



Walkers Art Club

INTRODUCTION TO PERSPECTIVE DRAWING



NATIONAL
GALLERY

CAYMAN
ISLANDS



WALKERS

In This Lesson

This lesson opens a series on perspective and how it is used in art.

In this first lesson, you will be given an introduction to the technique, and learn about one form of perspective called 'linear perspective'.

You will need: Drawing paper (regular printer paper works fine), a pencil, an eraser, coloured pencils or crayons.



What Is Perspective?

In art, we use 'perspective' to draw, paint or otherwise represent a three-dimensional object or space (like a room or a landscape) on a two-dimensional surface (like a piece of paper or a canvas).

Perspective allows artists to create a realistic sense of depth. Some artists even play around with perspective to change the way we look at or understand a certain subject.

Look around your house or outside of your window. What do you notice? You'll see that items closer to you appear larger, while objects further away from you appear smaller. You can get a sense of how far away something is based on how its size appears.

This is perspective.

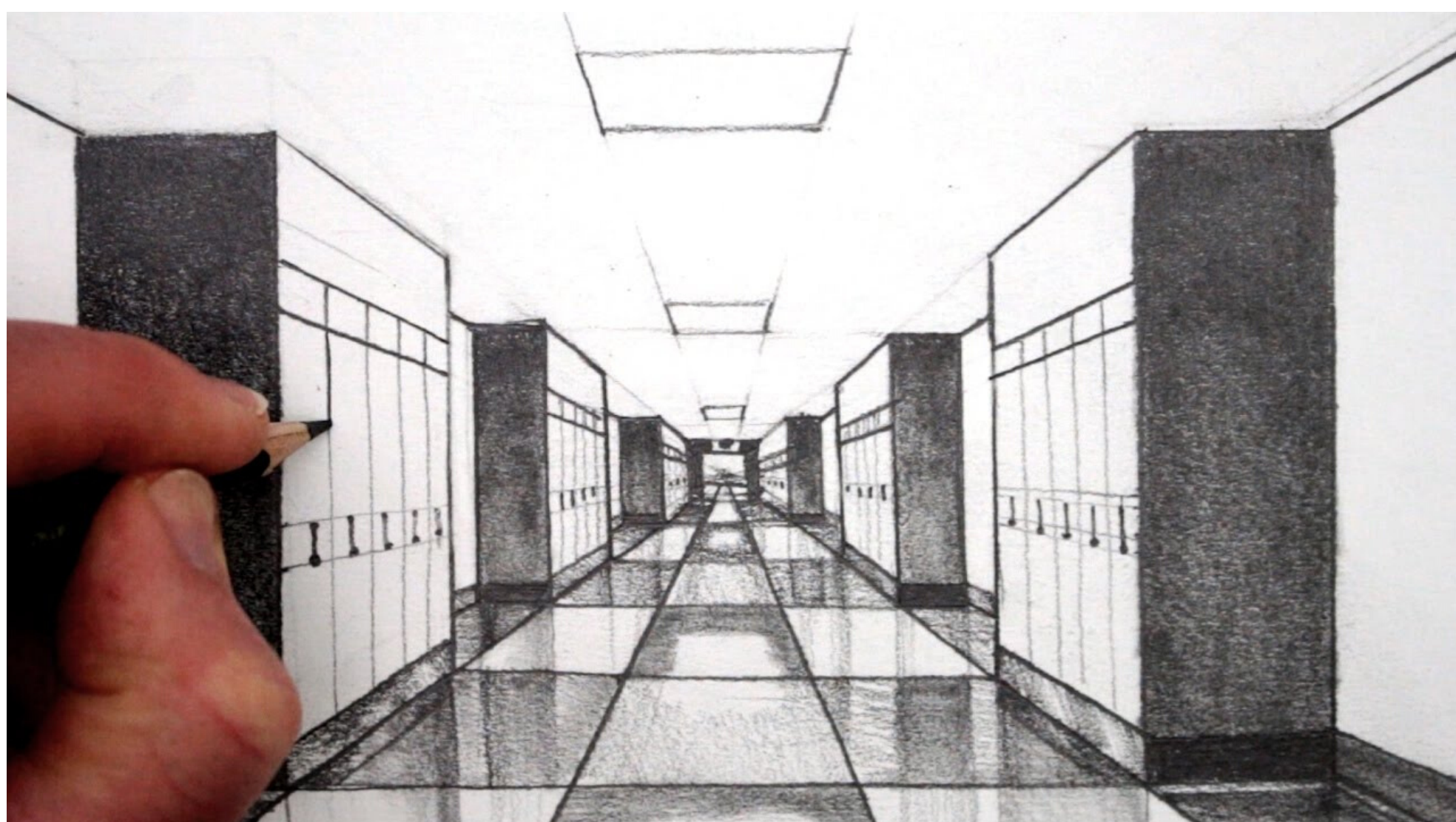


Image source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ICyLN6I2cY>

Linear Perspective

In 'linear perspective' two parallel lines appear to come together at a point in the distance. This point is known as the 'vanishing point'.

Some artists use a single vanishing point (sometimes called 'one-point-perspective'), like in the image of a road below. Others use multiple vanishing points to draw rooms and other three-dimensional spaces, or to play around with perspective.



Activity: Identifying the Vanishing Point

Take a look at these artworks from the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands' National Collection. Can you identify where the vanishing point is? Don't forget, there might be more than one!



Jeremy Sibley, *A Quiet Beach with Boats*, 2004.



Courtney Platt, *Seven Mile Beach (Now and Then Series)*, 2012.



Joanne Sibley, *Dorothy Bush's Home* 2005.

