in here and do something else maybe, it's kind of like ... Strokes. And you can see with just a few colors, that by limiting your color palette, it really allows you to explore all the different color combinations and the way that you can overlap them and the way that they can interact.

Day 4: Night Sky

- I have this Pinterest board called Moons, Moths, and Nightly Things. So this little series is night sky inspired. We're also gonna limit our color palette. I'm working with mostly grays and then neon yellow. We're gonna start with moths, little tiny moths. And these are really loose. You're roughly making like kind of a butterfly shape. Maybe some of these are chunkier and have four wings. Maybe some have just two wings. They're kinda scattered all over. Super loose. I'm gonna go in with a slightly darker color. Do their little bodies. Maybe their antennae. I really love moths, I'm not a huge butterfly fan, but I really love moths and some people are really creeped out by them. And moths are always drawn to the flame, so that's where our neon yellow's gonna come in. I'm just gonna do

some sort of like light strokes. I just really like the color combination of the bright neon against that really muted, neutral gray. So there are little moths. Something else that comes to mind are phases of the moon. This is not accurate. We're just gonna do some like fun little gestures. I'm gonna start with just full moon shapes, so just big circles in the lightest gray I have. You could do this in blue, you could do these in kind of gold tones, like an autumn moon or harvest moon. It's very loose and they're kinda staggered. So right now, it's just like a giant polka dot pattern. And I come back in with my darker gray. So it's sorta like a three-quarter moon. Maybe this one will be a little less, like a half. And I like the layering and that off registration, so this doesn't have to perfectly line up. Also you'll notice that these markers layer over one another really nicely, but because we're working with really inexpensive paper, you don't wanna work it too hard. Like you don't wanna scrub back and forth, 'cause you'll start to lift up some of the paper fibers. This one we're gonna do in the opposite direction. The other thing that you'll notice about the brush tip pens is after awhile the points may not be as sharp and that might be because you're pressing really hard, which is something I tend to do. So these are just things to like, kinda keep in mind. It's okay, it's better to have a set of markers that's really well loved than a set that's never used at all. Do this last one, starting with a skinny little sliver. And then increasing. So those are our moon phases. And you could do a background on that too, if you wanted. And last, stars. Because the night sky has stars, wouldn't be complete without the stars. Starting with some really loose, in my lightest gray, little circles and really irregular star shapes. And from here I'm gonna do some of my neon yellow, just on the outside of this, like ring around the white. You could leave it like that. I'm gonna go into I think the light gray and then I'll move into the darker gray. Almost like really messy concentric circles. Just to kind of give that feeling of like light radiating. I'm using the side of the brush tip marker, just so I'm getting as much coverage as I can get and then I'll go back in and just refine a little bit. Then you have three little postcards that are inspired by the night sky. You could also make these into flash cards or do a little series where maybe you put a quote about the night sky on the back or some fun fact. I love limiting the color palette and then adding that pop of neon.

Day 5: Florals in Vases

- For Mother's Day this year instead of giving my mom actually flowers, I painted her a little bouquet of flowers and I think they're really fun to draw with the brush pens, so we're gonna do a series of bouquets in vases, which are also a really fun shape to play with. Start with some big, big ol' roses or whatever these are. My scribble flowers that I love to draw. I like to use sort of clashing colors sometimes, so red and pink together. Let's do something a little more peachy. I like to fill in a lot of the white space kind of in the center. So I don't need white space in my bouquet and you can draw over it later. Even though it's not really a flower shape just yet, that's okay. Maybe just come in with some darker colors for the centers. And let's do maybe a blue big bulbous vase. I like it. Just very loose and gestural. We're gonna ground that a little bit, spray-zing a darker blue. Maybe I'll add a little in here too. Come back in. There's one bouquet. It's fun to be dream play with again your color palettes for all your different flowers. So I'll start with like a really feathery green something. Maybe this one we'll do just greens. It's very Japanese feeling. Kinda like a pine val. I'm gonna do something else. Kinda alternating between like a filled in leaf shape and kind of a more feathery one. And then maybe we'll use gray and this will be one of those like kinda clear vases. You can see the bottom here. Maybe I'll extend my stems a little. Could use a little bit of blue for the water. That one's really fun. Let's do a horizontal one, like one of those really big, wild kind of arrangements. Start with my big fat flowers first. But just little scribbles. This is like my favorite way to draw flowers. I don't know

why but it just is. Just throw in some of those kinda lavender color here. Do kinda like big feathery parts coming out. Just one of those wild ones. Maybe add a little bit of this color back into your arrangement in kinda different ways. I feel like I need one light color in there too, sprays of weird little dots. Those are fun. Maybe one more flower in there. There is like a really wild style. Let's just do one more. I really love that bright bushy yellow flower that I think gives everybody allergies. It's on trees. And I'm just gonna kinda get the feeling of that by doing these little dashes. Like two big sprays of it. And I'm gonna add some neon just because I like that combo of the super bright with that kinda dull yellow. The yellow didn't look dull until we put the neon with it. Then it has really feathery dark leaves. Put in a clear vase also. Put like a bigger one. See that waterline. We'll add this to the bunch and if you drew enough of them, you could have fresh flowers for everyday of the week.

Day 6: Fiesta

- You could also make little invitations out of these, so I was thinking about party themes and kind of what colors might be fun to draw with, and I was thinking about fiestas. I used to do a lot of wedding planning and wedding decor, and it's a really fun color palette to play with. We're gonna start really simply with some sort of like confetti streamer things. Just like big, loose, spirally motifs. Put in a little pop of neon. These can be overlapping because they layer nicely. And then, those are like the big things that come out of the pinata, but you gotta do like, all the little tiny things, too, so just these little dashes for your confetti. Those big long ones are like your party poppers. I think of like purples and pinks, not so much red. You could like some dark blues or dark purples in here over some of these pink ones. I'm gonna do a little neon pink in here, too. So that's our, sort of first one, our celebration one. And then I also think of buntings, or the papel picado, which are those cut paper decorations that hang. You can see them sometimes in all white for weddings. So I'm going to do them in our bright fiesta colors. I'm just drawing some lines for them to hang off of, and they're intersecting. They're kind of like, postage stamps, right. They have that irregular edge. And I can go in and fill them later. And then I'll fill these in. I'll probably just start with every other one in the color that I drew them in. And then I can go back in with a dark alternating color. Again, these are just quick and dirty. They're about getting you in the habit of drawing or creating or making something every day. And it doesn't have to be every single day, but just with regularity, however it fits into your schedule. One here, and I'll pair that pink one with kind of the magenta purple color. I went to a Oaxaca last year with my friend Christina, and I almost had to buy a second suitcase just because of all the paper stuff I brought back. The colors in Mexico are so vibrant and amazing, so there's lots of inspiration for you to pull from. I'm gonna do, like, some little dot patterns inside these so they feel a little more reminiscent of the papel picado. It's much easier to go in with the dark, again, it's not perfect, as opposed to like, leaving white space, that would've been really hard to do. So I'm just gonna go in and like, add some little floral motifs in here. So those are our papel picado, goes with our celebration theme. Fiesta is not a fiesta without a drink, right? Margaritas. This is a pretty simple shape to draw. It's kind of like thick band with a little band coming out, and then the bottom. We're just doing like a really loose silhouette, and we're gonna come back in and add some detail. They can be slightly different sizes. We're keeping it really loose. Maybe we got these, here. Go ahead and define this shape a little more. Add a little drink straw, just little kind of dash. Maybe like a little cherry. I'm not really actually sure what they put in margaritas. They maybe don't put anything in them, but that's where you can use your artistic license, because we want to, like, add some color to this. I'm just gonna draw some lines to kind of suggest, like, the bottom, and then add our little

confetti marks. Maybe I'll do them in green and pink. So those are our drinks, and last, I think the most fun thing to draw is a pinata. I'm gonna do one of those kind of classic donkey pinatas. And that might seem hard at first, so start with your lightest color, 'cause then we can build on top of it. So even I'm gonna kinda like fuss around with the silhouette a little bit, and I'm using a really pale lavender color. And then it's pretty blocky. I mean, I'm not really worried, it's gonna be like the fringy paper on the outside that we'll paint that's really gonna make it feel like a pinata. Usually, it has like two very sticky up ears. Could be a donkey hybrid. Very sticky up ears. Maybe there's just some little legs up here. We'll start with our fringe. Just do the pink on all of these. Maybe draw in the eye, just so I know where it's gonna go. We can do the blue around, sort of outline him. It gets a little tail. Do his little eye. His fringe, and his fringe, do some yellow. And I like all those overlapping colors, I think that's really fun about working with the markers. Oh, I forgot about this guy up here. And then again, I'm gonna add my little like, fun little twisty things and the confetti. Remember to go like right off the index card, if you can. You could do a whole set of these for a birthday party, which I think would be super fun, or just like a cocktail hour with some girlfriends. You could make photocopies of them, but they're so quick to draw, you could just make a whole set.

