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What does discrete mathematics have in common with a cartoon story board? How can drawings help bring continuity to discreteness? And what about paths on a graph? The discrete math content of the course was required for pre-service middle school math teachers. The drawing content was a fine arts hands-on practice. Together we explored the connections between cultural symbols, persistence in skill development, and motivation for new learning. Further, the interdisciplinary context of the course led to greater diversity in the student body and greater opportunities to integrate social justice into the curriculum. (Received September 22, 2015)