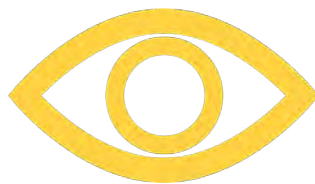


Create it Share it Art Pack

Creative activities by 9 artists
brought to you by UH Arts





Welcome to UH Arts' compilation of creative activities commissioned from artists since lockdown in March 2020

We hope these activities will help you to unwind and relax alone or to enjoy some creative fun with friends and family.

Each artist provides you with a step-by-step guide to make your own version of their activity. Use your imagination and ideas to create a unique artwork.

We would love to see your creations - please share with us **@unihertsarts**



For more information about the activities and artists, visit **www.uharts.co.uk** (including artists' videos to accompany activities) and explore the 'Get involved/Get Creative' area.

You can also enjoy a range of digital tours, exhibitions, interviews and events.

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Creative Characters

Camilla Brendon

Recycled Pom-Poms

Get creative with artist Camilla Brendon and make plastic pom-poms reusing materials to decorate your home.

Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with.

You will need:

- Cardboard from a cereal box or similar
- String or thread
- Thin plastic e.g. plastic bags or film from food packaging
- Scissors
- A pen or pencil
- A large round container to draw around, like a spice pot with a 5cm diameter
- A small round container, like a lip balm to draw around
- *If you have a compass, you can use this instead of the containers*



Instructions:

1. Draw two of the larger circles on the cardboard and cut out.
2. **Draw smaller circles** in the centre of the larger pair and cut them out along with a pizza-slice shape so that the circles now look like a C shape.
3. Get a plastic carrier bag or plastic delivery bag. Cut both ends off so that you are left with a plastic tube.
4. Start **cutting round and round** the plastic bag to create a continuous string of plastic yarn about 0.5cm thick is fine.
5. Now **put the two card circles together** so that the pizza shape gaps line up and begin to wrap the plastic yarn round and round until it is as thick as you desire (*the more you wrap, the fuller your pom-pom will be*) tuck the end of the plastic under and cut.
6. Carefully **cut along** the outside (large) edge of the plastic and make sure that the scissors are between the two pieces of card. Be careful and keep pressing the plastic firmly together with your fingers, as tightly as you can.



Camilla Brendon

Recycled Pom-Poms

7. Take some thread or string and **tie the plastic yarn together** from between the two cardboard cut-outs. Do this several times. Then cut the string and remove the card.
8. Now you can **adjust the plastic yarn** so that they fluff out and take on a round pom-pom like shape. Enjoy!



Take it further:

Why not try various sizes and colours then tie them on long plastic yarn strings to decorate your home for a party? You can also make the pom-poms into quick broaches using safety pins.

Camilla Brendon

Woven Bottle Baskets

Get creative with artist Camilla Brendon to make a useful recycled pot or planter to brighten up your garden or interior.

Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with.

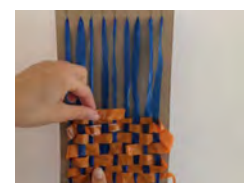
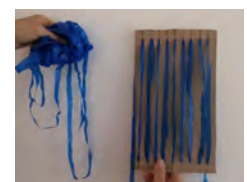
You will need:

- Cardboard, from a cereal box or similar
- Plastic bottle, tub or pot, a 2L bottle will work well
- Thin plastic eg. plastic bags, film from food
- Scissors
- Ruler and pen or pencil
- *Bottle tops and ring pulls (optional extra for decorating)*



Instructions:

1. **Find a bottle** and using scissors cut the top end off. This will become the pot.
2. **Get some cardboard** and cut it to the size that you'd like to make your weaving. A 12x10cm board will make a weave of approximately 9x9cm. You might make one weaving to go around the circumference of the bottle (for a 2L bottle make a board that is 15cm wide and 60cm long) or you might want to make a few smaller weavings.
3. When you are ready **measure** 2cm down from the top and bottom edges then mark lines at 1.5cm gaps all along the top and bottom and cut to the 2cm line.
4. **Get a plastic carrier bag** or plastic delivery bag. Cut both ends off so that you are left with a plastic tube.
5. Start **cutting round** and round the plastic bag to create a continuous string of plastic yarn about 0.5cm thick is fine.
6. Now you will **create the warp**, which are the strings that go from top to bottom of your board. When you get to the top, loop over so that there is a horizontal 1.5cm bit of warp showing on the back side of the board. You may wish to secure this with tape or tie a knot.
7. Now you are ready to **weave the weft**. You need to go from left to right then right to left and go over and under each string of the warp. Make sure that you go over and under the opposite way from the previous line when you start a new one.



Camilla Brendon

Woven Bottle Baskets

8. You can **change colours** or use a single colour. Why not add unusual materials like fruit sacks (the ones the lemons often come in).
9. When you have finished, **remove the weave** from the cardboard. If possible, pull the loops over the top of the cardboard at each end of the board, one at a time, and tie them with simple knots. If you cannot pull them over cut the warp strings and tie them.
10. You can now **tie your weavings onto the pot**. Do this by making small slits in the top of the bottle with your scissors – you may be able to use the loops from the cardboard or tie the weaving on with warp strings or new plastic strings.



