

# TOUCHING TEXTURES

Bumpy, smooth, fake or real, let's talk about how objects feel!



Gillian Jagger (American, b. England 1930—2019), **Whorl**, 1974, Fiber, molding paste, paint, stain, Elvehjem Museum of Art General Endowment Fund and Bertha Ardt Plaenert Endowment Fund purchase, 2003.2



Aaron Bohrod (American, 1907—1992), **The Turtle Shell**, 1961, Oil on hardboard, Gift of Garratt Richardson, 2002.63.2

Did you know that artists use “blocks” to produce art? Known as the elements of art, they are the building blocks which artists use to communicate. **Texture** is the element of art that illustrates how surfaces feel. **Actual texture** is the way an object really feels when you touch it such as smooth, bumpy, soft, or rough! **Visual texture** is the way an object looks as it would feel if it could be touched.

Actual texture is real but visual texture is imaginary!

## LOOK

Take a moment to look at the artworks above. Now, look at the artwork on the left. What **actual textures** do you see? Look at the painting on the right. Although the actual texture may appear smooth, what **visual textures** do you see? Can you find 8 different textures in the painting? Zoom in on the picture to get the best results!

# TOUCHING TEXTURES

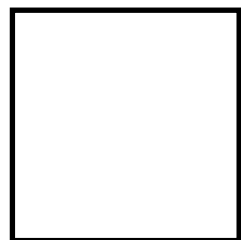
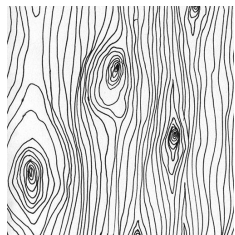
## Supplies Needed

Paper—thin paper is best

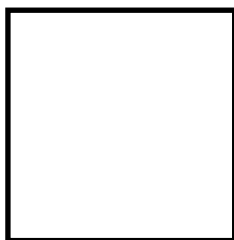
Crayons/colored pencils—use your favorite colors!

Surfaces/Objects—the more texture, the better!

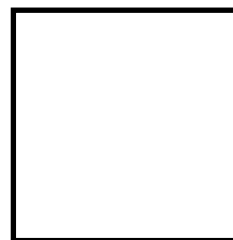
Imagination— Required! Let your mind go wild!



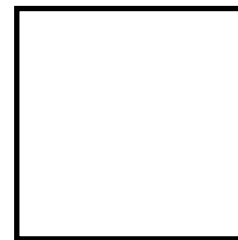
☐ ROUGH



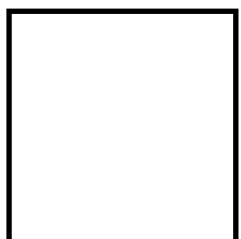
☐ WOVEN



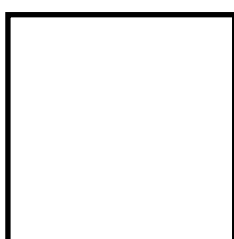
☐ SCALY



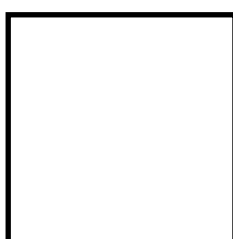
☐ FURRY



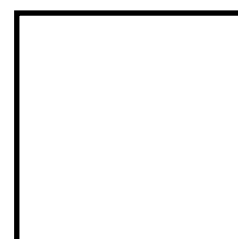
☐ SOFT



☐ BUMPY



☐ GRITTY



☐ SMOOTH

1

**Take a look around!** Using the list above as a guide, search your home or neighborhood to find an example of each type of texture listed (soft, bumpy, etc). If you are able, collect these objects for step three!

2

**Now that you've found actual texture, it's time to think about visual texture. Draw the textures of each object in the boxes above.** How would you draw something furry? Scaly? Use your imagination—there's no wrong way to draw!

3

**Gather your eight objects together and get the rest of your supplies.** You'll need thin paper and crayons. A colored pencil will work too! Also, be sure to ask for permission from an adult before playing with any of these objects!

4

**Ready, set, rub!** Place your objects on a flat surface. Then, one at a time, place a piece of paper over each object. Use your crayon or colored pencil and gently scribble on the paper. As you scribble, you'll start to see the texture of the object appear on the paper like magic! How do these textures compare to your drawings? Do they look the same? Do they look different? What do you see that makes you say that?