**Summer Development**

AP

 **The You Don't Scare Me Sketchbook Project** - You are artists. As artists the need to express yourself is part of your being. A sketchbook is an important tool for you - in it you can record ideas, thoughts, and passing images. In it you can experiment - leading to your worst art ever and your best art ever. Unlike the drawing books that we keep during the school year for our weekly assignment, these are *SKETCH* books. The drawings can be quick, spontaneous, unfinished, experimental, the glimmer of a thought…. You get the idea.

 This is a tool that can work for you especially if you make it a habit. That's right, a mundane do-it-every day habit, like brushing your teeth. So here's your assignment - Draw every single day of the summer vacation in your sketchbook. Date each page and draw for a *minimum* of 5 minutes. Draw anything you want, use any medium you like. Some days you may want to stop when the 5 minutes are up, other days you'll feel like sketching for much longer (don't limit yourself to a page a day). Try getting into the habit of taking your sketchbook out with you - sketch at a baseball game, a festival, the park, on vacation. Make it a daily habit to check in with yourself before bedtime – if you didn’t sketch that day do it then, even if it’s your toothbrush and toothpaste tube. Feel free to do the same subject over and over (Claude Monet did!) just try to get better each time.

 The only rules:

**Sketch every day, seven days a week, for a minimum of 5 minutes.** This will be easy the first week or so, but don’t stop, keep going until it’s a new habit.

**Date each sketch**, keep them sequential, don’t skip around in the book. This lets you see growth, and makes it easier to find a sketch later for reference.

**Don't censor yourself** - no crossing out or ripping out of pages -"bad" sketches mean you tried something new - good for you!

**Mix it up** - try different materials, subjects, draw from your imagination, make random designs, sketch out ideas for future artworks, this is a great opportunity to take chances and experiment.

 ***Your sketchbook is due the first day of******class\**** when we get back to school. You have the option to share portions of your sketchbook with the class during the first week. You will also find that they are valuable for you in the coming year. Have fun, make it you; you are joining the ranks of working artists by developing this habit -enjoy it!

\* “I lost it, my dog ate it, I left it at our beach house, my brother threw up on it” are creative, but unacceptable excuses. Buy or make another sketchbook so that you can get at least partial credit for the work ☺