

## Daisies and other composites

“The word daisy comes from two old Anglo-Saxon words, *daeges* and *eage*, which mean day’s eye. When the flower of the Daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*) first opens the white circle of petal-like rays unfolds to uncover the yellow center, which is like the sun, the “eye” of the Daisy.” ... The flowers we think of as daisy-like, composites, are all members of the Aster Family. The word *aster* comes from the Greek and Latin for **star** (perhaps because the disk flowers have 5 petals and often look like stars. ... Wildflowers and the stories behind their names by Phyllis S. Busch

Circles become ovals and lay flat like a dish or cup or roll over a tube-like shape.



Anne Ophelia Dowden

- ❖ Draw lots of these shapes on your page or in the air before putting it down on paper. See page 204, Botany for the Artist by Sarah Simblet and her drawings below.
- ❖ Practice adding petals to these shapes. Look carefully at the shapes of the petals.
- ❖ Practice different ways to show the disk flowers in the center.

“I have learned that what I have not drawn, I have never really seen, and that when I start drawing an ordinary thing, I realize how extra ordinary it is .....Frederick Franck,  
The Zen of Seeing

