

The Black Duck drawing was deemed original because it has a different background and a different portion (top half vs whole body) and profile of the duck (from the side vs from behind).



The Green-winged Teal was deemed original as it used multiple photographs as a source and follows the logic of "a duck is a duck" so the similarity to other pictures is coincidence.



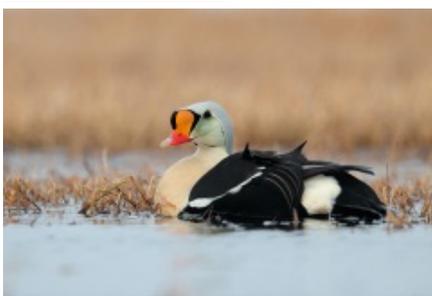
Use multiple sources. With only one source you would say it's an exact copy but with multiple sources all the pictures were used to help the student which makes their drawing original.



Neither of the wood duck paintings were deemed original as they were exact or nearly exact copies of their source images.



This painting of an American green-winged teal was questioned, state judges said they were different enough; when the art teacher was questioned he pointed out differences in reflections and background color as well as feather detail. National allowed its entry.



Judges at the national contest reviewed these images prior to claiming it as the best of show. Note that the artist used several different images as her reference; setting is different; feathering and crest unique.



State judges did not see this as an issue. There were changes in horizon/background and foreground, lighting on the ducks, and in the sky. Student referenced his use of the artwork.