

## Sunflowers, Zinnias, and Other Composite Flowers

Asteraceae Family-The centers of composite flowers are the actual flowers (disc florets) and what we call petals are actually

called ray florets. Many of these 'flowers' are based on a spiral design.

- . Get the pose or angle of the flower
- \* When you tip a circle, it becomes an ellipse or oval shape. Start by drawing the larger oval.
- Place the center of your flower.
- \* Stop and use a ruler or divider or your pencil to check your measurements.
- Start laying in your petals (ray-florets.)
  - o Look carefully at the shape and tip of the petal
  - o Align the center of the petal to the center of the flower.
  - O Look at the negative shapes in between petals for help with placement.
- If you have drawn the ovals correctly your petals will have boundaries and will fit right in.



- The real 5-petaled -flowers are in the center. Try to indicate with your strokes and colors that there are many flowers. In zinnias if the center is raised, show the form by darkening one side. Practice drawing the center elsewhere on your paper. Find several pencils that will be the local color- the real color of your flower.
- Choose at least three pencil- a light, a medium, and a dark to do your ray florets. Check the backs of the "petals" for color hints. You will need the dark to separate the petals by darkening the ones underneath. Do not outline your petals.
- Look carefully at the leaves. Work with the greens on your supply list.
- Have fun with these happy real summer flowers.

Do not fear mistakes. There are none." ... Miles Davis