

DRAWING LIKE AN ARCHITECT

▶ PLAN, SECTION & ELEVATION

• | *The activities in this section are designed for you to conduct with your class. Directions to you, the teacher, are in italics. These would also be appropriate for your architect's return visits. Ask your architect to bring in examples of drawings from their work.*

Architects use three main kinds of drawings to show what their designs look like and how they are built. These are the PLAN, the SECTION, and the ELEVATION.

Introduce this to students and write the words, “plan” “section” and “elevation” across the board, leaving room for you to sketch the pepper beneath each word along with them.

Materials:

Each team or table of students: 3 green peppers, a cutting board, a knife
(you can also pre-cut the peppers and hand them out one at a time as you go through the activity)

Each Student: a pencil, a blank sheet of paper oriented horizontally and creased in thirds

When their papers are named & folded, walk through the following instructions:

1. Set the first pepper on the desk or table in front of you. Crouch down and look at it with your eyes level with the side of it. What you see is the ELEVATION of the pepper. Draw what you see in the first section of the paper. An elevation is a drawing of the side of a building, and is a direct, perpendicular view to the wall you are drawing.

2. Slice the second green pepper in half horizontally. What you see when you look down into the bottom is the PLAN of the pepper. Draw what you see in the top half of the middle section of the paper. When you draw the plan of a building, you are showing a horizontal “slice” at four feet above the floor. When you look directly down at the top of the un-cut pepper, what you see is the “ROOF PLAN”. Draw the roof plan of the pepper below the floor plan. Try to orient the shape of the pepper the same way for both drawings. On the Floor Plan, shade in the thickness of the “walls”.

3. Slice the third green pepper in half vertically. When you look at the cut side of either half, you see a SECTION view of the pepper. Sections show vertical relationships between spaces in a building, and the walls beyond the “cut line” can be drawn in elevation within the section. Just like the plan, it’s a “slice” through the object—shade in the thickness of the walls, roof and floor like you did for the walls on the plan.

Vocabulary:

Plan

Horizontal

Section

Vertical

Elevation

Perpendicular



ELEVATION



PLAN



SECTION