Take it further:

- You can add tassels of strings with ring pulls or bottle tops to the base of the weavings so that they dangle from the bottom of the hanging basket and move in the breeze.
- You can turn this pot into a hanging basket by braiding three or four plastic strings together to make a handle. To attach it use a hole punch to make two holes on opposite sides of the bottle, then push the braid through, you can use a chopstick or skewer to help then tie a simple knot to secure it.
- If indoors, add a succulent or spider plant if the plant is going directly into the pot carefully make drainage holes for excess water. If the plant has a small pot already you can place that inside the hanging basket.



Sarah Evans

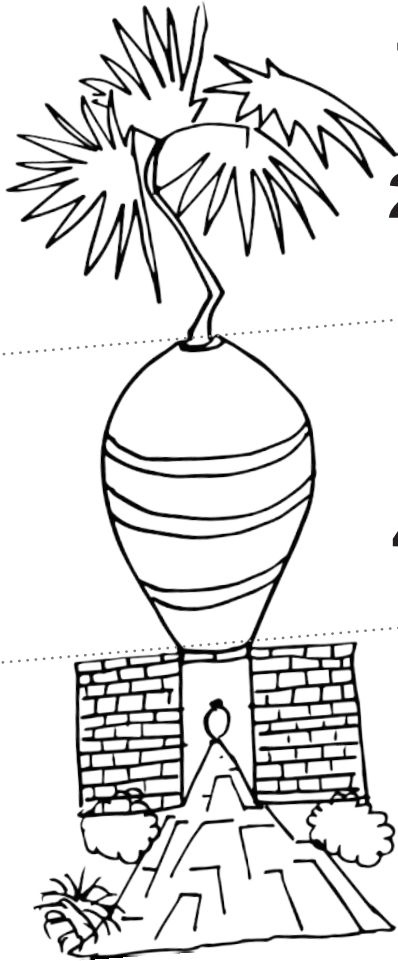
ARCHITECTURE

ART

NATURE

You might recognise the game we are going to play, it is sometimes called 'picture consequences' or 'exquisite corpse'

Activity Sheet



1 Make 2 **fold**s in the paper so that it divides into 3 even sections and unfold

2 The first person starts at the top and **draws NATURE**

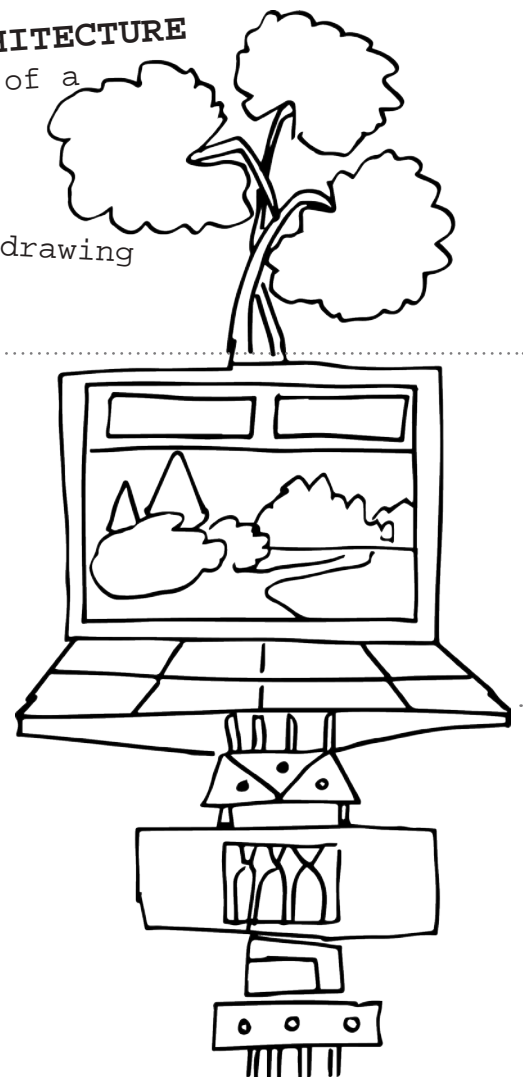
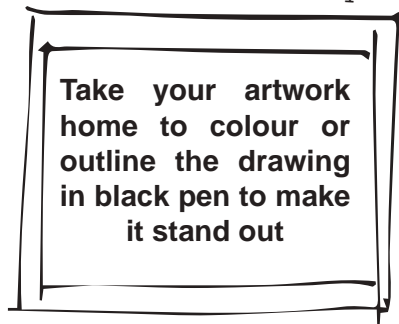
Make it big in the space

Fold back the paper so just the bottom edge shows so the next person can line up their drawing

3 The next person **draws ART** - look at the shape of one of the many sculptures in the garden. **Fold** back the paper again

4 The final **drawing** is **ARCHITECTURE** - this can be an element of a structure in the garden

5 Unfold to reveal your drawing



Sarah Evans

Colour-in Sheets

Enjoy this mindful activity and add some colour to Sarah's drawings!



Sarah Evans

Colour-in Sheets

Enjoy this mindful activity and add some colour to Sarah's drawings!



Hanging Garden

Create your own version of a hanging garden, by making a nature-inspired mobile with artist UH Arts technician Lee Farmer.

Suitable for ages 5 to adult; younger makers may need some adult assistance/ supervision.

