Cross-Contour Pineapple Drawing: Wrap Lines to Show Rounded Form

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

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Worked example / complete source key

A student draws a pineapple body 10 cm tall and 5 cm wide. They place three horizontal guide curves and two vertical guide curves. On one bump near the middle, they draw a short line that starts at the bump's left edge, curves over the top, and ends at the right edge. Explain why this line is a cross-contour and how it helps show volume.

Answer: The line is a cross-contour because it crosses the bump's form, changing direction as it goes over the rounded top. It helps show volume by suggesting the bump's curvature without shading. The line's curve indicates that the surface is rounded, and because it connects to the larger guide curves, it reinforces the oval body's roundness. The measurements 10 cm and 5 cm are hypothetical examples; the key is that the line wraps over the form rather than outlining it.