Day 7: Animals

- Animals are a really fun thing to sketch and stylize, so we're gonna start with a really simple cat. A cat kinda has little pointy ears, sorta this V at the bottom. I'm just doing an outline to start. This could also easily become a fox just by your color choice. And I'm gonna just delineate one side of the face, kinda underneath the eyebrow and down to where the nose would be. Just on the left side. I always default to the left side. I'm not sure why that is, but that's just where I do. Add a little detail, draw in some really simple features. Tiny upside down triangle nose, and then some eyes. Maybe these cats are looking to the right, and then this cat here is gonna be looking to the left. These are suspicious cats. They're suspicious of what's happening. Then I feel like we could add something else, so these brush pens are fun to practice your lettering, which is something I definitely need to practice. I'm just gonna write meow. Let's try that same motif and then switching up the colors just for fun to see what it would look like. You can see I'm not using a realistic color for a cat, and that's fine. Maybe let's give these guys some whiskers too. These are even more abstract. Just add some other little dashes in here. So you can see how starting with one motif and kind of playing with it, you can evolve the stylization. Let's do a different kind of animal, maybe a goldfish. I'm gonna do those really pretty goldfish that... They were in Fantasia, and sometimes you see them in Chinese restaurants. Kind of have these footbally shapes, and then really pretty fins. Maybe just this tail on this one is coming from here. It doesn't really look like much yet. We're just starting with our lightest color and then we're gonna build using kind of more a goldfishy color. And then maybe adding some little gills and some things that make it more recognizably a fish. Do a big eye. They have these little mouths. And then I think I want a little more contrast, so I'm gonna do something a little darker, and then we can put in some scales. Do dark blue. Maybe some little scales. Now I'll add some bubbles. We have a cat and fish and maybe some dogs. I feel like dogs are harder. Maybe it's because I have a dog even though I look at him all the time and take pictures of him all the time, I feel like there's more pressure for a dog. This one's not gonna look like my dog Charlie. It's just gonna be a classic little vintagey looking dog. And I can start with my lightest color. I'm using this sort of blue color. And then I can go back in with a darker color. This is kind of a look though that Charlie gives me. It's like this out of the side of his eye look. Draw another one like that. They're all gonna look slightly different, which is good. They have kind of longer... faces. And then maybe we'll

put some things that dogs like to chase, like bones and balls and things like that. Do some tennis balls. And some little bones. I'm just drawing these things from my imagination, which is partially why they look a little wonky. And you can of course use photo reference if that's helpful for you, at least to start, but I actually like that irregularity. It's help what develops your own style for these drawings, and it'll make you better, you know, the more you're trying to recall to memory, like, "What does a dog actually look like?" or "How do I stylize it?" Think I'm gonna go in, just make some of these darker. Add some brown. Get some little dots here. Dogs have whiskers too, but I think just the little dots where the whiskers go are indicative enough instead of an actual whisker. Now let's give them a little pink tongue. Do a little red collar. This little red collar. Add a little yellow on the collar here for the medallion, and then maybe just a little bit of pink in the ears. This is one of the things I love about Charlie is these really pink little ears on the inside. And then you have a little set of puppies. Animals may seem hard at first, but they're actually really fun to draw. You have an opportunity to stylize them and kind of hone your skills as to what features make something look like a cat versus a fox versus a dog. You can of course play with just two colors, or use all the colors.

Day 8: Clothing

- I collect a lot of vintage clip art books and something that I really miss about old catalogs is how everything was illustrated instead of photographed so I've been playing around with drawing dresses. I wear a dress everyday. And they're actually really fun on a small scale to draw and then paint in the pattern for the dress, or color in the pattern for the dress. So we're gonna do some very loose kinda sun dress shapes. And then have fun filling them in. I always start with a light color, cause then I can do darker marks if I mess up, just to kind of correct the shape. Start light and you can always come back and correct. You can also look at ModCloth, or any of those online sites to look at little dress silhouettes. (marker scribbles) Just doing a few lines. And we'll come back in with some darker colors. Do like, kinda colorful hem. At the bottom and at the waist of this dress. I don't actually sew any of my own clothes, but I think it would be fun to design them then I can make my fantasy dress with the perfect pattern, and then try to convince Lane to sew it for me. I have kinda like that stacked striped pattern. I'm just going to go in with a slightly darker color. (marker scribbles) Here's our first dress. Let's do something a little more flirty this time. A more vintage-y silhouette. This could be like a little halter style. Just going to do really loose florals on this, like my scribble flowers. It doesn't have to be perfect, it's just like the gesture of a dress. It's so cute and summer-y. I would want to get that in the mail. Let's try a little top. Again this is totally something I would look at a reference for. I never wear separate pieces, I'm always wearing dress. So I wouldn't even have any garments like this in my closet. So this is where ModCloth comes in handy. Does remind me a little bit of something my Barbie, tennis version, would have been wearing. I'll just do some stripes here. A little tennis outfit. Again, sort of like a sun dress style. I used to work at Anthropologie, (laughs) and one of these dress reminds me of the Anthro dresses. I think I'm going to do a lot of florals, right around the center and the dress is going to go from white to like a dark color. You could draw up your entire imaginary wardrobe.

Day 9: Eyes and Mouths

- When I was a kid, all the way up through high school, all I really was interested in drawing were eyes and mouths. I used to stand at the info desk at Borders when I worked there in high school, just drawing eyes and mouths. So it still has stuck with me. Eyes are really popular right now. I'm gonna

start with, like, a really abstract version, kinda like the evil eye, that's also an image I love. Start with these kinda really quick, elongated eye shapes. They can be, like, different sizes, different shapes. They're also, like, one of those motifs that you see in a lot of different cultures in a lot of different ways. It's very universal. Then, maybe we'll add the second color. I'm just doing a single stroke, I'm not filling it in perfectly, I want kinda that off-register look. And then, I was thinking just about making kind of a, like, motif out of this. Almost like jewelry. Just like that style and that shape. You could add a third color if you want. I like it like that. I'm still gonna start with that, like, kind of generic almond shape. I'm gonna do three eyes. I'm gonna do the lid. Maybe these ones will have eyebrows. And the placement of your eyebrows makes them kind of look either happy or sad or quizzical. So like, this one's kind of up to start and arching down, maybe this one's straight across. And this one has eyelashes. This is, like, a cat eye look. This would be fun to, like, play out different makeup scenarios as well. I'll do a lighter pink for this part. And then come back in and do the eyebrows. Again, kind of playing with that off-register look. And then, after eyes, you could do noses, but those are really hard and they look really weird just by themselves, so lips, we're gonna do lips. They can kind of be like the little heart-shaped kissy lips that you drew when you were in the first grade. Let's do, like, two in this lavender color. I'm just doing the basic shape, and then I'm gonna go in and add some darker lines. That's, like, really crazy looking elongated lips. Like Man Ray lips. Maybe some of these were open, more open-mouthed. Let's go back in with our red, and I'm gonna go over this lavender color, just to make it kind of fun. When I would draw lips when I was younger, I would, like, do every little line in detail to create, like, the curvature, but I kinda like these, like, really graphic, like, almost like a stamp. There you go, very kissable.

