

# GETTING CREATIVE

Activity 5c

**CULTURE 365 - GETTING CREATIVE SERIES**  
Presented in partnership with Dream Brokers

## Drawing a Spirit Buffalo with Phyllis Poitras–Jarrett

### WHAT WE ARE MAKING TODAY

Have you ever wanted to learn how to draw animals? Combine simple shapes and follow step-by-step instructions to see how easy it is to create great looking animal drawings. Line drawing is a simple art form but it is a key starting point for emerging artists.

SPIRIT ANIMALS can teach us about ourselves. The animals we connect to, those we may dream about, are

those that show the traits and strengths that we should be honouring in our own lives at certain points of time.

The BUFFALO is a sacred animal to the Indigenous peoples of the Plains. The buffalo provided so much, that to some cultures it signifies that abundance and liberation are on the way. Today, Phyllis Poitras-Jarrett will lead you through the steps to draw different spirit animals.

#### Supplies Needed:

Sketch book, detailed sample drawing, pencil, pencil sharpener, glue stick and eraser.



*How To Draw A Buffalo*

### STEP 1

Paste the sample drawing of the buffalo in your sketch book. Find the key circular areas on the body of the buffalo.

In the blank area next to the sample drawing, draw your own circles – the same shape, size and placement as in the sample.



*How To Draw A Buffalo*



### STEP 2

Draw line guides for legs – they are slightly bent.

Draw a line for the tail.



### STEP 3

Draw a line around connecting all the circles. Try to make your body outline the same as that in the sample drawing.



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** By attempting this activity, you accept responsibility for your actions and indemnify SaskCulture, Sask Lotteries, contracted artists and/or its partners, officers, directors, employees, contractors, agents, volunteers against all claims, actions, suits, demands, losses, expenses, costs or damages of every kind.



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## STEP 4

Next, add in nose and horns.

Draw in the shape of the legs around the leg lines. Don't forget to widen the top and add in hoofs.



## STEP 5

Erase all the circles and lines inside that you don't need. Make any adjustments you need to make the body shape look like the sample drawing.

Draw in the tail and draw in an eye.



## STEP 6

Draw in its curly mane. It is a different texture of fur than on the body.

Fur on the head is longer at the top around the horns.



## STEP 10

Finally, add in details including shorter fur at the back end of the buffalo and details on the legs, hooves and tail.



### TIP:

Nobody draws something perfect the first time. Do not press too hard on your pencil. And, use your eraser to change lines until they look right to you.

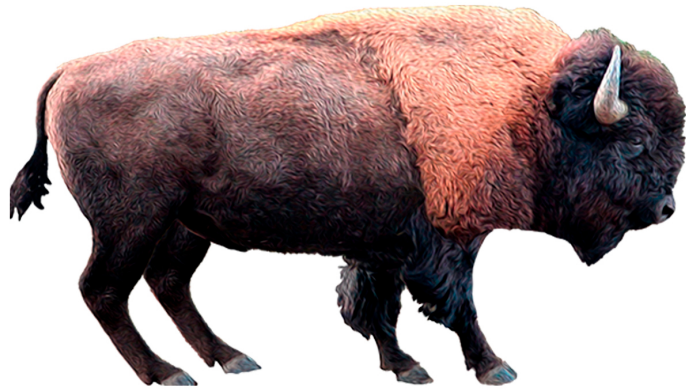
## NEXT STEPS

Once you have completed all the drawings. Take photos of your completed work and send it to your Dream Broker. The artist would love to see your work, and SaskCulture would love to add it to a showcase of student expression.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Phyllis Poitras-Jarrett is a Métis artist from Saskatchewan whose art honours the animals and plants that helped sustain the Métis and the other Indigenous peoples throughout history. A self-taught artist, Poitras-Jarrett is presently focused on mixed media acrylic paintings and textured Métis beadwork. Inspired by her kokum's creativity and determination, she has continued to connect her culture with her art. She has received support from SK Arts in the last few years for her work on spirit animals, as well as from Canada Council for the Arts, to create a short animated video. Visit [www.metisspiritart.ca](http://www.metisspiritart.ca) to find out more.





## How to Draw A Buffalo

