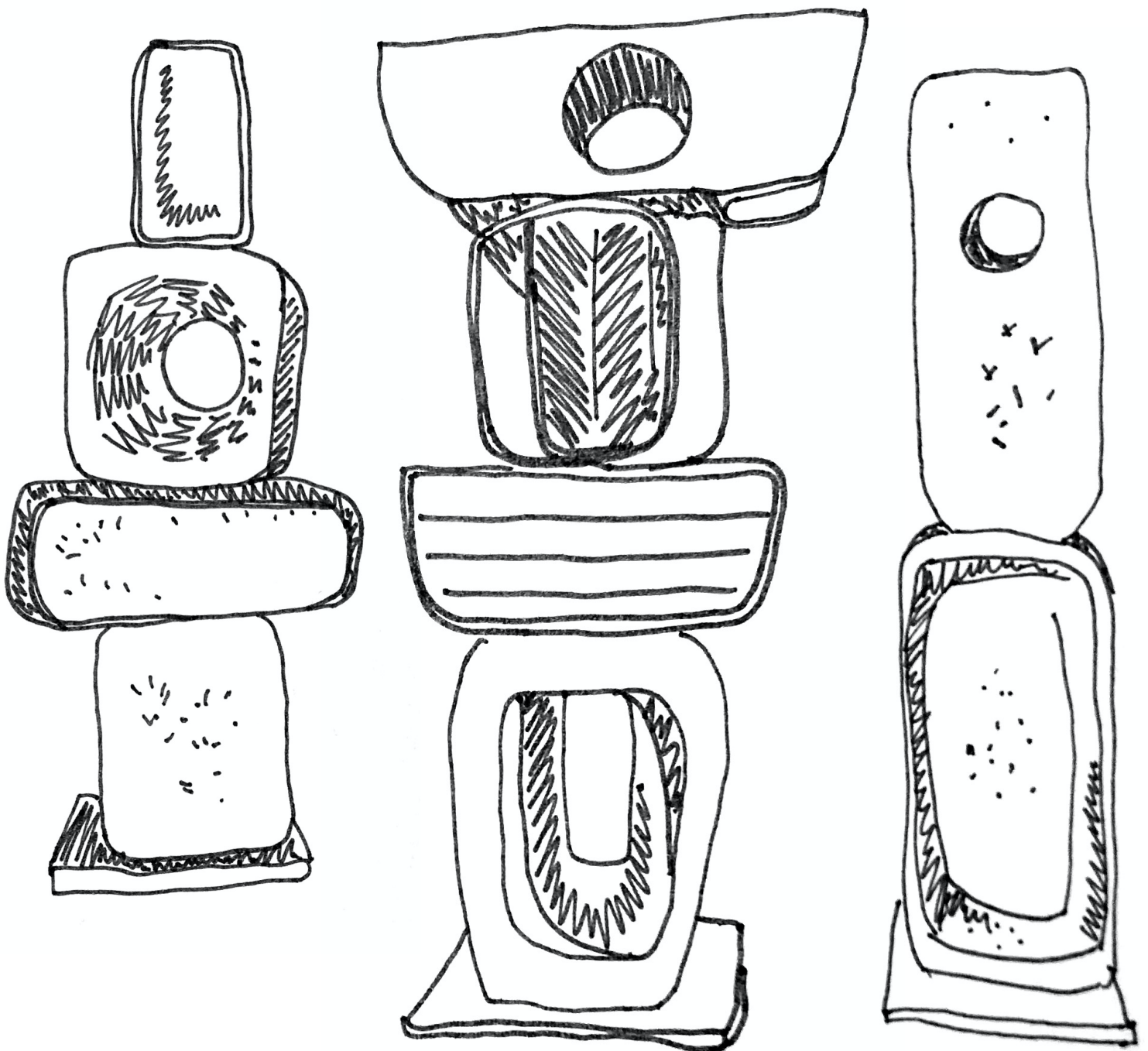


The Roche Court
Educational Trust
NewArtCentre.

Sculpture Explorers Activity Pack

Barbara Hepworth:
The Family of Man



Barbara Hepworth was the most influential female British artist of the 20th century. Her sculptures are known for their organic, abstract forms. She often used simplified, smooth, natural shapes, suggestive of rolling hills, rocks or pebbles. She was inspired by the Yorkshire landscape where she grew up, and the Cornish coastline in St. Ives where she spent much of her adult life.

Barbara Hepworth: The Family of Man

The Family of Man is a series of nine tall, bronze sculptures. Each one is a stack of organic shapes, that suggest human bodies. Three of them are on display at Roche Court Sculpture Park.

They remind us of figures in a landscape. They might also be inspired by ancient forms like standing stones.



These sculptures are named *Ancestor*, *Parent* and *Youth*. Each one represents a generation through time. They all belong together as a family, though some of the designs are more complex than others.

What do the sculptures have in common that tell us they are all related?

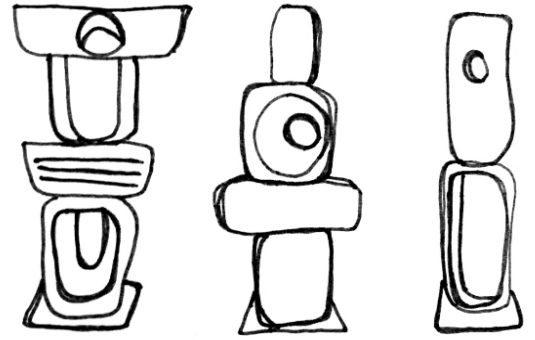
What differences can you see?

Think about colour, material, scale, shape, pattern, texture etc.

“I like to dream of such things rising from the ground.”

My Family of Man

If you were a sculpture, what might you look like?



Create your own personal Family of Man.

Work together with family or friends to create a series of abstract figures.

What shapes, colours, patterns or textures symbolise you?

Which other people are important to you? And what shapes or colours could represent them?

What do you share in common?

Consider creating each figure in sections - look at one of Hepworth's sculptures and notice how each stacked unit might suggest a head, shoulders, hips or legs.

Your figures should have features in common, and their own personalities.

You could use collage, make drawings, or create 3D sculptures using found objects, modelling clay or play dough.

Give your creations titles, and share them with us on Instagram: [@ilovesculpture](https://www.instagram.com/ilovesculpture)



Barbara Hepworth talks about the different figures in *The Family of Man* in a short British Pathé video from 1972. Watch here for inspiration: <https://youtu.be/2qLDOcUIEhE>