Day 10: Dashes

- We're about a third of the way through the month, and we're gonna keep it simple today because you can really take this one theme and play with all your color combinations and take it wherever you like. I'm just gonna do dash marks. Start simple. So they're kind of like our confetti marks that we made on some of the other days. I'm working with just three colors. Cool kind of color palette. You could concentrate these in one area in one color. That can be kind of fun. These actually layer over really nicely, so you can play with layering them or just doing them on their own in the white space. Just scattering them throughout, done. Let's do something like, more elongated dashes. I'm gonna start with my brush pens again. These are kind of like, if you took a microscope and looked up, like, little stitches in a weave or something. Very close up. Add some of this color just to fill the spaces. Come back in here. I made some other ones in a different color way, so you can see the possibilities for making this a little series. Keeping it simple today.

Day 11: Tropical

- Tropical fruit is super popular. It's in party supplies, it's on stationary. We're gonna draw some. You can draw whatever kind of tropical fruit floats your boat. I'm gonna start with some bananas 'cause they're really just quick brush strokes. It's kind of like little curved brush strokes. You can have a single banana or two as well. But we wanna add another color for some dimension. I'm telling you, it's all about this woody brown, I'm really loving this color. I'm using it for donuts and bananas. It's very versatile. Just do like a little. There you go, bananas. Another tropical fruit that I loved to eat when I was a kid was a kiwi. I'm gonna start with my lightest color here, and we're gonna do a kiwi that's been cut in half, because that's really the most interesting part, just the whole kiwi, maybe not so much. You could do a slice of it. They can be different sizes. So kiwis are kind of like lighter in the

center, they're actually almost white in the center, like super, super pale green into like a limey green. I'm just gonna start with the lime green color. Then we'll do the brown outside. And then it wouldn't be a kiwi without those little black seeds, right. That's the thing that makes it the most recognizable. And the brush tip's really good for that, just making little seeds. The only bad thing about drawing all this fruit is it makes me want to eat it immediately, so then it causes me to have these cravings. Hopefully kiwi's in season where you are. All right, last guy we'll do is pineapple. Again, starting with my lightest color for myself, I think that's the easiest way to build, especially with the marker pens, 'cause it's not like paint where you could do a light color over a dark color. Starting with just our pineapple base. And then maybe we'll do just kind of some like, Chevrony shapes here, almost like our pinata shapes. I'm just using a medium brown for that. And then, just kind of go in with a darker color. Maybe come in with this lime green, and we'll use this as our lightest color to start on the spiky part on the top. Let's just be very loose. Then maybe like a second layer of dark green. I'm allowing these to be kind of off-register, so they're not lining up perfectly, I like seeing all the layers. I feel like that needs one more little gesture. And then maybe we'll ground these a little just by doing a little bit of that lime green. I love the limited color palette on this especially. You could of course throw in a passion fruit or something that has a brighter color, but I really like just using this sort of monochromatic, yellowy, brown, and green color palette. Super, super fun.

Day 12: Small Florals

- When I first started doing these index cards to send as post cards, I was doing a lot of flowers. So I thought we would just do little small floral print or two. You should know the scribble flowers by now. Just kind of sprinkling these all over. Going off the page. Do a little dark part to the center. Maybe add some pink in. Let's do these a little bit smaller. Those can have a red center. Kind of changing up the direction of where these leaves go. I feel like this one could use a few more. All of these are just really fluid and kind of up to the marks that you want to make. You shouldn't hold yourself to making this look like mine. And looking at vintage fabric or gift wrap or a dress your grandma was wearing in an old photo. Those are all ways to kind of inspire your color palette and the forms that you create. My grandma wore dresses all the time and she made most of them herself. I wish I had them, that would have been awesome. So there's one, maybe this one we'll do vertically. It's more like tulips. This reminds me of a pattern I would have had for sheets or something when I was a kid. Some quick little stems. Maybe do something bright to pair with it. So we have two in your series, let's just do one more. Maybe this time we'll start with that same color we started with or we finished with rather. Just do some overlapping. And go back and define these shapes with kind of an off register, just the tip of the marker. Let's add some of these little dash marks in. Three quick and easy floral patterns.

Day 13: Small Ikat

- Those little scribble flowers that I love to make, they kind of started when I was making polka dots, but irregular polka dots, ikat polka dots. So this kind of idea. Sometimes people call it ikat, I call it ikat. They're kind of this irregular scribble dot that is reminiscent or it's evidence of the actual weaving process, it's a pattern style. You definitely see it in home dec fabric, and in women's fashions. And I love the way it looks, and I sort of apply that same sensibility to lots of motifs, flowers, like I said. These polka dots, for example. Could just do half the page there, and come back and build. (pen scribbles) I just love the way they look. Maybe we'll add, maybe a lighter, kind of,

color here. (pen scribbles) It's building on this same form, changing out our colors. And use a lighter pink. More coral pink. (pen scribbles) Let's go to this kind of color. Just playing with that same shape over and over, just switching up our colors. Kind of staggering these, going right off the page. Let's do purple on this one. (pen scribbles) It's my first sort of ikat-style design. Let's do another one. Let's use sort of the similar color palette, this time I'm just gonna draw diagonal lines down. Just moving the brush pen back and forth when I create this, like, angled dash. Let's use a different color to come up the other side. This makes me think of, like, sort of an abstract corn shape, kind of like when you see corn depicted in stained glass, or, in like, really rudimentary forms, it's kind of like the base. And then we'll do something for the center. (pen scribbles) And maybe we'll use this color to do a bigger shape here. It's like a big polka dot style. And you can see, sort of how, like, one form came from this. So we started with this sort of elongated ikat or ikat dot, and then moved it over here. So, they're kind of building off one another. Let's do one more. This time I'm gonna use pink and blue together. I love how, like, blue and red or pink and blue layer over one another to give you this kind of vibrant purple color. So, we'll start with some really big kind of Os. Some big open dots. (pen scribbles) And then maybe I'll do the outside. So, the inside on the left, and the outside on the right. And you can see that when the blue overlaps the pink, you get this really awesome secondary purple color, which I love. Let's add some little pluses in there to finish this off. Do some little dashes. And you have a contemporary take on a traditional ikat pattern. What I love about doing these kinds of shapes, and playing with the brush markers and kind of scribbling all of these shapes is that you don't need a reference. You can just do this out of your own imagination, and not feel like you're beholden to make it look like something. I really started doing these on airplanes when I couldn't, like, pull out my phone and Google something, or have all these materials in front of me. I had just that little tiny airplane tray table to work with, stack of index cards, and a few brush pens.

