Draw Yourself Back to Nature eCourse Supply List

There are lots of supplies you can use to inspire your creativity and connection with nature, so this supply list is for the basics we will be using in the tutorials for the course. You can definitely add the supplies that you want for creating your free prompts or use what you already have too!



While supplies can be ordered online or bought at a big box art store (like Michaels, Hobby Lobby etc.), I highly recommend seeking and heading out to your locally owned art supply store if possible. These stores generally have actual artists who work there who are familiar with the supplies personally and the shopping experience is quite inspiring in itself! I bet you will discover some supplies you want that you didn't even know existed. I always do!

I also recommend checking out a blog post I did on some of my favorite creative nature connection tools. I describe what I like about them and why. You'll definitely see some overlap in this supply list and the post items! Paste this link into your browser to see it: < http://www.wingswormsandwonder.com/favorite-spring-gizmos/>

For the record, I don't receive and perks, nor am I an affiliate of, any of these supply companies. they are just tools I have come to like over the years and find high quality.

Supplies

Journal books - For this course, I am loving the Pentalic Nature Sketch Pad lately. It has heavy weight pages so you can easily use watercolor paint in it while outside and it has a very natural white tone. It comes in a few sizes. I recommend choosing from either the 7x5 and 11x8.5 sizes because they are easy to carry out into the world. And as a bonus, a percentage of the sales of each book are donated to the American Wildlife Foundation!

Watercolor paints - Pelikan Opaque Color set (12 or 24) or the Windsor Newton Cotman Watercolor Sketchers pocket box are both great on the go watercolor paint sets at 2 different price points. They both also have the feature of each paint color can be taken replaced if used up. Or, if there is a color you never use, you can replace it with a color more in line with your personal color palette. I recommend choosing a paint box set over tube watercolors and a palette so you can easily take paint on the go!

Watercolor Brushes - You will want a few size and styles brushes. With brushes price definitely makes a difference. You don't have to buy the highest end brushes, but avoid the cheapy colored children's brushes. Pick brushes that fit your price point needs aiming for somewhere in the middle of the price scale, unless you want to splurge! Also consider your ethical values as to whether you will choose sable fur brushes or synthetic. Both paint equally well. I always choose synthetic because I feel it isn't really fair to kill animals in nature for their fur so I can connect with nature through paint.

Brush sizes to start with - round: 2, 4, 6, 10; flat: 4, 10, ½ and 1 inch.

India Ink - This is the permanent black in that I use when I outline my paintings.

India Ink brush - India Ink is strong stuff, so I keep a designated brush for painting with it. Since I use it for outlining, I use size 0.

Drawing Pencils - I like Prismacolor brand's "turquoise" line of drawing pencils (not colored pencils) in hardness "H" for under sketching for watercolor and hardness "2B" for basic pencil sketching. Other brands are fine too, just be sure to get the "H and 2B" hardnesses.

Erasers - I like the Staedtler brand white erasers. They work great, come in many sizes, and last forever. I keep the small one with my nature journal supplies for on the go.

Drawing Pens - Pigma Micron pen or other fine tip black <u>permanent</u> pen in sizes 2 and 5.

Water containers - I designate a jelly jar for my paint cup at home, but I also use a dropper bottle for my outdoor on the go water container. It is awesome for adding water in a very controlled by the drop way to either your paper or paint box.

Paper towels - These are a must for watercolor. Any paper towel will do.

Colored drawing or calligraphy pens - Pigma Micron pens come in many colors. I also really like LePen brand pens, but they are not permanent like the Microns. There are LOTS of fun colored pens out there to choose from in different thicknesses and styles. Experiment!

Colored pencils - All colored pencils are not created equal. Some are very waxy and don't bled well at all. I recommend the Prismacolor brand pencils first and Derwent second, but whatever you like (or have on hand) could be what works best for you!

Tote bag, backpack, or tackle box - This is what you will take with you when you go away from home to nature journal. Be sure it (or a combo) is big enough to fit all the items that you need. I usually pare down what I take "out" with me to a pencil, the journal book, and a couple pens, and if I am going to paint, brushes, the paint box, a paper towel, and water dropper bottle. If I am traveling longer term, I pack my designated art supply tackle box with all the supplies I want and then carry the journal separately in my bag (since it won't fit). This keeps them safe and ready to go at the first sight of a rainbow!

Optional: magnifying glass - These are fun for doing close up drawings and explorations.

And of course any other supplies, tools, and utensils you like! If you would rather not buy all the supplies at once and instead go week by week to see what you will want to use, feel free!

