

# Valued Grid Drawings

1. Review value and shading. Remind students that shading can be blended and smooth, textured, or hatched (or cross-hatched).
2. Have 12" square paper prepared. Have students measure and make a 2" grid. Lightly draw the grid.
3. Name/ID goes in the upper left square. Students choose two 4 letter words. One goes across, one goes down. They have to be "G" rated, positive and appropriate. The last square is blank.
4. Introduce or review composition, and dynamic balance.
5. Use the letter shapes to fill in the grid. Each square will house 2 letters overlapping -one from the word going across and the other from the word going down. Overlapping letters should form a good composition and the whole grid should be a good composition. For this reason shapes should be **closed**, with no lines that do not make part of a shape. Basically, all letters should be **uppercase and touch as many sides of the square as possible!!**
6. Use all the values to shade the shapes. Create a balance of light and dark, smooth and textured, making sure no two values or textures are next to each other. Trim the finished drawings with only the shaded grid showing.

## TIPS:

- A. Words with letters that have rounded shapes work better than words with letters that have all straight lines. For example, WORD will work better than TELL.
- B. Using all capital letters works best.  
Having pencils with a variety of soft and hard leads makes it easier, but it can be done with just #2 pencils.
- C. <http://www.scrabble.org.au/words/fours.htm> A scrabble vocabulary site for four letter words.