Day 14: Berries

- We're gonna do some fruits next. Berries to be specific. And another thing just to reiterate as we're doing this, we're really simplifying our shapes. You could of course paint a very realistic strawberry. You could look at Heather Ross's class and learn how to actually draw that. We're totally throwing that out the window for this series and we're really drilling it down to the most basic forms and shapes. And I think that also teaches you something about how you can be efficient in your mark making and how you can create the shape of a strawberry or the shape of a berry or the shape of a donkey or what have you with just a few strokes. So keep that in mind. If you want this to be more realistic, feel free to do that. We're gonna start with a strawberry. Strawberry could be more heart shaped or this is kind of an irregular elongated dot. I'm of course starting with pink. It's my lightest color in this case. (marker scratching surface of paper) - Over here. A little top of one here. We're gonna come back in with our red and just do like a little shadow on one side. Just to give it a little dimension. Do a little top. These are just super simple. Simple little berries. Almost like it's wearing a hat. And then you need to add those seeds. Just little tiny dash marks. Maybe one of these will have darker seeds. This guy here. Maybe this one up here. You can come back in with a really light color just for the tops. Some cute little strawberries. We'll do some raspberries next. I love raspberries. I usually when I buy them get one basket for home and one basket for the car ride home. You could draw like an oval-y shape, but I think it's nice to make the shape up of these little dash marks because it makes it feel more like a raspberry as it actually is. You can leave a little bit of white space. If you've seen Yao Cheng's class when she paints flowers she intentionally paints in these little white spaces. It kinda helps delineate the form. You can do the same thing in your

drawings. I have three little pink raspberries. Maybe we'll do a red raspberry. I think these are French raspberries because they're petite. American raspberries are massive and they usually don't taste like anything. Unless you get the kind from the farmer's market and then they taste good. Sometimes there are like sort of golden-y raspberries so I'm going to do one little golden-y raspberry. Now I'm gonna come back and using those same colors I'm gonna add a few little raspberry marks in here. Like these little kernels. So I'm adding red on top of the pink ones. Pink on top of the blonde one. And then I'll add like a sort of deep maroon color. And you can come back in and do a little bit of the center here. It's a very little simple little scattering of berries. We'll do some blueberries. Those are actually really fun to draw. Let's start with some irregular polka dots. And blueberries come in a lot of sizes. Sometimes you'll get a really tiny blueberry and a really big fat squatty blueberry so you can really do any size here. This one's all about the layering also. We're gonna come back in with a darker blue. Do that little kinda star on the top and just color the bottom of these. Create a little blueberry shape. The tops are so cute. Instead of doing a pattern, you could do these in a basket. These are our little blueberries. Maybe we'll do one more like currants or gooseberries. They're really pretty. They're kind of translucent and tiny and they come in this really pretty color this kind of champagne-y color. They also come in red. We'll use the same red just to do the same thing like a little marking on the top on the bottom to give these a little more dimension. These also could be holly berries if you put some green with them. I'm just gonna do these sort of light little lines. Drawing these little berries, or any fruit really, gives you an excuse to go to the grocery store just because they're pretty and of course you can eat them after. And I really like drawing berries. It makes me think of fairy tales and they're bright and like little jewels in the forest.

Day 15: Stone Fruit

- I'm on a fruit theme, so I thought stone fruits next, cherries, avocados, peaches, plums. Start with peaches. The nice thing about fruits is that you can have, like, big, irregular shapes, which are always fun, keep you loose. Start with my lightest color. And then I'm gonna go on top of it, like a little scribble, kinda, for my middle tone. Come back with my darker color. I'm gonna come back with my light and just kinda blend these together a little more. Then using some orange. I'm trying to get some of that blushy color. Create that little indentation. And finish with the little stem at the top. Maybe just do little kinda dark, pinky red at the bottom. Do a little bit at the top too, by where the stem comes in. The word for peach in Japanese is momo and I always think of that 'cause of my little dog once who was peach-colored and his name was Momo and that's how I learned. Peaches. Let's do some avocados. There's always that debate if avocado is a fruit or a vegetable. I think it's a fruit. Starting with my lightest color. Kinda refining my shape. You can always go back and infill things if you missed a spot. Doing the pit. And coming in with a dark brown just to give yourself a little bit of dimension. Do some cherries, those are a stone fruit favorite of many. I'm gonna start with my hot pink as my light color. Maybe just do a few red ones. And those Rainier cherries too that are kind of that blonde color, you could do those if you wanted. Can really experiment with layering your colors here. And we'll do some of those, like, iconic two stem plus a leaf. Little set of cherries. And last, we're gonna do plums. Could do apricots or something too. This time, I'm just gonna do, like, an irregular scattering, nothing that's gonna go off the page. I'm just using the two colors. These are kinda like how we made our blueberries, just a slightly different shape. Do plum. You could also use the same technique for Japanese eggplant, just make it a little bit longer. Once you're drawing these fruits and vegetables for a couple of days, maybe you'll go to the farmers

market or walk down the aisle in the grocery store and start to look at everything around you a little bit differently.

Day 16: Citrus

- I like everything with a little bit of lemon. It's my flavor profile. Except for iced tea, I drink a lot of iced tea, I don't like lemon in my iced tea. I don't know why. So we're going to draw some lemon slices. I'm going to start with that watermelon shape, and I'm going to leave a few little peaks of white in there. And then just do the rind, super simple, leave that negative white space for the pith. That's what the white stuff's called, that's the bitter thing. Let's do another little slice, this time I'm going to start with the rind. Do my little half moon shape. And just really loosely, kind of scribble the center. That also gives you that veiny texture there. Do another one that's more like three quarters. Just fill this one in solid. Leave a little white on the top, and just do a small shape there, almost like a coffee bean. And again, do the rind. And then come in with a really pale orange, and do my segmentation that way. And do a little bit on the rind. So we can play with layering colors. You could go back in and add some striations if you wanted. Then we'll do one big flat slice. Like the full lemon, just cut. And this time I'm just going to do the striations to the center. Doing these really quick, loose citrus in florals it makes me think of micro fabric or something. And the idea is that you're going for something that's really the impression. We can do another one here. Maybe this one is entirely in this pale orange color. And you come back in with your yellow on top. Just like that. Do some little lemons, but whole lemons this time. Just doing these sort of lemony shapes. Just kind of an oblong. And sprinkling them. If you did some orange on top, and green, these could look like mangoes. You could do a more round lemon, like a Meyer lemon. Starting with my most lemon yellow color. And I'm going to come in with that pale orange and just do a little stroke on one side. In this case I'm doing both the left or the right. I'm not just doing only the left side. And then a tiny little green stem. And you could put maybe one little tiny slice in there, one little wedge. Maybe two. Okay, maybe three. And I'll come back with that orange, too. Just so they feel similar. So you've got little tiny lemons, little tiny wedges. You can see just by playing with the scale, you get a different feel. And I thought maybe we'd do a lime. Start with my lime green, that's how it gets its name. Lime is one of those things we'll never have on hand. I have a lemon tree in my back yard, so that's easy. But sometimes you really need a lime flavor. We're going to draw this in kind of the same way. I'm going to leave more white space in the segmentation, because I feel like limes, they have really distinct striations in their wedges. And let's do some lighter green here, too. And start with that. Come back in with your darker color. You could even do the slice, too, the round slice if you wanted. Do that one off the edge. Kind of that traditional citrus feeling. And then maybe this is a juice lemon. So we can do these little guys. Little confetti marks. Let's come in with a little bit darker color here. Just to give us a little bit of texture. Just very lightly. There's our lime. And I like the way these look together, but I feel like I'm missing a warm color. So maybe I'll just add one little segment of grapefruit to the lemon we already drew. It could just be a little wedge in here. Just a tiny little guy. Still just using that same technique. It's like a pink grapefruit. Come in with an orange. A quick little slice. And maybe this gets just a little bit of pink, so that these feel a little bit more cohesive. All we're missing is the vodka. - [Crew Member] Perfect. (crew laughs) - [Crew Member] All right.

Day 17: Plus Signs

- One thing we haven't really discussed is scale. So we're gonna use a really simple motif, a plus sign or a cross, and just play with the different scales, again, the color combinations and see what we

get. If you've been really loving your brush pens, you may have some slightly duller tips at this moment. I use these brush tip markers all the time and I'm kind of hard on my pens and markers. So after a while, the tips will become a little less pointy. And that's okay. So we're just working in that smallest scale. Just doing little tiny pluses. Let's do a more medium size. Start with this pinky-red. I'm gonna pair it with a neon. So you get that kind of dull color with that really bright, vibrant color. And I think maybe this like dark, kind of indigo color, I love that color right now. It may be hard to tell but red and blue can look really patriotic. But just by shifting the blue to an indigo and the red to a more like, dusty rose color, it totally changes the look of this. Especially when you add that neon. And I could come back in and then add a tiny scale. Little tiny pluses. This is also something you could do in a really monochromatic pallet. Just all over to create a background if you were just wanting to sit down and do something, but you weren't sure quite what. All right. And we'll do like, a really large scale one. Maybe I'll start with that neon again because it has like, a nice chisel tip. We could just do a plus sign like that. Starts to feel more like a nautical flag or something. Let's play with the scale. Things can start to intersect. Maybe I'll just add one in that red color we were working with earlier. And you can see, just by playing with scale, you kind of get a different feel, the way you sprinkled the motifs onto the index card. Maybe the way you overlap colors. And you can take these same principles of scale and apply them to any motif, to get a variety and kind of rhythm in your design.

