



Cap sur l'école inclusive
en Europe



Pedagogical sheet

Drawing with the right side of the brain

Section of the module /E

Contact: Lannoy Dominique

School: Belgium Collège Saint-Guibert in Gembloux.

Website: www.collegedegembloux.be

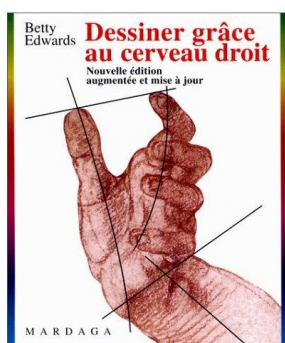


Definition :

Learning how to look at something

Drawing with sensitivity and accuracy

Principles and theoretical foundations at the basis of the theory



Helps to increase concentration, develops observation through each sense without using any memorized picture.

«Drawing what you see and not what you think you see"»

In the years 70s, Betty Edwards was a young Californian woman. She taught drawing. She studied and analyzed her own attitudes when she drew and she looks into a few strange phenomenas:

- why did she stop speaking when she explained an exercise, showing it at the same time with a drawing?
- why did a subject placed upside down help students to get better results?

- how was it possible to draw shapes better while observing the spaces that surround these?

«It is possible to learn how to draw adopting a new way of seeing, i.e. using the specific functions of the right side of the brain! »

How do both sides of the brain work?

The brain is made up of two sides, apparently quite similar : the right side of the brain and the left side of the brain.

Consequences of various accidents: the right side controls the left side of your body and the left side of the brain controls the right side of the body.

If your left side suffers from an accidental brain injury, it's the right side of your body that will be most deeply affected (and inversely!)

The left side, L Mode, is strongly linked to the idea of what is fair, moral, good, logical, appropriate. It analyzes, abstracts, counts, regulates time, organizes its actions gradually.

The right side, R Mode, is on the other hand, linked to the ideas of anarchy and vivid, immoral or uncontrolled feelings.

It helps see imaginary things, which are only visible for "the mind's eye".

Thanks to the right side of our brain, we can understand metaphors, dream, create new combinations of ideas...

It has a synthetic, global vision. It is based on intuition, what is sensitive. It sees the whole, best space perception.

To be left-handed proves that what is rational, analytical is often more important than the other side of the brain.

*"To learn how to draw is not only the learning of a technique. You must first of all learn how to see!!!
People who can see and draw are so scarce that artists are often considered as gifted with exceptional talent.
However, drawing is a technique that is acquired and which provides a double advantage. The R mode first helps put down on a sheet of paper what you have front of your eyes but it also makes you adopt a more creative way of thinking, useful in all fields.*

Indeed, the skill of a person for drawing mainly comes from his ability to adopt an unusual way of working out visual information, i.e. the ability to switch between an oral and analytical method (called R Mode) and a spatial and global method (called L Mode). Betty Edwards

When drawing something you observe, the most important is thus seeing correctly and not representing what your brain has memorized and drawing wrong, far from reality pictures.

In order to be able not to analyze, think, analyze in a rational way, it's important to unplug from the left side to obey the right side.

Exercises will gradually allow that kind of work.

For some people, it takes time and requires much external help, such as music, quiet and comforting ambiance.

It is therefore necessary to create progressive exercises and to keep inside that work philosophy that is helpful for the development of the R Mode brain.



1. The vase/faces

2. Upside down drawing

When a picture is put upside down, the visual data don't match...

The message is not understandable and our brain is disturbed by the very different aspect.

The results of this exercise are usually very disturbing due to the qualities of the drawing we get and the accurate observance of proportions and details.

« Drawing what I see and not what I think I know »...

3. Negative space

Negative space is the empty space in an artistic drawing.

Things and characters are the positive shapes.

It seems that the left side of the brain is not very interested by negative space because they represent nothing accurate but the emptiness.

Drawing negative space around an object, without showing any interest in the object itself!

The paradox of drawing something by drawing emptiness.

The drawing is much more easier when you draw the shape of negative space because the left side of the brain, unable to name negative space, stops imposing what it knows and lets the other side to do it.

4. Pure contour drawing

Pure contour drawing pleases even less the left side.

During this exercise, cognitive conversion is more important than in the first two ones and it prevents more L Mode from working.

In fact, the left side will probably hate this work because it is based on the perception of spatial and relational pieces of information. Typical of R Mode !

In short, pure contour drawing is a drawing created while observing thoroughly its model and while avoiding looking at the drawing which is being made on the sheet of paper.

Use /Scope:

for:

All students.

how:

Using the art to become aware of the available space on the size chosen for each exercise.

Drawing without looking at the sheet with a series of short, quick and evolving exercises.

why:

to use one's body as a means of expression, release tensions.

To draw without any fear.

Concentration: Importance of letting one's right side of the brain lead the operations while forgetting on purpose to try to identify what one is being representing on one's sheet, preventing so the symbolic aspect led by the left side.

Instruments :

Pencils, ballpens, markers. **No rubber!**

References : *Dessiner grâce au cerveau droit* Betty Edwards Ed.MARDAGA

Vision dessin créativité Betty Edwards Ed.MARDAGA

Methodology :

To unplug from the left side, rational side of the brain, and allow the most subjective and sensorial part of the brain to take place, shorts exercises are necessary. All are based on concentration, observation and sensory perception.

Take possession of the work space by the perception of the size of one's sheet of paper.

To touch, put on one's desk and observe the sizes of the sheet.

Keep the same sheet position

With the drawing tool, e.g ; pencil or ballpen, to draw a solid line without raising the pencil.

Don't drop your pencil, don't look at your sheet, draw a solid line without raising the pencil.

Series of exercises :

Touch the sheet, feel the empty spaces around the sheet.

To place oneself, to breathe, to listen to one's breath

To draw with the entire arm and gently

Vertical, horizontal, curved lines

—————> Upside down models (a series of portraits)

Left hand or right hand for left-handed people

Negative /Positive

....

Targeted skills

To recognize and make a difference between shapes: origins, aspects, physical and psychological characteristics of an object

Thanks to drawing a solid line, describe one's personal perception.

Adapt one's production to the size choosing a particular layout.

Evaluation criteria:

Respect of instructions: no rubber, time, size of the sheet