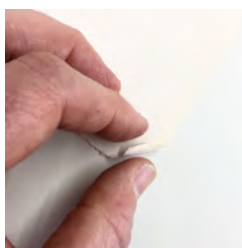
You will need:

- Found natural materials (sticks/ twigs, leaves, small stones, etc.) OR wire, drinking straws, rolled paper, bamboo skewers (with the sharp end removed)
- Thread, wool, string or fishing line
- Safety scissors
- Some paper or card
- Sticky tape or double-sided tape



Instructions:

1. Decide on the **shape of your mobile** (see the sketch for some ideas).
2. Decide **what you want to include** in your hanging garden – plants, shrubs, trees, flowers, wildlife and insects, a bird feeder or bird bath, a shed, summerhouse, pergola or gazebo, a paddling or swimming pool, sports equipment like goalposts or a Frisbee, sculptures or ornaments like garden gnomes, etc. You might want to plan and sketch the whole thing out first on some paper.
3. **Collect:** If you have access to a garden or other safe outdoor space you could collect twigs and thin sticks for the structure and small stones, dried fallen leaves, etc. to use as hanging objects.
4. **Make objects:** If you can't collect those things, you can use drinking straws, blunt bamboo skewers or lengths of paper rolled up very tightly in place of sticks. For the hanging objects you could draw, collage or make them (see step 5).



Lee Farmer

Hanging Garden

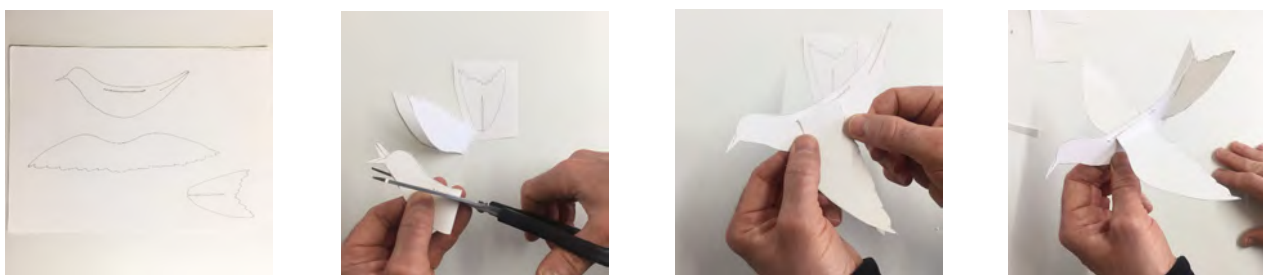
5. To make hanging objects for your mobile, you could make:

NB If the feature you are making is flat, you might want to colour or draw on both sides, or make two halves to stick together, so that it can be viewed from all angles when the mobile moves.

Flowers (see pictures below): roll a strip of paper, flatten, cut petal shape but keep the bottom joined, stick double-sided tape along the bottom on the inside (or regular sticky tape overhanging the bottom on the outside) then gather and stick the bottom of the petals as you turn the flower in your hand.



Birds (see pictures below): draw the shape of the body, wings and tail; mark the slots; cut out the pieces and fold the body in half to cut the wing slot; pass the wing piece through the body and slot the tail in; fold wing and tail pieces in half to keep them in position, then curve the edges back upwards for a good shape. Or, draw a bird and cut around it – colouring on both sides.

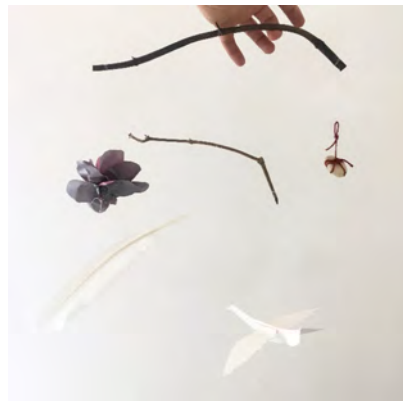


6. **Build your mobile** by starting at the bottom first, unless you are making it using hoops (see step 9). Attach two of your objects to each end of a stick by gluing or taping them straight to the stick, or carefully making a hole and tying them on to the end with some thread, wool, string or fishing line. If you are attaching small stones or shells, etc. you could bind them with thread, then tie them on.
7. **For balance:** find the centre of gravity of the first set of stick and objects by balancing it on your finger (see first picture below) - tie a piece of thread on at this point.

Lee Farmer

Hanging Garden

8. **Attach two more objects** to the ends of another stick, then tie the thread from your first stick anywhere along the second one. Find the centre of gravity of this new arrangement by carefully balancing it on your finger (see second picture below). Tie a piece of thread on here.



9. **Carry on like this, adding sticks and objects and testing** the centre of gravity each time. When you have finished, test the centre of gravity again and attach a final piece of thread to suspend your garden.

10. If you are making a spiral-shaped hanging garden or another sort, which will hang from hoops, you can use strips of a flexible material like plastic or wire, or make a hoop from shorter pieces of twig, skewer or rolled paper by taping pieces together or binding them with string. If you are using several hoops of different sizes, fix them together in several places with short pieces of string. Hang all of your objects at differing heights with thread to create a spiral or a random effect.

11. **Hang your mobile!**



Take it further:

- make a mobile on a different theme, like 'flight' or 'the ocean'
- experiment with a balancing sculpture instead of a hanging one
- use objects which make sounds, to make chimes instead of a mobile

Lee Farmer

Make a Sliding Puzzle

Create your own sliding puzzle, using drawing or painting and collage techniques, with artist Lee Farmer.

Suitable for ages 5 to adult; younger makers may need adult assistance or supervision.