Day 18: Melons

- We're going to draw some melons to go with some of our fruit of the earlier days. The fun thing about fruits and veggies is you can draw them in their myriad forms, they're sliced or whole or halved. I'm going to start with a big fat watermelon. Starting with my lightest color and coming in with my dark color. Just by pressing and lifting you can kind of get a mark that reminds me of what those striations on the watermelon look like. Maybe we'll do a giant watermelon that's been halved, maybe this one is a little bit more oblong. Dark on the outside. Doesn't have to be perfect, that's fine. And come in with our bright pink. These colors together are so delicious. This one's going to have seeds. Makes you want to do like another slice. Something like this. We'll do another slice here, a little baby slice. Leave a little white space, do the lime green, then come back with a darker color. And then put in our little seeds. This would be so cute on the bottom of stationary or a little card or something. We'll set that aside. Let's do the slices like the wedges. Kind of working in the same color palette. You could switch it up if you wanted, or with a different pink or something, I really like this vibrant magenta so I'm going to stick with this. Just doing my wedges to start. Can kind of have them going in all directions, that's called an all-over pattern, there's no directionality. All sizes. Right now they look like candy corn but we'll switch that in a minute. Refine our shape a little. Maybe we'll add two kind of paler pink watermelons just because. Maybe just the edge of one there. Maybe this time I'll use this green color. Come back in with the dark. And then add our seeds. These summer fruits or patterns totally remind me of my mom because when I was a kid we used to go to the beach all the time and she would buy these like, there was brand of clothing that she liked that always had these fruits all over it, so any summer fruit like this reminds me of her. I might just want to put like a little drop shadow on one side. Just to give those wedges a little dimension. And then maybe we'll use our hot pink on the pale pink ones. There too. You can even just scatter some seeds throughout. And then in addition to watermelon, I thought we'd do a cantaloupe. That's for my dad, my dad always ate all the cantaloupe and I always liked all the honeydew when I was a kid. So my mom always buy had to buy two kinds of melons. I think we'll just do these slices. Start with that

wood color that I like so well. Maybe two like that. Switch to an orange. Now I have a pale orange somewhere, so I'm going to test that out. So right now I have two of every color. I don't want to have two of every color so I want add a third at least in one so probably in this orange. Do that here. And we'll do like a little bit of lime green right up against the edge here. I like the overlapping so I'm not avoiding that. And maybe a little bit of our dark green. Maybe you don't do dark green on all of them, just on like three or four. And then back to that kind of like brown color that's on the outside of a cantaloupe. I think I'll add one little honeydew slice for myself. Little baby slice. We'll also do that. Maybe put a little bit of this green in here. I really don't know what to say about melons, oh my gosh, I don't know what to say. - [Man Off-Camera] That's it, that's what I would have said. (laughs) - [Woman Off-Camera] Alright, you going to use that? (laughs) - [Man Off-Camera] (yelling and laughing) What am I going to say about melons, I don't know what to say, and that's the end of the segment.

Day 19: Breakfast

- Out of all the kinds of foods there are to draw, junk food and the fruits and the veggies, I thought breakfast food would be a really fun thing to try and attempt. So we're going to start with Cheerios, very simple shape. I'm using that same woody brown color. I've been using that a lot. It's like really good neutral. I personally love Honey Nut Cheerios, they're one of my favorite things to eat around 11 o'clock at night. I rarely eat cereal for breakfast but I love breakfast food for dinner. I wanted to add a little drop shadow on these and I'm using blue, which may seem like an odd choice. You could do brown. But I'm channeling my inner Wayne Thiebaud here for this whole little series and I kind of like the color combo of the blue with the brown. These are our little Cheerios. Another breakfast food that I think is really popular right now is an egg, specifically a sunny side up egg. I feel like you can put an egg on anything these days. Start drawing some eggs. Fried egg is a very simple shape, so it's fun to draw. Come back in with that really bright yellow center. And I'm going to use that same blue to do my drop shadow. I feel like the addition of the blue really enhances the pattern. We're going to do some bacon. I've been a vegetarian since I was a kid and people are always convinced that bacon is a thing that turns a vegetarian. But I never liked bacon as a kid so I don't feel like I'm missing anything. I'm going to do three little wavy lines. I come back over with a hot pink. And maybe do dark sort of maroon color. Just right on top. Then I'll probably just come back in with that neutral color again just to clean up the edges. And do a little drop shadow. Just kind of outline things. There's your bacon. And last I thought I'd do some Eggo waffles because those are kind of fun and lend themselves well to these colors. Start with just a bright yellow kind of square. And maybe they're overlapping one another. Almost like two pats of butter. Do another one over here, going off the page. One here. And then come in and we'll define it just like we did our french fries and our junk food. So it kind of have an edge, kind of like a box almost but with softer edges. And then just little dashes for the indentations in the waffle. And then you can bring in the blue just by creating a plate for them. That one's sliding off the plate just a little. Maybe you see a little bit of a plate over here and a little bit of a plate over here too. And it's up to you, you could add forks or butter or syrup to this. You can make whatever breakfast food you like.

Day 20: Rings

- A simple motif can still be utilized and manipulated and changed to make really interesting patterns, just by overlapping them, changing scale, changing size. We're gonna do rings, circles, however you wanna call them. Kind of doing like, elongated rings. Have them sort of overlapping.

Slightly staggered. Maybe one's here. I'm actually gonna rotate this and do things in the other direction. Let's go with a darker color. Same shape, but a different orientation. We'll add just a little warm tone in here. It's pretty neutral. There's one pattern. Maybe we wanna do rows of rings, kind of like pearls on a string. Do that indigo color. I like these two colors together. Bright, kind of kiwi color in the middle. Maybe I wanna do just a little dot of that darkest in the center. Just so everything feels a little more cohesive. Then you could do the same on the green. Those look like little cocktail olives. Kind of scattering one color all over so I don't have a strange concentration. I really like hot pink and navy together. I remember I had this outfit when I was a kid that was navy and hot pink stripes and we went to Tahoe and I wouldn't let my dad put my suitcase on the top of the car because I was terrified it was gonna fall off and I would lose my favorite outfit. Every time I use this color combo I think about that outfit. I could play with this shape forever, just by overlapping and changing the scale. This would be really fun to do on a large sheet of drawing paper and then make it as gift wrap.

