

TOGETHER FOR DINNER

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

close observation and attention to detail; personal interpretation of a common subject

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

drawing paper; crayons or felt pens

"TIPS": This lesson is a measure of how many details you remember about a familiar scene. Close your eyes right now and try to see in your mind your family eating a meal together. Have somebody ask you, "What people are in the room? What is each one doing? What is on the table? What else is in the room? Then, with your eyes open, see what other things are in the room that you might want to put in your picture.



Norman Rockwell <u>Freedom from Want</u> 1943 Norman Rockwell Museum Stockbridge MA

Getting Started: Look at one or more pictures of people having a meal together. Tell what you see. What would you hear? Smell?

Taste? Now, what will be the most important part of *your* picture? Will the whole family be there? Pets? Visitors? Where will the food be? Who will be sitting and who will be carrying things? When you have a good "mind-picture," draw it on the paper.

1. Put the most important part of your picture in the middle of the paper. Draw it large, but leave room for other things. Don't color in any parts yet.

- 2. Think what other people or things are near what you have already drawn. Add them to your picture.
- 3. What else can you draw in that room? On the table? On the floor or wall or ceiling?
- 4. With your crayons or felt pens, color your "Together for Dinner" picture.



Vasilis Age 7

CONNECTIONS: Play this old-fashioned game with some friends: Ask a grown-up (or take turns being "it") to show you 10 or more small objects on a tray. With your friends, look at each thing carefully. Then cover up the tray and take turns trying to tell out loud what you remember seeing. Who remembers the most things?

CLEAN UP: Put your drawing materials away. Does your storage area need cleaning out? Maybe now would be a good time to do it.

TALK ABOUT IT: Compare your drawing with the actual place where your family eats together. Did you forget to draw anyone or anything important?

MORE IDEAS: Close your eyes and imagine another "mind-picture," then draw it. Could it be "My Favorite Place to Play," or "In the Supermarket," or "Doing What I Like Best at School?" Be sure to put in as many details as you can remember.