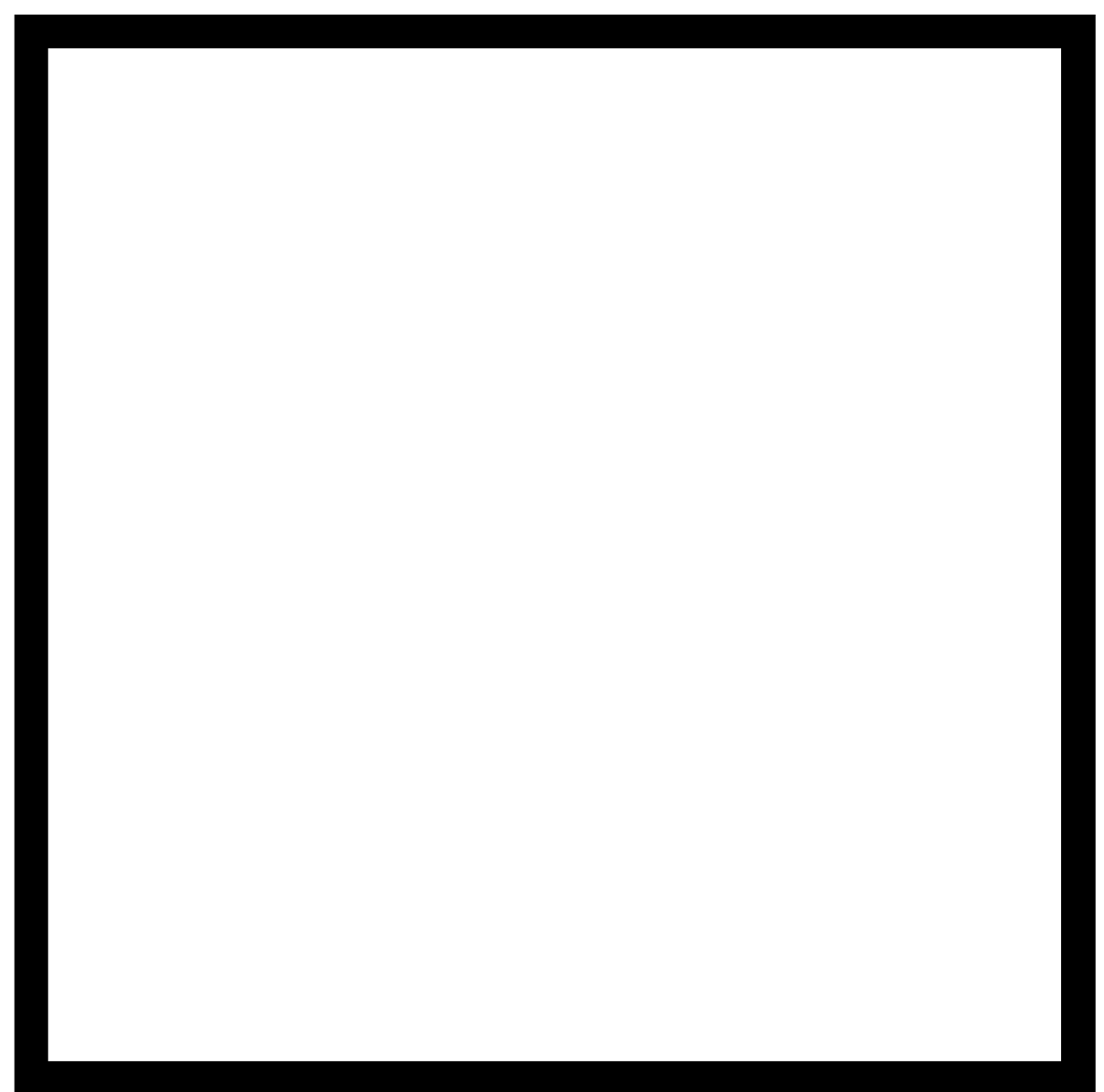


Jeremy Sibley, *Cottages Along the Road*, 1988.