Day 21: Toadstools

- Charlie, look alive. - [Male] And action. - Charlie wanted to join us today, so he's gonna help us draw some mushrooms or toadstools. He's not that good with markers just yet, so we'll just let him lay on my lap and take a nap, or he'll do that. So I'm gonna start with, maybe, a slightly more realistic looking mushroom in a really light color. I wanna get the gills of the mushroom, which are those like little feathery things on the bottom side. I'm just leaving a little bit of white open space, kinda like we're looking up at the mushroom. Maybe I'll do a few little ones over here. This is another thing that once you start drawing these, or maybe you've always liked their shape, when you go to to grocery store, and they have all those different kinds of mushrooms, you really just wanna buy them all to draw them. This happens to me often. We're gonna come back in with a darker color and define these little gills. And you can be as light with your touch or press harder and have like a more distinct line. I'm doing this line a little more sketchy. This wants something really soft. This time we'll do like a little row of them and work in a peachy and kinda ochre color. I know there are so many like references in literature to little mushrooms and kind of fairy mushrooms and so forth, but I always think of Alice in Wonderland, pretty much every time I draw mushrooms. Add a second color here. Just trying to keep it light. Just do some really tiny ones. And I'll use this same color to come in and add some definition on the pink. Just going really light. Take like an ochre color and add a little bit of definition into these. Tiny little brown ones. Just really pressing barely at all. Some really soft, ethereal mushrooms there. You could add some of those cute little moths to this too, like we did for our night sky. Course if you're drawing mushrooms, you have to do the toadstools, those classic iconic fairy tale ones that are red with the white dots. I'm gonna start just with the cap. And then draw that kind of like bulbous stem, then come back with the back part of the underside of the cap. I'm not leaving space for the white dots, you could, you could come back in with a gel pen, a white gel pen, and do that. I'm actually just gonna do dots that are slightly darker red. Do a few little, little guys. Oops, that's where my stem should go. I'm actually not worried about that, sometimes you do find these like little furry things at the tops of your mushroom stem, you could do that here too if you made a mistake like that. You'd just come back and draw over it. And have this go off the page. My stems are kind of going in different directions. I've kind of got this like row, which is fine, it wasn't intentional, but we can just go with it. Just try to scatter some other ones around in here. And I have a red marker that's just slightly darker and I also have a maroon marker, so I'm gonna test out both and see what I like better. Just using the slightly darker red one for now.

It's okay. I really like red and gray together, so maybe I'll do some gray on this too. Then I'll come in with the maroon and just add a few little dots in a few places. Maybe the little baby mushrooms don't have the dots, just the big guys. Those turned out super cute, makes me wanna watch Fantasia or maybe Alice in Wonderland. Mushrooms are one of those shapes that you can observe in nature, you can take your sketchbook and your brush markers and see them in the forest and they're really fun to draw, you don't even have to disturb them. But you can also kind of imagine what they might look like and kind of come up with your own fun shapes.

Day 22: Rainbows/Arches

- Wanna do a simple shape like arches, and kind of do it in a few different ways. It's just a little upside-down U. I feel like this shape is really popular in design right now. It's like a very stylized boob, or a wink, or anything. Just like this simple little arch. You could leave it like that, I think that's actually really cute. I'm gonna come in with a second color, and just repeat that motif. Just super, super simple, but it's a very effective pattern. I was thinking about one of our artists on Creative Bug, Lindsay Stripling, who's an amazing water color painter. If you haven't checked out her stuff yet, you should. And she does these really beautiful water color rainbows. And just that same shape, just the arch. Of course, hers are in water color, so there's lots of flow. And I just thought, well, try it with a marker. Do a classic rainbow, but maybe, switch up the colors a little bit. Maybe do a red. (draws rainbow colors) And then instead of doing like a traditional orange, I'm gonna do this like more muted tan color. And you can play with the thickness, so not every stripe has to be exactly the same width. If I wanna come in with my neon yellow, maybe I wanna make this a really thick band. I'm gonna try to maintain the roundness of that arch there. And then do something like a lime green, which is really gonna clash with this, which I love. Clean up this little edge here, so it matches a little better. Do a rainbow like that. This feels less like a pattern maybe, because I'm just doing a single motif, or a set of motifs. But I like that, about playing with a single shape, and kinda letting it lead you somewhere new. (drawing) This also reminds me a little bit of our watermelon slices, in like a really abstract way. Or maybe like slices of agate. Just a really fun, simple shape to play with. I really like how you can take a simple shape like just an arch, stack them together to create a rainbow, sprinkle them around to create an all-over pattern. You can really see that just the simplicity of the shape, by the way it's manipulated, can create different effects.

Day 23: Woodlands

- For this theme we're gonna do woodland, and that can mean many things to you, of course, like the toadstools we did earlier could also fit into the woodland theme. You can choose to do animals. I was thinking more like wood and bark and kind of needles, pine needles and things like that. So I'm gonna start with like a wood grain, which almost looks like water, especially since I'm using this blue color. I'm just kinda going around it, to simulate sort of, like, rings. Could come in with something maybe... a little more wood colored. Just being very sketchy going right on top. I like the overlapping to create the secondary color. You don't have to be entirely traditional. I'm gonna do a little bit of this green in here too. Sort of your abstract wood grain. For this one I'm just doing sort of irregular round shapes, kind of like a slice, a wood slice. And then we'll come in and do our wood grain, kinda doing thick and thin on the outside so it feels a little bit like the bark. And then just concentric circles. And there's your wood slices. I'm gonna do a little pinecone 'cause I definitely think of that. It's kind of like the raspberries we did but on a much larger scale. So we're just gonna build dashes up to create our pinecone shape. These could be different sizes and different colors.

Maybe you start light and go darker on top, just to get some variety. Here's a darker brown also. Maybe we'll add just a few in there. And we're gonna add some pine needles, just like quick little overlapping dashes. Even if they're not all symmetrical. Throw in like another kind of neutral color. You can of course draw like a whole branch with needles and just a single pinecone, I just like the kind of scattering of needles and pinecones. And then the other thing I thought about when I was thinking about woodland and kind of forest floor were little snails, and I think those will be really fun to draw. Add these great little antennae. Maybe I'll draw kinda the snail bodies to start and then put the shells on top so I know where they're gonna be placed. Add some little antennae down here, a little tail here. And then I'm actually gonna do the shell in the same color just for the base. Just a big circle for now. And you can pick kinda your pop color, so you can do a brown and just do a little swirl starting from the center, just keeping it really loose and kinda irregular, I like that. Drawing right off the page so I can kinda maintain that swirl. And then I can come in and add a little shadow. And then one of the things that's really fun about a snail, especially on a floor of a forest, are the little trails. You could come in with a blue instead, make it a little darker, I really like that kind of pale peachy and the pink together. The woodland theme is really endless. You could, of course, pair any kind of animal or little wildflower with this. I like the repetition of the spiral in the snail shell and in the wood grain, it has a really nice cohesive theme.

Day 24: Large Botanicals

- Charlie's gonna help us on this one too. I think he likes this color. We're gonna do some leaves. I'm gonna start with just, some strokes. In those two colors. Just doing these really loose kind of stocky leaves. Makes me think a little bit of like, the butterfly shape. I think Ginkgos drop a shape like this too. These are just made up, they remind me a little bit of seaweed. I'm gonna add a darker color. You could overlap these too. I'm gonna start with a lighter color, like a lime green, and just do another vine-y seaweed-y shape. Start with two long strokes. And maybe these are like, more rounded and bigger. It's using the side of my brush to get those really fat, quick strokes. And then this time I'm gonna go over them, and instead of doing the full filled in shape, I'm just gonna do the line work. So an open leaf. Maybe this time it's more like a little kind of just a little tiny branch on a full vine. You still get that color play where the colors and shapes overlap. And then you have more line work and more silhouette style, which I like. Let's make this an all over pattern. Next one, do maybe like a hybrid. Three petal shape, or three leaf shape. Maybe I'll do that same shape over it, just overlapping wherever happens, in my second color. Just kinda like, clovers scattered or something like that. It's very random. This is partially why we're doing this on index cards, is that it's very immediate, it's very quick, it's not precious, it's not a page in your sketchbook, it's just something that you can do quickly, experiment with shape and color, send to a friend, or toss. If you hate it, you can toss, you can draw over it. I'm gonna add like a warmer color, and maybe I wanna turn it this way because I feel like there kinda going in a direction and I don't want that. Get a little bit of overlapping now, which is nice. Get like a really bright springy floral, just really by combining some simple quick shapes. These brush pens are ideal for this kind of exercise.