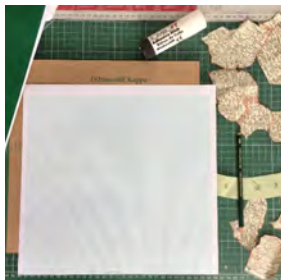
You will need:

- Cardboard (e.g. a box - big enough to cut a 30cm x 30cm square from the largest side)
- Scissors, or craft knife and cutting mat/board (this will need adult assistance)
- Glue stick or double-sided tape
- Coloured/printed papers for collaging
- Blank paper for drawing
- Pencils, coloured pencils, coloured pens or paints
- Thick coloured pens or coloured tape

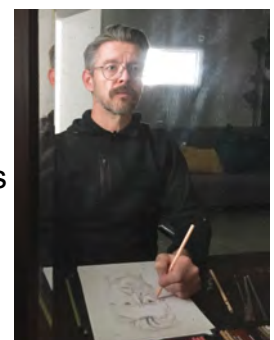


Instructions:

1. Cut the following:
 - 1 backboard square, 30cm x 30cm
 - 8 square sliding pieces, 8cm x 8cm
 - 2 cardboard strips 30cm x slightly less than 3cm wide
 - 2 cardboard strips 26cm x slightly less than 3cm wide
2. Use the printed and coloured papers with the glue stick or tape to collage the backboard (you can leave up to about 2.5cm of card showing all around the edge).



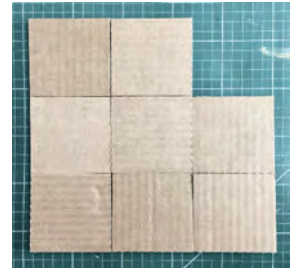
3. Collage the edge pieces with coloured papers (or white paper, then colour them in).
4. On the blank paper, draw or paint a picture. This could be a portrait of yourself, in a mirror, or from memory, or from a photo; someone who is with you – a family member or friend; or of someone you can't be with, from a photo or a screengrab. You can refer to artist Harriet Riddell's guide (page 33) on how to sketch a portrait. It needs to fit in the area created by the cardboard squares (see step 5). You can cut the head or figure out and collage the background instead (alternatively, you can draw the background).



Lee Farmer

Make a sliding puzzle

5. Arrange your 8 cardboard squares as per the image:
(one square will be missing, so pick the area of your design which you don't mind being blank, and make that the missing square; mine was in the top right-hand corner).



6. Once you've decided on your background, stick your drawing carefully to the cardboard squares, making sure they don't move when you do it. Turn it over and trim off the excess when it's stuck down, including the area where there is no cardboard square.

7. Carefully cut the picture into pieces by cutting between the cardboard squares.



8. Trim the corners of the squares making them slightly rounded, then go around the edges with a thick pen or coloured tape.
9. Stick your decorated edge pieces to the backboard and lay your squares in the middle to form your picture but leaving slight gaps to make sure they slide freely.



10. Slide one square at a time into the empty space until the picture is jumbled...
now slide the pieces to solve the puzzle and make the picture again!

Jane Glynn

Room with a View



What you will need:

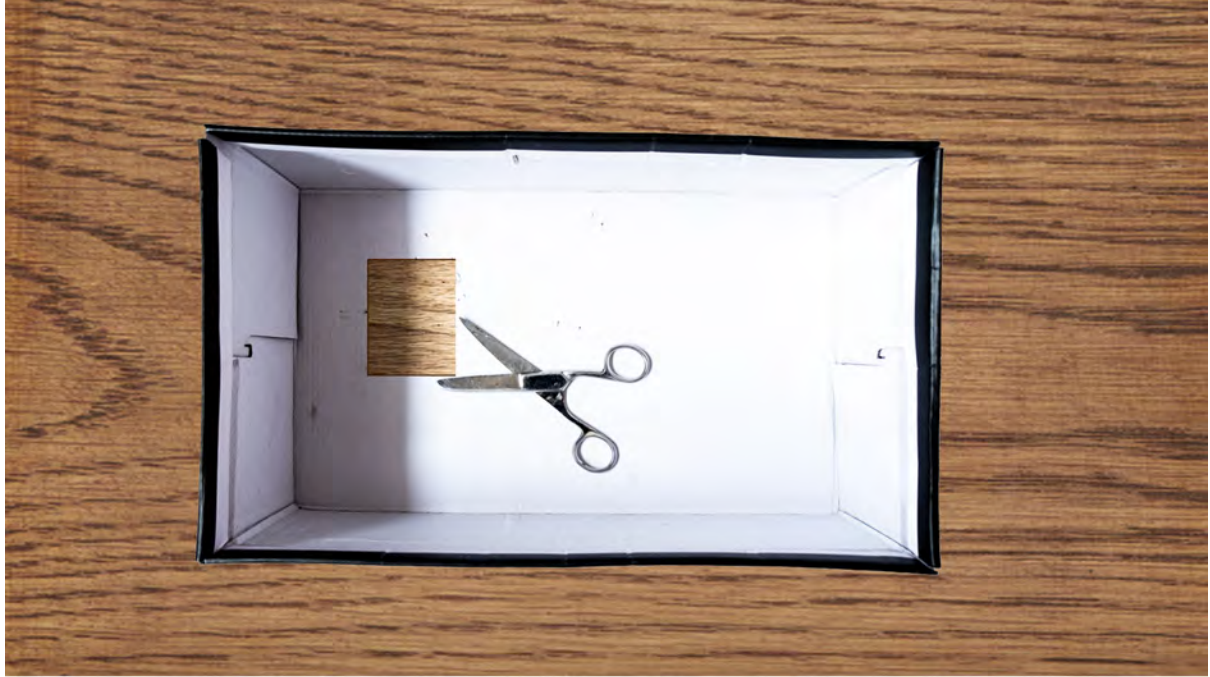
- a shoebox (or similar sized box)
- scissors/craft knife and cutting mat (be careful!)
- glue/double-sided tape

And any/all of the following:

- extra scraps of card (cereal packets etc)
- fabric scraps
- needle and cotton
- paints/crayons/marker pens
- wrapping papers

Jane Glynn

Room with a View



First:

- Draw a window shape on the back wall of your box and cut it out.
- Decorate the walls, floor and ceiling of your box-room.



