

ART ACADEMY- Sample Drawing Lesson 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Grade, by Anne Spooner

**BACKGROUND:**

Paul Klee (pronounced Clay) was a wonderful Swiss born artist whose work reflects the influence the art of children had on him. He was a big advocate for children's art and exhibited it along with his own and his friend's art like Wasilly Kandinsky and Franz Marc.



**LESSON:**

Paul Klee's *The Tree House c. 1918*

Students are encouraged to add their own ideas and personal touches to their drawings along with practicing their drawing skills and trying, refining new techniques. Students will also learn about composition, light and dark, near and far and of course, problem solving!

After discussing the image, students are asked to design their own tree houses using pencil and paper.

How do you show the size of the tree in relation to a person? See how Paul Klee has drawn a very tiny person at the base of the tree trunk. This makes the tree seem very large to the viewer.

See how Paul Klee has used basic shapes to depict his image of a tree and houses. Students name the basic shapes they see, circles, triangles, squares, rectangles...

Students are also asked to show some semblance of a tree in their drawings. How would you draw the bark on a tree?

Instructor shows students the cross-hatching technique to draw the rough uneven texture of tree bark. Also by shading some areas light and others dark helps achieve this textural feeling.