Day 25: Missoni Inspired

- Because I love to do those kind of scribble patterns like the ecot style and the dots, I thought Missoni would be a good inspiration for another kind of abstract pattern. If you don't know about Missoni, it's an Italian fashion knitwear company that's known for it's really bright, vibrant patterns that kind of have the squiggly little line style that I love so much. So it's very freeform. Just using my

red to create my first part of my pattern. I'm gonna follow that up with a hot pink, allowing the colors to overlap a little. You don't really get a secondary color when these overlap, but you will as you start to build this, if you're using warm and color colors. Like here. It's that aqua, where it overlaps the magenta, you get this really cool purpley color. And now I start kind of in the middle and I just build off of it from there. I don't start at the top and work my way down. I feel like it keeps it a little more even, just for myself, you can do it any way you like. Think I'm gonna go back to the red. And instead of going back and forth, I'm just going from the top down because you'll notice when you work with these pens that you can kind of scoop up the side of the postcard or index card. And then, for me, it's easier just to rotate. Think I'm gonna start with ochre from this direction. Easy peasy, I love that style. So something just like what we did, but maybe a little bit looser, more white space, even more of a scribble, if you can believe it. Just leaving a lot of white space. Allowing the colors to overlap. It's like I'm kind of getting a rainbow look here. It's kind of graduating from light to dark. Maybe we'll go back to that light color again. Some would be awesome postcards, Missoni could hire me to do this. You just draw all these postcards and then you just put in bold type, their name right in front, I think they should do that. Okay, next one we're gonna do like a Missoni dot. Gonna leave a little white space on this one too. It's kinda going around each of these dots. If they touch or overlap, that's totally fine. This is very loose. Fill some of that white space in, not between the dot and the ring around the dot, but between the rings themselves, so kind of our background. Just barely peeking through between these motifs. I know some people are really great with color and some people kind of struggle with it, and I feel like using these index cards and these really quick sketching exercises is a good way to really enhance and hone your color skills. In seeing what works and what doesn't and what color palettes you gravitate toward. We have three Missoni inspired really vibrant, fun, loose, and very graphic prints.

Day 26: Field Of Flowers

- I'm gonna channel in all day and do some poppies. This is like when I feel the flowers like that's our theme here. Instead of doing my traditional scribble flower, I'm gonna something a little more rounded edges, but still super loose. If you follow Liana on Instagram, she's heyallday 'cause she has the best last name, Allday, I mean other than my last name which is Cerruti, which is pretty awesome. She does these really beautiful, super loose poppies, but she does them in watercolor. So I'm doing my marker pen version. It's not quite as loose. I just wanna kind of define these a little bit, with a little bit of dark orange. Kind of fill in these poppy shapes. A little on the bottom here too. And then come in, California poppies have this kind of like, not dark green, but kind of a medium. They're not super bright and shiny green, except for when they're really new they kind of have these feathery little fronds. Just do kind of gestures. So as opposed to some of the other floral stuff that we've done, that might have been kind of scattered, this is more grounded. I'm using the bottom of the postcard as my base or horizon and then just drawing from that. Add some bright green in here. This reminds me a little bit of those seventies or sixties bedsheets that have really beautiful, super fun loose florals on them. Maybe there's little suggestion of poppies within here. It's our poppy, California poppy. Maybe we'll do something similar to that, change the scale up a little and just do tulips. Again, just kind of loose. It's like really bright, springy flowers make me think of Mother's Day cards. Switch to a little bit of a darker color. Use that same dark color to go over the yellow too. So just very loose. These always remind me of Mother's Day. Tulip festival. If you live in a place that has a tulip festival. Just like the California poppies. It's illegal in California to pick poppies. I was told that it's also illegal to pick tulips in certain places. Tulips have really hardy, upright, vertical leaves and

stalks. So we're just going to mimic that. Let's change up this color palate a little. I want a darker blue. That other one's a little too primary. I like my indigo. Let's darken that up. Sweep building up the grasses here at the bottom. I think I'm going to go back into my pink flowers and just add a little bit darker color in here, just because the leaves and stalks are kind of really dark. And add a little bit of teal in here. And I think that looks good. The last thing I'm gonna draw for this field of flowers are clover. I love clover. I think it's so, so pretty, but it wasn't until I worked for a floral designer that I found out there are many colors of clover. You can get red clover, and pink clover, and purple clover. It's really pretty. It's kind of like a raspberry. I'm gonna start with little balls of color. Maybe a red one there. And a red one there. And one more red one high up. So it's more balanced. Right now they just kind of look like lollipops or something. Do the stalks on these too. And play with the pressure. They just have these simple little leaves at the base of the head. And go back in with a little bit of dark green. And then we'll add our texture. So I'm gonna use a darker purple on the light purple. Maybe I'll use the same magenta color on the hot pink on a few of them. And then I can go back in with my red on top of the hot pink. Creates a more subtle texture. Do a few red on top of the light pink. You can just alternate. Get different color combos doing this. I love these little clover. They're very fanciful and fun. And you can see that just with a few gestures, you can build up the shape of a flower, you don't need something to look with each individual pedal stylized. You can do a soft, blobby shape in your background. And then come in and tighten it up with a few brush strokes.

Day 27: Cactus

- Thought doing cactus might be kinda fun because they have interesting shapes, you can choose to add flowers or not, and I like the color palette, allows you to play with some greens and aquas. I'm doing some berry stylized cactuses or cacti. Kinda like 40s, 50s style, it's very loose. So a little sprinkling. Come in with my dark green. Let's do some little pricklies. I'm doing this motion a lot for like seeds and clovers and now for little stickers on cactuses. It's a nice thing about the brush pen. Let's ground these a little. Let me do a two tone green here. Teal, we haven't really used this color much. Or maybe you've been using it this entire time, cause some of your favorite colors. We'll do something similar like those little pods but this time let's put them in pots. Maybe they'll be cacti with more little paddles, that's the word. Let's add some pots. Using like a pink color like terra cotta, sort of but pinker, more salmon pink. Some little pots, you can of course change up your pots, do them any color, put little patterns on them. I'm gonna come back in with our darker green. Add some little stickers, or quills, what are these called? And a little bit of definition in to the pot itself. Just ground these a little bit, doing a little shadow. Maybe there's one over here. Looks like of loney over there, maybe we'll just add a little bit of a cactus there too. I'm just gonna come in with a little bit of blue and just add a little kind of shadow. To your second round of cacti, and then for this last one maybe we'll do just a row with some different kind of shapes and colors. Maybe those like tall ones. Short version. Little guy next to it. Then some more like we were drawing earlier. The paddles. It's fun to say cactus paddle. Ground this all like they're standing in a line. I'm gonna add a little bit of this kinda lavender color. Purple is one of my least favorite colors, but I think this lavender color is really pretty. It's like a nice light tone and it feels like desert light and shadow, so I like it a lot. It's nice to layer also. We can also use it for some of the blooms, some of them have really like hearty blooms, some of them have more translucent blooms. Be fun to use this color though. Doing another little section of blooms. Then we're gonna just tighten everything up a little bit with some darker lines. A little bit of purple here, the base also. I really like how those purples kind of play off

the greens, it feels very deserty like kind of twilight time. These are really fun shapes to play with. You can of course do succulents as well.