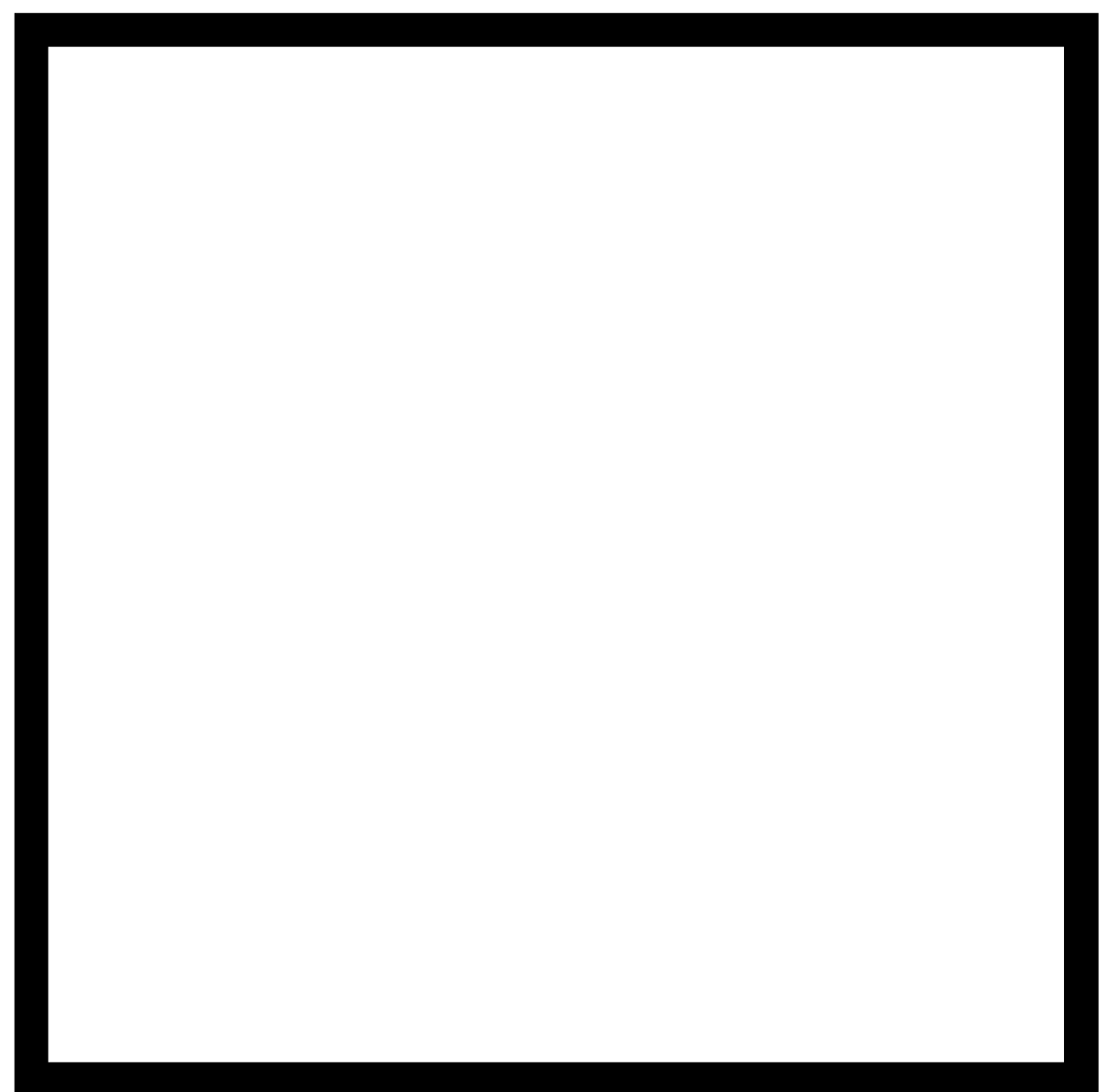
Activity: Practicing Basic Linear Perspective

