

The Aster Family

“Dandelions and daisies are evocative of long childhood summers spent playing outdoors, yet we may never realize that each “flower” is in fact a cluster of hundreds of flowers all packed together on the top of a stalk.” Sarah Simblet, Botany for the Artist

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).

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

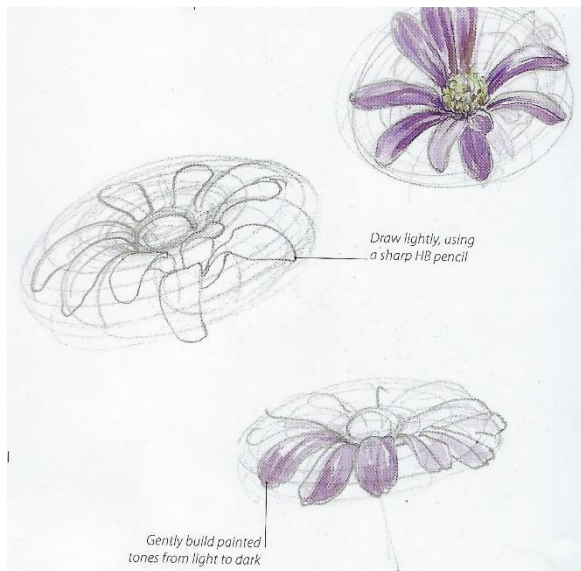
- ❖ Draw lots of these shapes on your page or in the air before putting it down on paper.

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.



Anne Ophelia Dowden



“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