Day 28: Argyle Inspired

- We're gonna take a diamond shape, which is very basic, and kind of play with it, layer it, and make it look like argyle, sort of argyle inspired, but it's just super loose. I'm gonna start with a row of diamonds kind of at an angle. I'm not gonna color them in in this case. I'm just gonna do some quick little Xs now. Then I'm gonna add another color and kind of connect these little Xs. So this is like very loose, but I think it's fun. That's why it's argyle inspired and not actual argyle. There's one super quick little pattern, and another one where my diamond is made up of like a squiggle. Almost like a checkerboard. Just filling up the whole page. And I'll fill in the white space with another color. Just super loose. So now I have rows happening, kind of very wonky rows. You can leave it like that. I actually like the way that looks. It's kind of like irregular stripes. I'm just gonna take a really dark color and then kind of do that X line of stitching also, just kind of following these rows. A fun place to see patterns, other than just fabric or vintage scarves or something is men's socks and ties. My dad does not wear ties at all. He didn't even wear a tie to his own wedding, which my mom always complains about. I remember going into the men's section with my mom when I was a little girl to like pick out a Christmas gift or something and just seeing all of the ties laid out in kind of, like, the spectrum, the color spectrum. It just looked so pretty. I'm just doing another line of stitching kind of in the opposite direction. I still love going into the men's section for exactly that reason, just to look at the ties. In this last one, we're gonna do something similar, but we're gonna start with more of a crosshatch structure to put everything into. So you can see the diamonds are delineated for you just by doing the cross hatching. Try to keep everything the same color palette for this so they all kind of talk to one another. I'm still keeping it loose, though. I'm not like perfectly coloring it in. We'll just do a checkerboard with every other. Then let's use our magenta kind of color to do the lines of stitches. Then this way. And there you go, three very abstract kind of interpretations of argyle.

Day 29: Rain Babies

- We're gonna do a really easy, quick shape which this brushpen is meant for, which is a raindrop. And we're gonna play with scale a little bit, so the first one is literally just touching this down onto the cardstock or the next card to create little raindrops. Switching to the pink. And you can play with your concentration. You could have pink in one little area, like a little swarm of them. Or you can scatter them throughout. I wanna leave a little bit of negative space. And I don't want it to be perfect like polka dots. I want it to be a little more irregular. Going right off the page. Just layering in to the darkest color. Staying with these violets and we're gonna add a few more warm colors in here. Add that little honey color. (brushpen tapping) This is our first little set of raindrops. Then we're gonna bump up the scale a bit. I already have that honey color one in my hand. Now I'm gonna press a little harder using more of that tip. It's like really the perfect teardrop shape. Perfect raindrop shape. And maybe we'll add some bigger ones which we actually have to draw. Little shadow. So it's like our medium. And then for this last one I'm gonna do big raindrops. They're gonna be little rain babies. And you might be thinking, "What is a rain baby?" I'm gonna show you. I'm just gonna do the outline of a raindrop. (pen brushes paper) Just lightly do those falling marks. (pen brushes paper) Maybe want to add one more here. Then I'm gonna come in with a darker color on these pink ones. (pens squeaks) And maybe I'm gonna use this dark pink one for all of it. Just to start. Make some lil' cheeks. Lil' pink cheeks. And some little eyes. They have really fringey eyelashes

and their eyes are looking down 'cause they're falling. Then maybe you wanna sprinkle some little, tiny raindrops in here too, for them. Just to accompany them on their journey. Little rain babies, just because they're cute and sweet.

Day 30: Large Florals

- I really like drawing flowers in this loose style. I think the brush pens lend themselves really well to that, so it's another opportunity to just play around with your floral shapes. I go to my scribble style. That's where I almost always start. And when I first was doing these index cards, I think I said this before, but I was traveling on airplanes often and I just used highlighters. Just highlighters and black pen only, that's all I ever did. So it was mostly, like, three, three colors. It feels like a luxury to have all these brush pen colors. There's something, like, really satisfying in scribbling. And if you look at a lot of historic prints and patterns, not the things that are in Versailles, but if you look at Marimekko, or Vera Neumann and all those amazing scarves she made, it's a lot of gestural marks. They're not perfectly drawn flowers, they're, like, big, and saturated, and full of color. They have off-register line work, and that's what makes them so striking. Let's do some, like, loose, open leaves here. If you look at Pam Garrison's class, her sketchbooking class, she's another one that does really beautiful florals. They're not perfect, they're not perfectly structured, she does a lot of, like, doodles, and kind of reactionary drawing where she'll put down, like, a blotch of color, and then find the line within it. So you can do that. Perfect, a little summer floral. This one's gonna be a little crazy, I think. I wanna do some, like, kind of, roses, but really abstract. Like, Mackintosh, sort of. Charles Rennie Mackintosh, he did a lot of stained glass and he was an architect, so he has, like, really structured flowers. He does really beautiful, delicate drawings of flowers, too, but if you think about his stained glass, they're more stylized, like this. I used to draw roses like this when I was in high school. Not quite like this, but just really stylized. There we go. Just kinda got big shapes. These are really fun to draw. Maybe we'll rotate it, so it's going this way. Do the left side. I'm not sure why I always do the left side, I think it's just, like, the motion. I really just like the motion, maybe because I'm right-handed, I'm not sure. We're gonna rotate it and do the left side this way, too. You could always do the right side, or you could switch it up, whatever you like. I really like those overlapping colors, though, so I think doing the little shadow's worth it. Maybe you called your mom recently, but when's the last time you sent her a postcard?

Day 31: Sea Creatures

- It's the last day. What're you gonna do tomorrow? Hopefully you'll still be drawing. We're gonna finish this month off with some sea creatures 'cause they're fun and the ocean is a very deep, unexplored place, so there's many things that you could draw. I'm gonna start with seaweed. This is fun because just by pressing and lifting, you can kind of get that thick and thin that we've been playing with this whole time. And it totally mimics seaweed. Could draw a mermaid, I love mermaids. I used to tell my friends, little girls, when we would go to the beach, that all the seaweed we saw on the beach was actually the sea spinach that the mermaids didn't eat. And it was washed up. And they believed me. (laughs) Which is the fun thing about kids. Okay, that's our seaweed, I think. Could do like little fish swimming in and out of there. Maybe we'll just add one of those. It's like a little tiny fish. It's kind of poking through. Maybe you do two or three just so you see them there. Seahorses are another fun thing to draw. Again, very abstracted, just like fun little shapes. Kind of have these, like, long snouts. And their chests kind of puff out, and then come back around and their tail curls. They have these little like spines all the way along. They're really such an odd

little creature. It's kind of amazing what you can find in the sea. Maybe we'll add one in a different color. Little smaller one. Maybe this one's looking this way. Add some little bubbles. We're gonna put some features into these too so they look a little bit more like seahorses. Might be nice to do, like, some kind of loose seaweed behind them. And I like a little crosshatch pattern, they have texture. And, like, these little snouts. Almost like little a sea giraffe or something. They're so cute. And then maybe like my favorite thing to draw would be like jellyfish or squid or octopus, so I think maybe we'll do some octopus. Start with like a big head. So really have to count the legs 'cause you have to make sure that you have eight. One, two, three, four, five. Six, seven, eight. And then this is another one where you can kind of make these little marks for the suction cups, which I think are nice little texture. And doesn't matter if they're off register. I really like the way that looks. I gotta give them some little eyes. Just one big one. Maybe I'll do a pink one, a little one to go with him. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, okay. We have eight. Maybe this one's gonna curl back like that. You can see just, and if you've been doing this with me every day this month, that I have kind of colors I like to put together. And your own color palettes will evolve, and you'll see kind of what colors you really love together and maybe what phases you go through. Maybe one week you love pink, and another week you don't use any pink at all. It's kind of a fun thing to watch. So there's our two octopi. If you've been following along all month, you can see how quick these come together and how, by now, hopefully you've kind of started a practice where you're drawing every day if it's on an index card or in your sketchbook. At least you've established the habit. It only takes a few minutes a day to start. And once you start, it's something that you'll miss if you let it go by the wayside. So it's nice to do these draw a days. And if you haven't been doing it this month, you can go back to January, you can start with Lisa Congdon's class, you can jump in and out at any point. We just really want to encourage that daily creativity and hopefully one of these draw a days really inspires you to break out the markers or the pens or the paints or whatever you can do in a few minutes a day. If you've been really prolific this month and need an extra pen pal, then you can send us a postcard at Creativebug. Our address is 835 Market Street Suite 700 San Francisco, California, 94013. And if you send us a postcard, you might just see it on our Instagram feed.