



# What Does Sound Look Like?

EPISODE LENGTH: 10:47

**SUMMARY:** This podcast includes a visit from one of our all-time favorite musicians: **COLIN MELOY OF THE DECEMBERISTS**. Using a variety of sophisticated sound-making tools (a.k.a. instruments) Colin helps us explore the question, “What does sound look like?” He plays six of his favorite sounds for us, and we use our sophisticated mark-making tools (a.k.a. pencils) to draw our visual interpretation of the sound, and create an abstract musical score. No rules! Use different media and marks. Get messy.

Colin is not only a literal rock star, but he’s also a phenomenal writer (hello **WILDWOOD CHRONICLES** made with fave human/illustrator/kids book author **CARSON ELLIS**).



**SUPPLIES:** paper, pen/pencil, a few different types of art-making supplies (crayons, pastels, pencils, markers, watercolors, charcoal, or even found materials)

**OTHER DRAWTOGETHER RESOURCES:** Watch video Episode 6, “Guitar! (The Practice Show)” for more music and sound creativity.

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING:** focus, paying attention, using multiple senses

**CREATIVE SKILLS:** gross motor skills; fine motor skills; learning about different supplies, formats, and media, exploring synesthesia

## Guiding Questions:

- What do you notice about the differences in the way you drew sounds?
- How would you describe these differences based on texture, lines, color, how fast or slow you drew, how hard or soft you drew (or other characteristics)?
- Do you think you could draw a song this way? What would it look like?
- \*Bonus: explore sound waves!

## DT ACTIVITY

# "CABINET of SOUNDS"

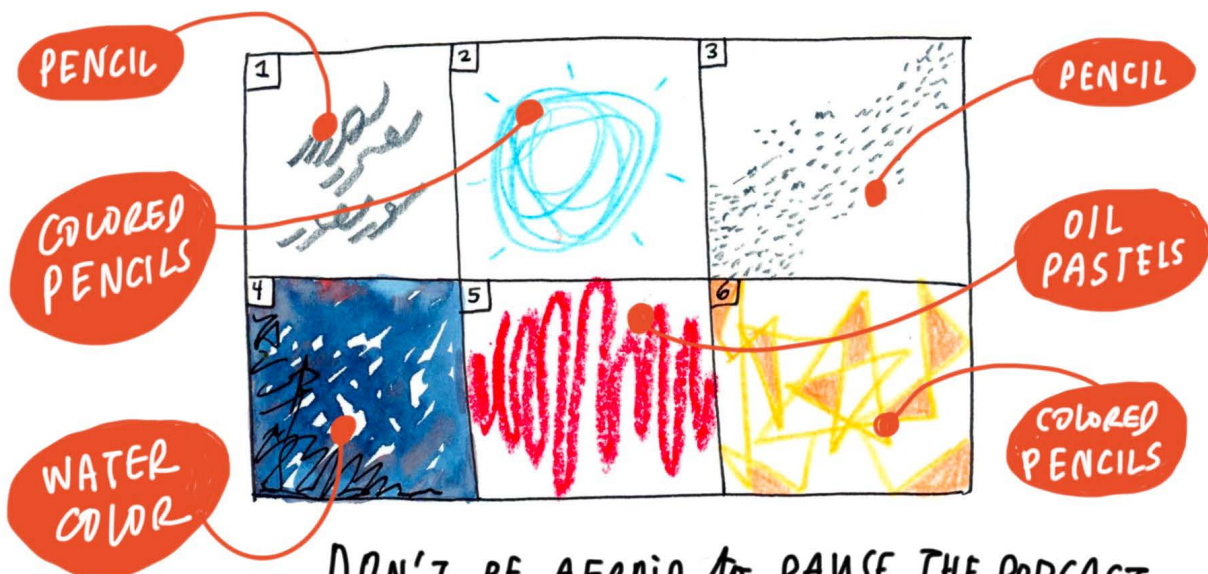
OR,

AN EASY WAY for STUDENTS to EXPLORE DRAWING MEDIUMS

**STEP 1.** AS A CLASS, and WITH ART KITS OPEN and AT THE READY, LISTEN TO THE DT PODCAST "#20, WHAT DOES SOUND LOOK LIKE?"

**STEP 2.** FOR EACH SOUND, SUGGEST STUDENTS EXPLORE USING A DIFFERENT MEDIUM, OR COMBINATION of MEDIUMS. THINGS to NOTICE: LINE, COLOR, TEXTURE. FAST v. SLOW. HARD v. SOFT. SMELL, TOUCH, NOT TASTE.

HERE'S AN EXAMPLE :



DON'T BE AFRAID to PAUSE THE PODCAST, DRAW OUTSIDE THE LINES and REMEMBER:

**NO RULES in ART... EXCEPT CLEAN UP.**