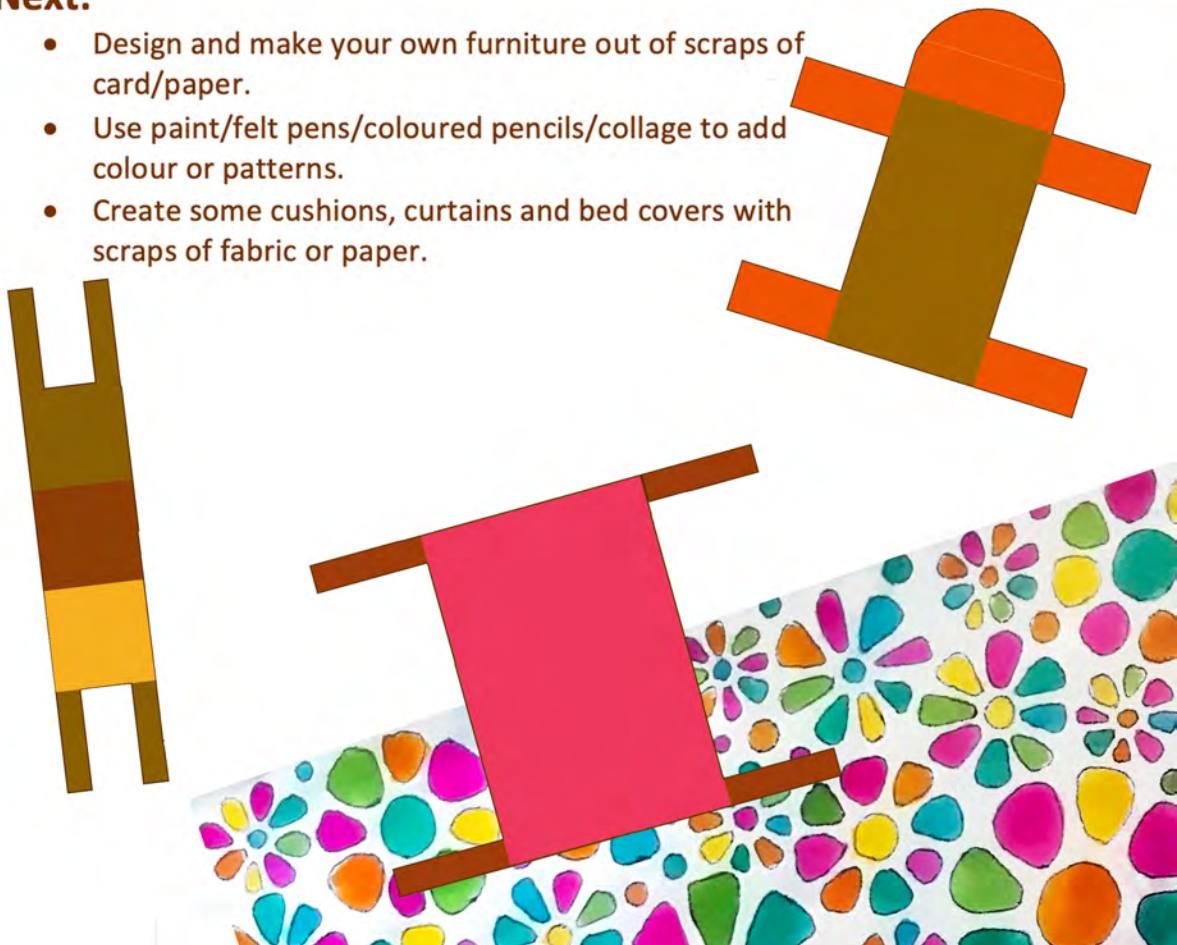
Jane Glynn

Room with a View



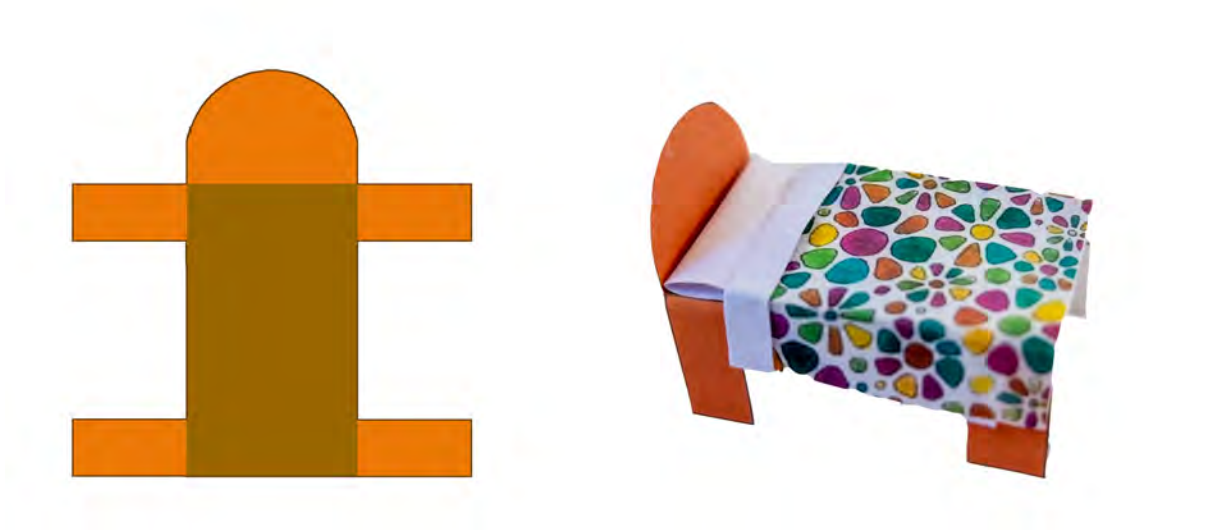
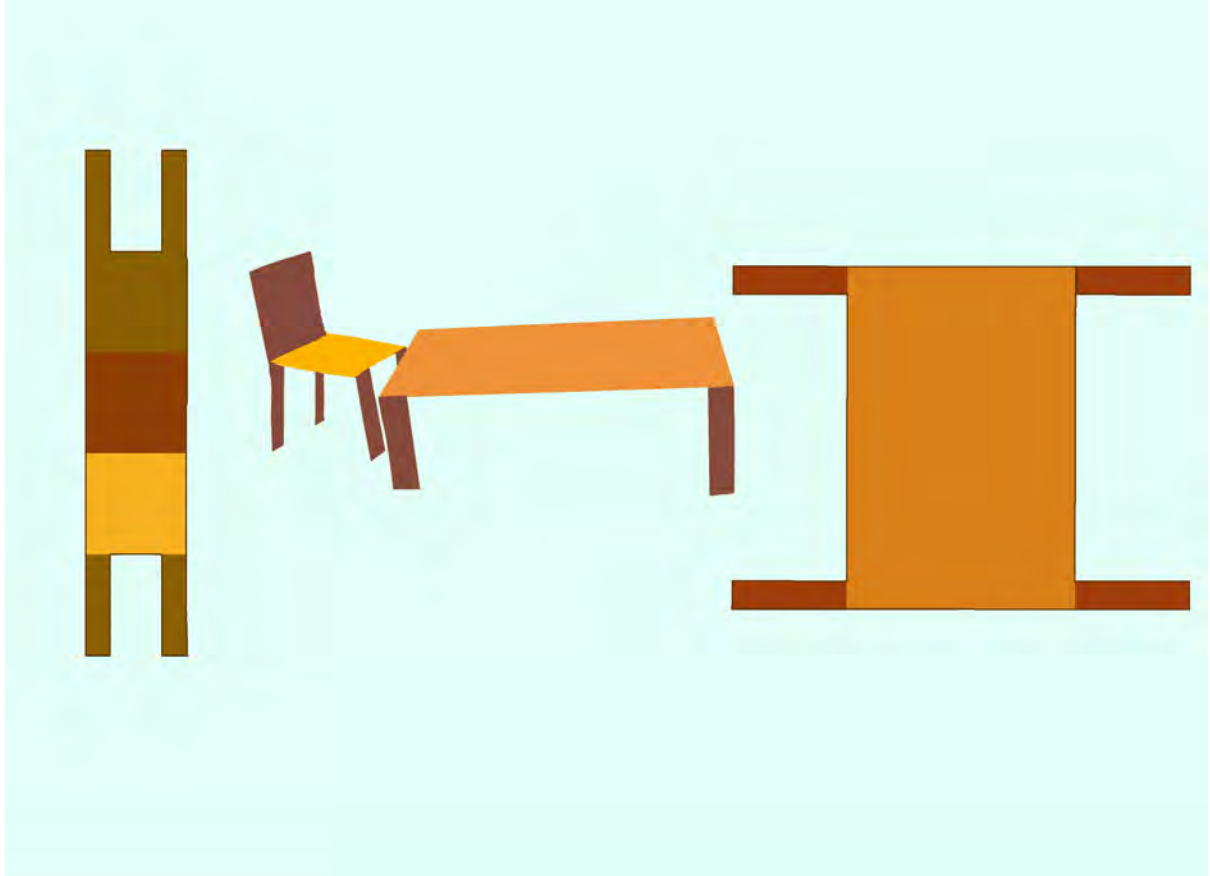
Next:

- Design and make your own furniture out of scraps of card/paper.
- Use paint/felt pens/coloured pencils/collage to add colour or patterns.
- Create some cushions, curtains and bed covers with scraps of fabric or paper.



Jane Glynn

Room with a View



Jane Glynn

Room with a View



Finally:

- Find a beautiful view and place your room so that you can see the view through the window.
- You might find a view through a real window/draw or paint a view of your own or find one in a picture book.



Jane Glynn

Make a Tiny Book



What you will need:

- scissors
- scraps of card (cereal packets etc)
- colours like paints, crayons or inks
- masking tape
- A4 paper
- glue





First:

- Cut a long strip from a piece of A4 paper. (The one in the picture is 3cm but you can make it a little smaller or a little bigger.)
- Fold the strip back and forth like a fan. You will need to end up with an even number of rectangles all the same size. (If you end up with an odd number or a smaller rectangle at the end just cut it shorter until you have your even number of rectangles!)

