

Background, Middle Ground, and Foreground

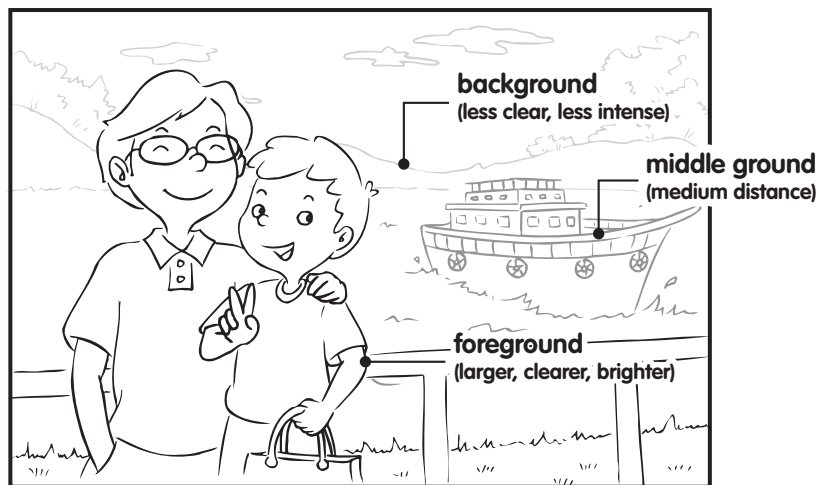
Objective: To label the *background*, *middle ground*, and *foreground*, and identify objects in each of these areas in a picture

Looking out of your window, you will see that the world is framed like a picture. Can you see far into the horizon? Are there buildings or trees close by?

The space outside your window can be divided into three sections: background, middle ground, and foreground. Artists use this technique, or their awareness of these sections, to give their work depth.

In a picture, objects **low** or directly in front of us are perceived as closest to us and are in the *foreground*. They are **larger, clearer, and brighter** than those “behind” them.

Objects at a medium distance are perceived as **mid-ground**; they are in the middle of the frame.



Objects farthest from us, in the *background*, are usually **higher** in the picture; they seem **less clear**, and their colours are **less intense** than those in both the foreground and middle ground.

The Group of Seven, a talented group of Canadian artists from the early 1900s, used great contrast between their back, middle, and foregrounds to show depth when painting the seasonal landscapes of Canada.

Name: _____

Date: _____

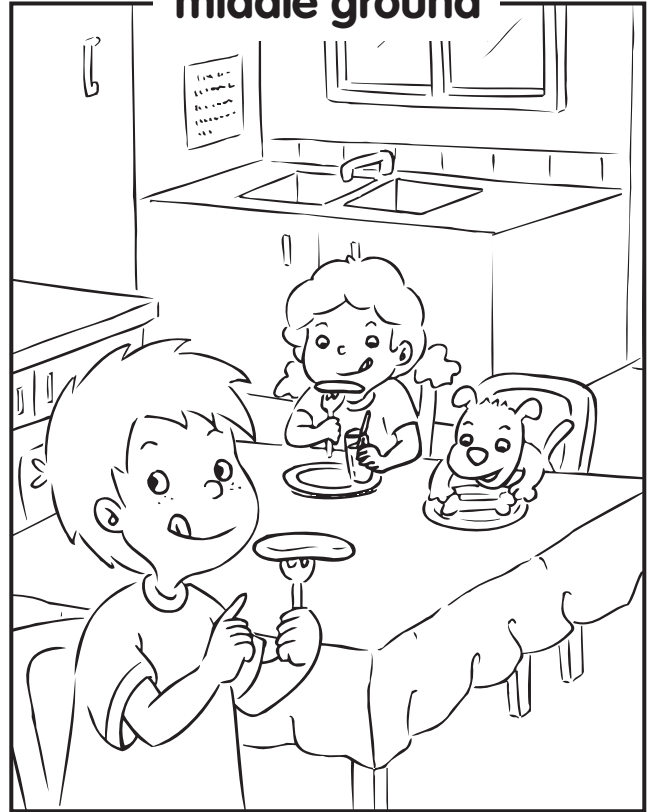
Background, Middle Ground, and Foreground

Colour the area indicated for each picture.

background



middle ground



foreground

