

## to go! Freilicher

**Freilicher (Jane Freilicher)** was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1924. She is recognized for painting and drawing what is directly in front of and outside her living room window. Freilicher is in her late eighties and still paints everyday.

**Materials:** One sheet of 8 ½" x 11" or larger white paper, pencil, markers, crayons or colored pencils, ruler or straight edge

### Directions:

- Look at Freilicher's paintings. Why do you think Freilicher paints pictures of what is inside and outside of her house? Find a window in your house. What do you see directly in front of your window? A bed? Pictures? A sleeping dog? What do you see outside your window? A street with cars? Your backyard? A sleeping cat?
- Now you are going to create your own picture of what is in front of your window and what you see out the window. Make sure your paper is sitting in front of you the tall way – *vertically*. Using a ruler or straight edge, draw a line across the paper. The line should be about three inches down from the top of the paper. Color everything above this line daytime sky colors – light blues, white clouds, yellow streaks of sun.
- Now you are going to make the *middle ground* – a field below the sky that is seen from the window. Start by drawing another *horizontal* line across the entire paper. This line should start two inches down from the other line. Now draw another horizontal line three inches below this one. Everything between these two lines should be colored to show a field. It can be yellow or green. It can have rows of crops like in Freilicher's painting or whatever you see out your window.
- Now you are going to draw what is inside the house around the window. Color in everything below the field a light grey color. The light grey goes all the way to the bottom of the paper and is the table or shelf just inside the window. The objects on the shelf appear bigger because they are in the *foreground* and are closer than what is outside the window (in the *background*). On the grey shelf draw some things you have on your own shelf or you can draw objects similar to what is in Freilicher's piece - a big picture frame with a picture of yourself in it, a favorite toy, a vase with flowers in it.
- Take a look at what other family members put on their shelves. Ask each other why you drew those particular objects on the shelf. Now take the picture you just made and put it on a shelf or table under or near a window.



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