Practice using linear perspective by drawing a road similar to the one in the photograph on pages two and four. Visual examples for this activity are provided on page eight.

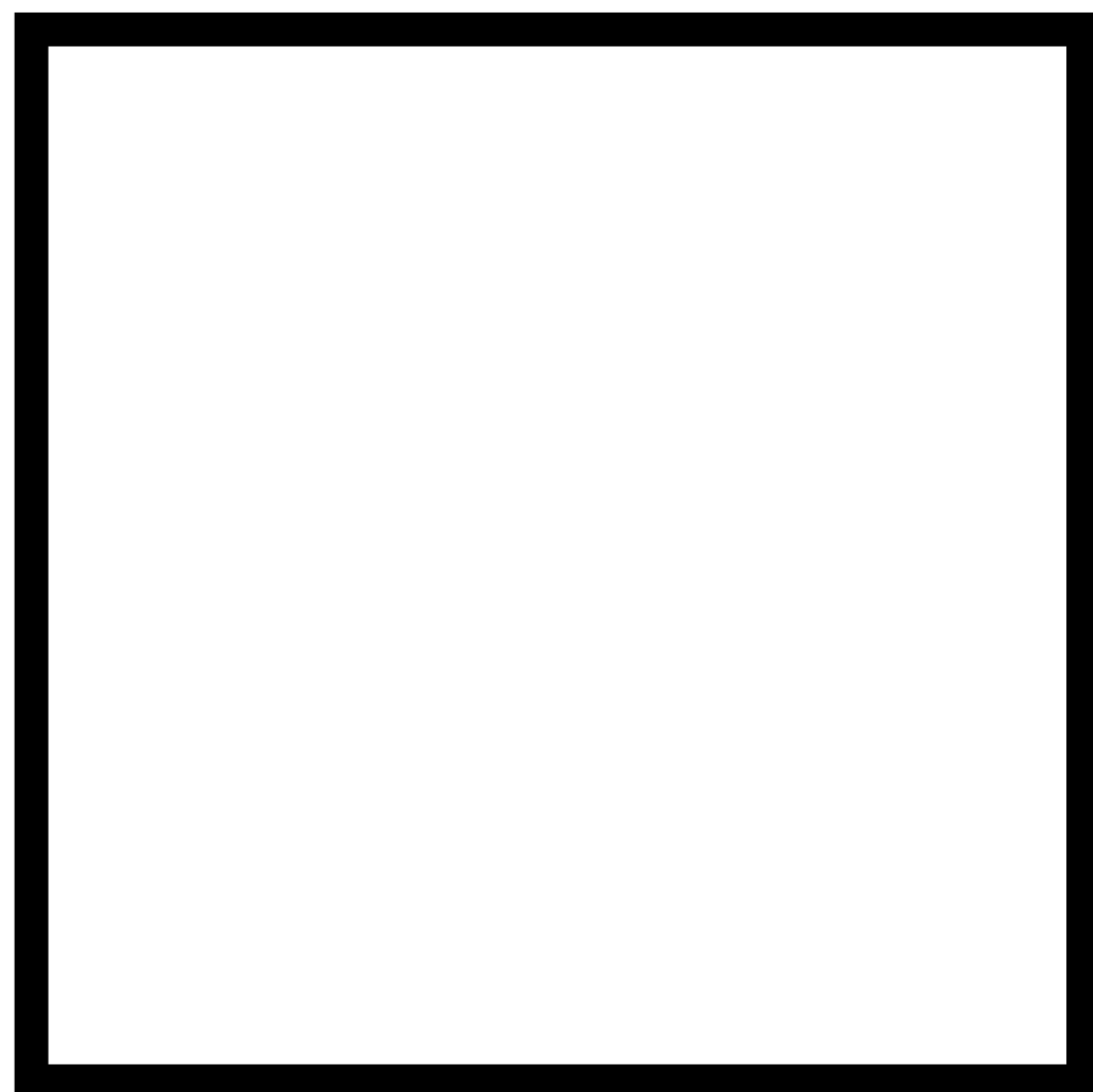
Step 1: Draw a cross through the box with dotted lines to help guide you.