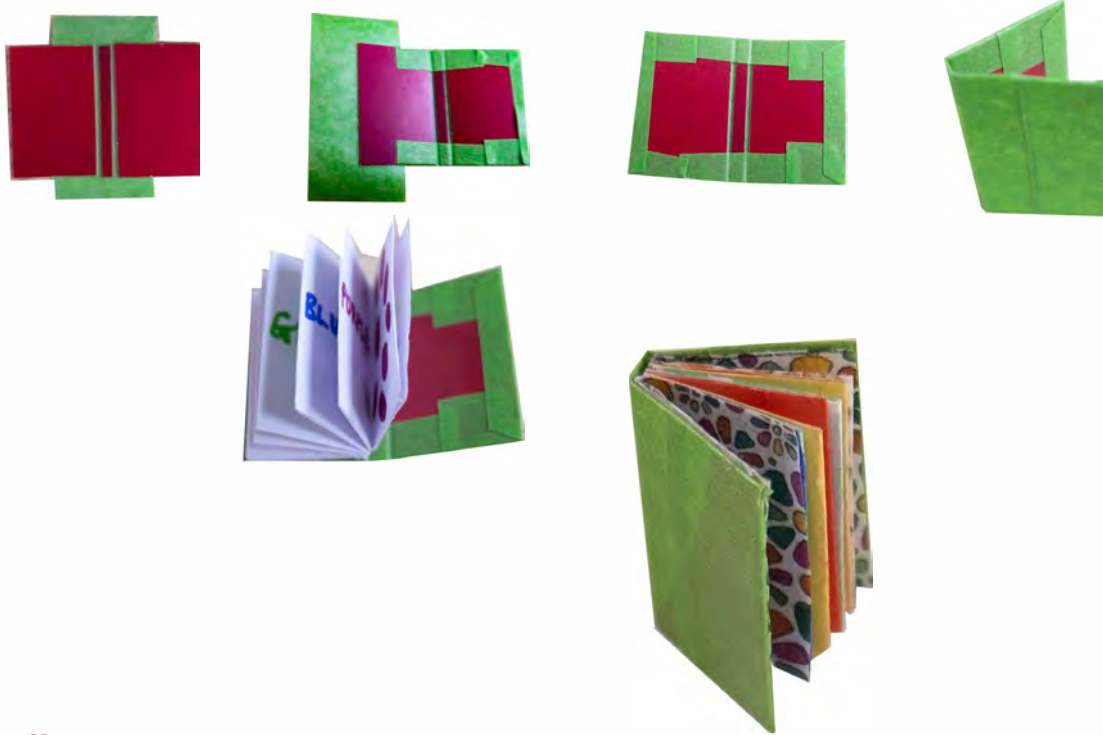


After that:

- Turn the book strip over so that you can't see your decorations.
- Spread glue over the back of each page except for the first and the last.
- Fold it carefully into a closed fan shape so that it becomes a book.

Jane Glynn

Make a Tiny Book



Finally:

- Take three pieces of thin card, two the size of the pages of the book and one the same size as the spine. (The spine card will be very narrow – make sure it is exactly the same as your book's edge!)
- Stick the spine card onto a piece of sticky tape and stick both the cover pieces on either side with a tiny gap between each.
- Fold the tape over the cardboard to hold the spine and covers in place. (If you like you could then decorate the whole cover with tape.)
- Put glue on the back of both the first and last pages of the book and stick it into the cover so that it fits snugly.





Afterwards:

- You might like to make a paper dust jacket for your book.
- You could add some end papers.
- You could try making an even smaller book. (Don't worry about the card cover for this – just use tape!)



Amanda Ralph

Junk Draw

Join artist and University of Hertfordshire MA Fine Art student, Amanda Ralph, to explore your clutter whilst you are at home and use it as inspiration for drawing.

Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with.

You will need:

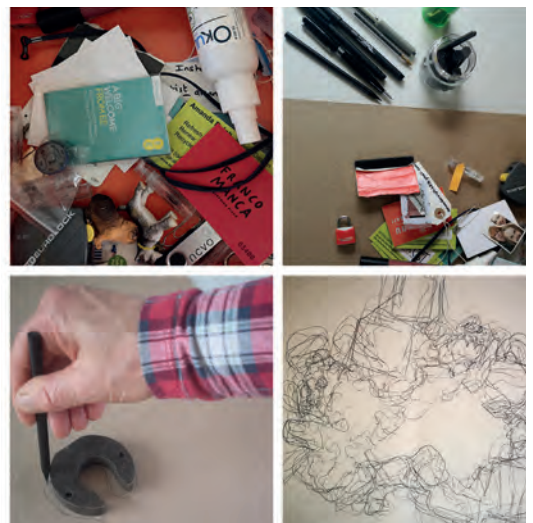
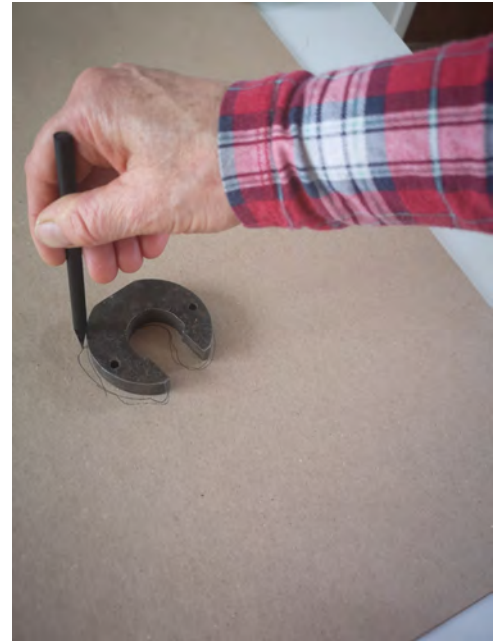
- A 'junk draw' or similar
- Paper
- Pencil, pens, colour pencils, felt tips

