

## SWEET WRAPPERS

**To use the fine brush tool in a graphics program to produce detailed results.**

†† Pairs.

⌚ 45 minutes at the computer; 10 minutes discussion/demonstration.

### Previous skills/knowledge needed

Familiarity with art tools within graphics software including those for brush size, colour palette selection, colour fill, erasing and magnification.

### Key background information

A common art activity is to produce a detailed reproduction of an object, such as a sweet wrapper. Using IT to do a similar task is not so easy. The mouse becomes the paintbrush or drawing tool and children need time to develop skill in using it for detailed work. However, IT offers certain advantages in this kind of task. Mistakes can easily be rectified; detailed work is helped by a zoom or magnification facility which makes images appear larger on the screen. (Some software has several degrees of magnification available.) 'Global' changes can be made, such as changing all instances of one colour to a different one by a single click of the mouse.

### Vocabulary

Brush tool, drawing tool, magnification tool, zoom in, zoom out, pixel, colour fill.

### Preparation

Invite the children to bring in a variety of sweet wrappers. Make one copy of photocopyable page 137 for each child.

### Resources needed

A computer, graphics software including a paintbrush facility and preferably a magnification tool, a colour printer, a collection of sweet wrappers, art materials such as paint, brushes, coloured pencils and paper (optional), magnifying glasses, photocopyable page 137.

### What to do

Use photocopyable page 137 to introduce this activity. The sheet provides a picture of a key which the children must draw enlarged versions of, keeping as much detail as possible. They can choose their own scale, either reproducing the whole object, or better still, a small part of it. Using magnifying glasses will help them.

Once the children have completed this task, let them look at the collection of sweet wrappers. Again, provide magnifying glasses to enable the children to make a detailed observation. Then tell them that they are going to reproduce an enlarged detail from one of the sweet wrappers. To do this, they must concentrate on a small part of the design and choose an interesting area containing several colours or a particular pattern or logo, for example.

Show the children how to draw an outline of the wrapper on screen using simple crayon or brush tools, then use the

drawing or line tool to sketch roughly where the main features will be. The drawing need not be absolutely accurate, as adjustments can be made later when adding in the detail. Demonstrate how to use the magnification tool. Explain that choosing a narrow drawing tool or paintbrush while working under magnification, allows very detailed work to be done. Use fonts to reproduce any lettering and rotate them if possible to create a more realistic perspective.

Pairs of children can then work on the computer reproducing a single sweet wrapper, continuing to use a magnifying glass to see small detail clearly. Remember that precision is not the priority here. The children need the experience of using IT to perform detailed tasks so that they become familiar with the various tools and understand the opportunities and

limitations of computer graphics software.

Resources and time will mean that some children will be using conventional art materials for this activity. This will provide an opportunity for the children to discuss the differences between using IT and 'standard' art tools. What are their preferences and what constraints did they encounter using these media?




inform

**A close up look**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Look at the drawing below. It shows a key.

- ▲ Focus on a small detail in the drawing and look at this closely, perhaps using a magnifying glass.
- ▲ Draw this detail, or the whole key, in the space provided, enlarging it as much as possible but still keeping the detail.



### **Suggestion(s) for extension**

Confident children may like to use the graphics cutting tool to cut out their wrapper, shrink it and paste the reduced image in a tile formation.

### **Suggestion(s) for support**

Less confident children should choose a straightforward detail to copy from their sweet wrapper, with a minimum of lettering. Roughing out an approximate shape onto a piece of paper will help to guide their positioning of lines on the screen.

# A close-up look

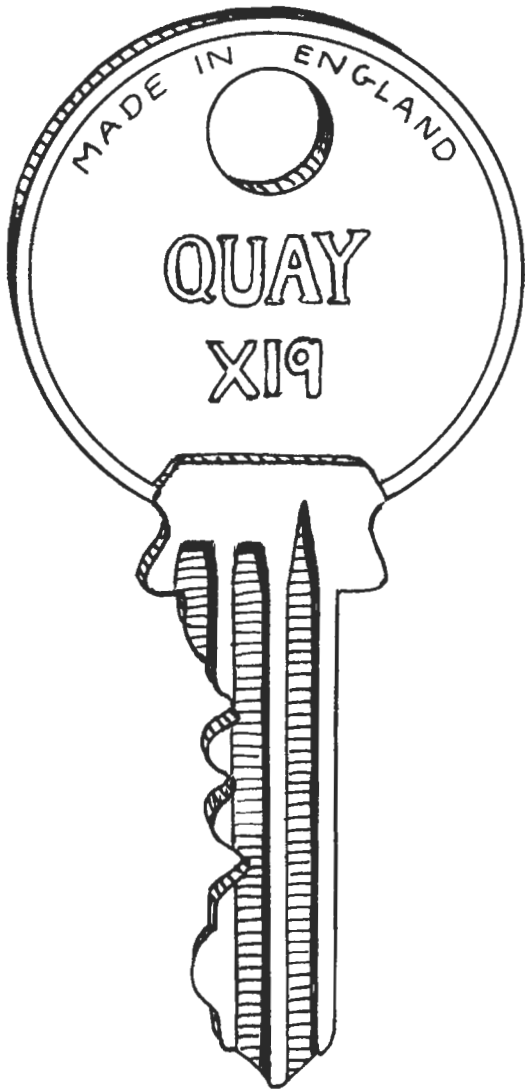
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Look at the drawing below. It shows a key.

▲ Focus on a small detail in the drawing and look at this closely, perhaps using a magnifying glass.

▲ Draw this detail, or the whole key, in the space provided, enlarging it as much as possible but still keeping the detail.



A large empty rectangular box for drawing the key or a detail of it.