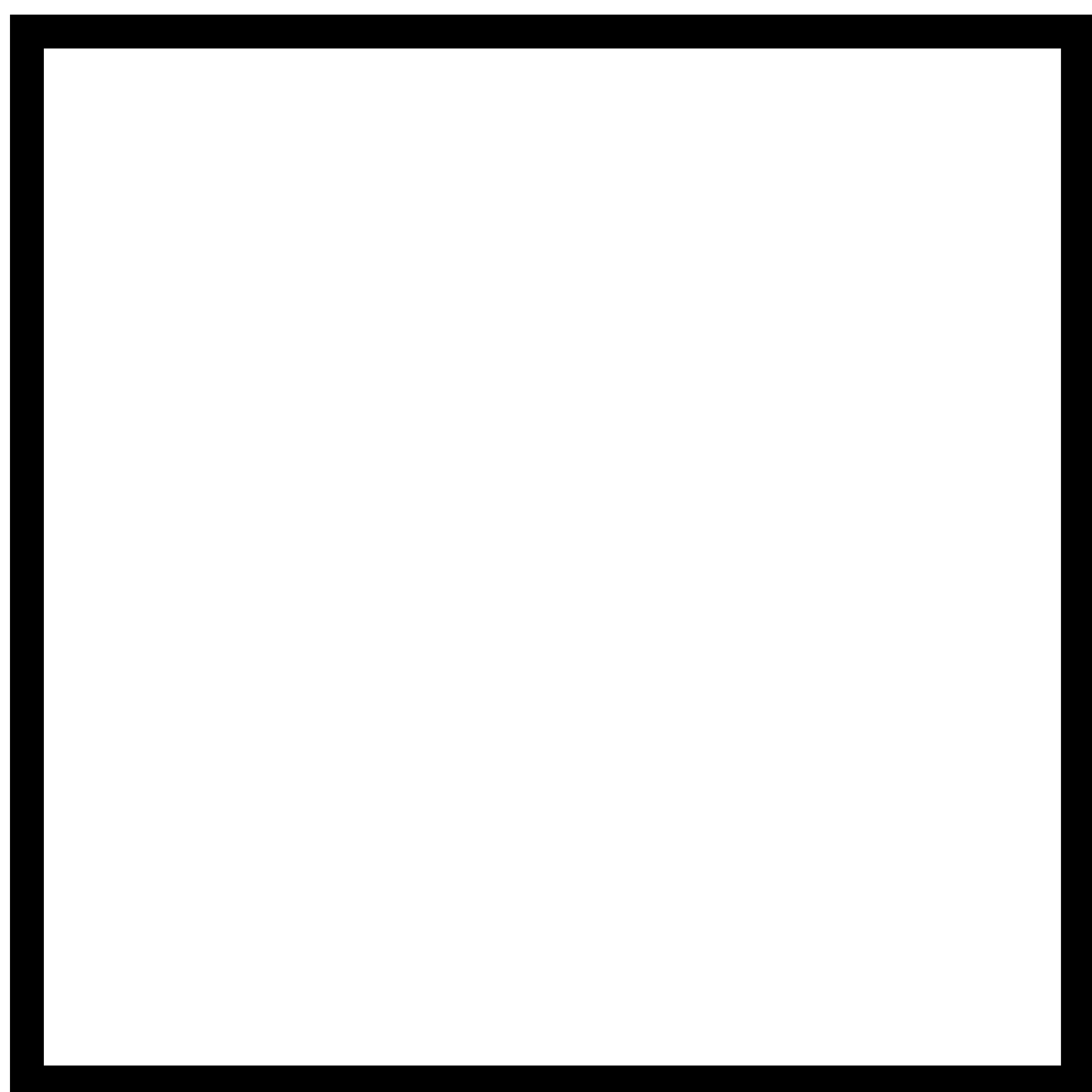
Step 2: Draw a horizon line horizontally across the page (underneath your dotted guiding line)



