

Illustrating Science

Artwork by Katura Reynolds www.katura-art.com

Techniques:

Colored Pencil on Toned Paper

White paper (*really* white paper) is a relatively new invention. (The technique of bleaching paper didn't come into use until the 19th century.) For centuries, artists have done sketches on paper that is a medium tone of grey or brown. This lets you draw highlights in white paint or chalk and shadows in charcoal or dark paint. The effect can be quite striking!

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Techniques:

Pencil on Drafting Film with Paint

There are a variety of drafting films available, some made of plastic, some of translucent paper. One advantage of this semi-transparent material is the fact that you can place it directly on top of preliminary sketches and trace earlier outlines as you work on the finished piece. Perhaps more fun is the ability to draw on both sides of the paper! These drawings are done on the front of the drafting film, and the back sides are painted with white acrylic paint to fill in the outline of the bones. A sheet of darker paper was then placed behind the film to show off the contrast that the paint creates.