

Cards You'll Need

from the Curious Terrain
Explorer's Deck

Discover Cards

All of them

Record Cards

Drawing

Wild Cards

Any of them (optional)

Other Materials

1) **Sketchbook**

2) **Drawing** and **writing tools**

3) **Timer** (optional)

Choose a Place

Find a place that intrigues you. Depending on your time and ambition, this activity works well at a range of scales, from a small garden or plaza to a street or shopping center, to an entire neighborhood or small town.

Ideally, choose a place that is *alive with people*, so that you can observe not only your own reactions and behaviors, but also those of others.

Intentions

Draw a place, with a twist. Instead of focusing on the appearance and physical arrangement of objects in space, focus on the experience and behaviors the place evokes in yourself and other people moving through it.

We don't experience the world in a series of snapshots, with our eyes alone. We take it in through all of our senses, over a period of time. Sharpen your skills in observing and capturing the temporal, multi-sensory human experience of place.

Methodology

1. Go to your chosen place.
2. Review the *Drawing* card for inspiration.
3. Shuffle your 28 *Discover* cards.
4. Randomly draw a *Discover* card.
Write the title of the card in your sketchbook.
5. (Optional) Set your timer for 30 minutes, or whatever period you prefer.
6. Spend some time observing and thinking about the place in the context of your chosen card. Don't stay still. Move around and examine the place from different angles.
7. **Draw!** Your goal is to capture the essence of whatever your card is prompting you to observe about the place. Your drawing style can be abstract or representational, diagrammatic or calligraphic. Don't hesitate to incorporate notes and labels.

Experimentation is encouraged! Don't worry about producing a polished piece of art. Doing a series of quick sketches is more likely to awaken your creativity and sharpen your observation skills than laboring over a single drawing for an hour.
8. Repeat steps 4-7 as many times as you wish, with additional cards.

BONUS! Choose any of the *Wild* cards to modify and extend this activity.