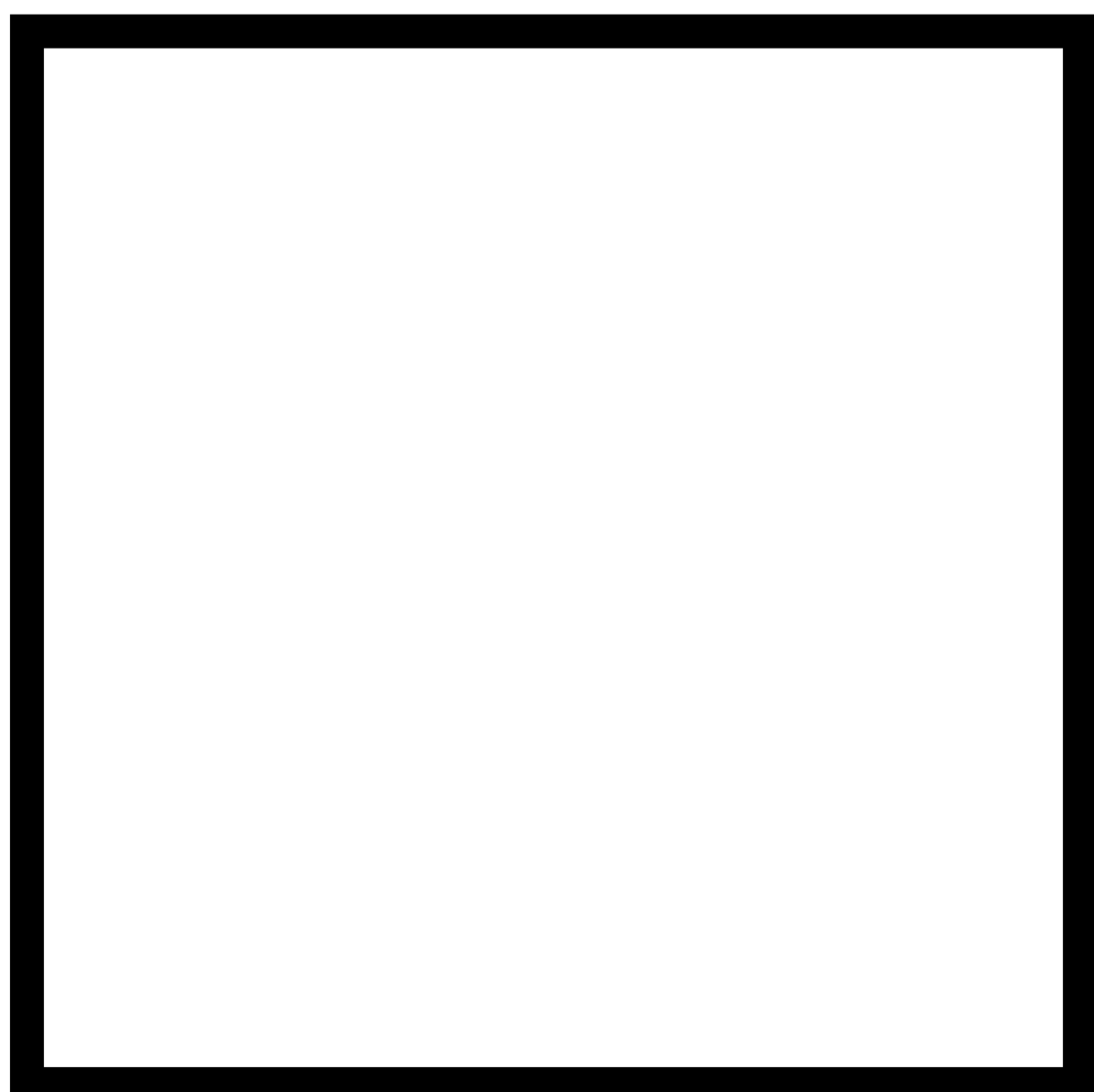
Step 3: Draw your parallel lines. They should start at the bottom of the page and get closer together as they meet the vanishing point (the spot at the horizon line where the two dotted lines meet).



Step 4: Add the centre lines for the road. These should also get closer together as they meet the vanishing point.



Step 5: Add trees or bushes on the sides of the road. Remember, they should be larger closer to the bottom of the box, and smaller as they get further away.



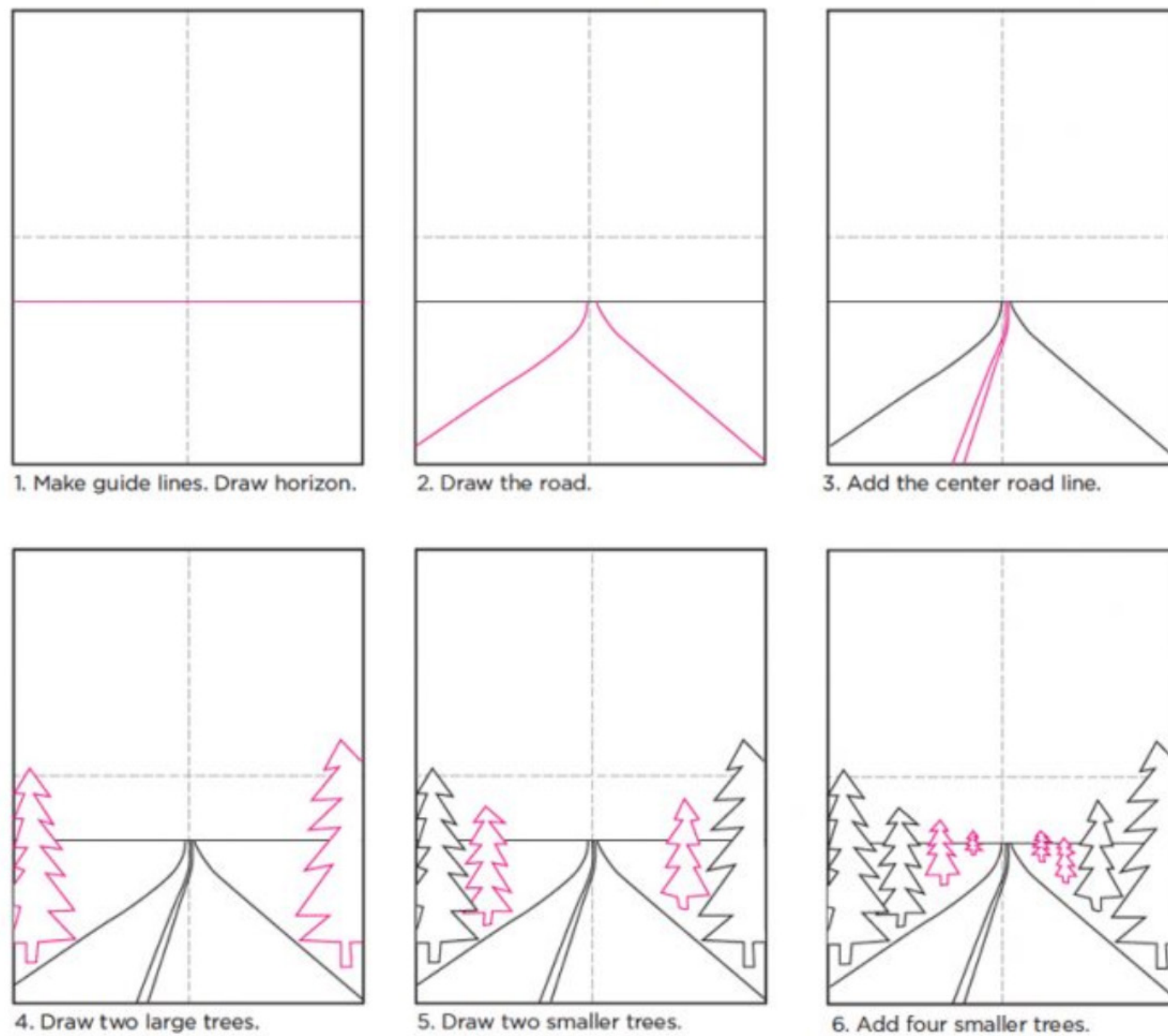


Image source and for further instruction: <https://artprojectsforkids.org/draw-perspective/>

In the next perspective lesson, you will learn how to use different types of lines to add buildings and other details to a perspective drawing.

For more resources on practicing drawing with linear perspective, vanishing points and one-point-perspective, visit the following links:

<https://artprojectsforkids.org/draw-perspective/>

<https://artprojectsforkids.org/draw-a-city-with-one-point-perspective/>

<https://www.deepspacesparkle.com/one-point-perspective-art-lesson/>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/student-resource/exam-help/perspective>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMPFe2U5_gg