Instructions:

1. Empty a 'junk' draw (or bowl).
2. Select objects to draw around.
3. Draw around objects repeatedly, looking at the spaces between the objects (this is called 'negative space'). You could do this for a timed period e.g. 30 seconds.
4. Change to a different pen, pencil, colour or item from the draw as many times as you like.
5. Let the objects move as you draw around them to create lots of lines, allowing your drawing speed and pace to change.

Take it further:

- Do multiple drawings and make a large display.
- Use different paper, colours and objects big and small.
- Draw in time to music.
- Tip: Don't be precious and try to go with the flow, just get lost in the repetitive rhythm.



Amanda Ralph

Create a Home Gallery

Make a window display, breathing new life into old objects lying around your home.

Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with.

You will need:

- Some old objects/things from around your home.
- A surface to make a display (e.g. windowsill/table/mantel piece shelf).
- A camera (optional).



Instructions:

1. Go on a **treasure hunt** looking in cupboards, drawers maybe even memory boxes for objects that haven't seen the light of day for a while.
2. **Lay your 'haul'** on a large surface, table or floor.
3. **Sort** into the piles that link or connect the objects, e.g. colours, surface material, scale i.e.
 - i. **Colour:** *You can organise your favourite colour (see yellow example), or favourite combination (see yellow, black & red example)*
 - ii. **Surface:** *Think opposites; rough/smooth, matt/shiny, pattern/plain (see flowers example)*
 - iii. **Material:** *Glass, ceramic, metal(s), fabric etc.*
4. Identify where you want to **display them** (window ledge, dressing table etc).
5. **Have fun playing** with the objects you put together, how they look next to each other and the stories behind them. This is called the juxtaposition.
6. Give it **a title** (optional). See the titles Amanda has used on her photos on her UH Arts 'Create it Share it' page for ideas.

Amanda Ralph

Create a Home Gallery

Take it further:

1. Turn it into a **still life photography project** (this is a series of objects grouped together that do not move). Tate explains here [\[https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/still-life\]](https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/still-life). Take several photos, at numerous angles, maybe even at different times of day and share your favourites with us. You may see the light change or shadows.
2. **Mix it up:** Use your creation as a starting point and consider adding to your display so it can be a permanent feature in your room. Lift some of the restrictions (from point 3) and incorporate other colours, styles to compliment your room.
3. **Clutter clear out:** We all keep 'things' for different reasons. This project may have given you an opportunity to re-connect with objects that you may have forgotten or thought were lost. Ask yourself if you still like, want or need them? Letting go of old stuff creates space mentally as well as physically for the things you love.

Anna Ray

3D Collage

Create your own collage with a twist. Enjoy playing with colour, pattern and reusing materials such as old magazines and wrapping paper too.

Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with.

- Glue, tape (masking tape if you have it)
- Paper or card (can be used or e.g. food packaging)
- Scissors
- Magazines, old wrapping paper or similar

Instructions:

1. Begin by collecting cuttings from magazines. You could focus on pattern, texture and colour.
2. Draw shapes on a piece of heavy paper or light card and cut them out.
3. Now cut shapes of collage material. Working on the front of the card, paste glue onto the magazine pieces and onto the card when needed. You can use a brush or a glue spreader for this.
4. When one side is covered, leave to dry and then trim back around your original shape.
5. Now collage the other side of the shape. Think about the different edges that you cut: are they rounded, jagged or are you cutting in strips? This will create more contrast between each surface.
6. Next begin working on the second shape. You may want to choose contrasting colours, textures, or subject matter. For example, one side could be covered with industrial imagery and the other with people.
7. Once both shapes are dry and trimmed, place a large piece of plain paper on the table and lay out the forms, turn them over, arrange them, enjoy the visual relationships that occur.



Anna Ray

3D Collage

8. Now snip into the shapes with scissors, folding and curling back the elements to create a relief and 3D effect.

Take it further:

You could use photography on your phone as you go to document different combinations and viewpoints of the shapes. You could permanently attach the forms together with PVA or masking tape; you could roll up a piece and fix it into a tube shape or a box. If you make more shapes, add them together to create a more complex structure by slotting or gluing together.

Anna Ray

Stamp Making

Discover how to make your own stamps out of cardboard.
Create your own simple and effective designs using different colours and shapes and printing on paper or fabric.

Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with

You will need:

- Stiff card, cardboard and/or foam sheets
- Paper or fabric
- Paint (e.g. acrylic)
- Brush
- Scissors
- Glue (e.g. PVA) and glue spreader
- Pen
- Roller (optional)



You could use recyclable materials from cereal packaging and cardboard boxes for this project.

Instructions:

1. Use pieces of **stiff card** to form the **base** of your hand-made stamps.
2. **Cut shapes from cardboard** or foam sheets and stick them to the base card with PVA glue. Alternatively, you could use a glue-gun or double-sided sticky tape to do this.
3. With a brush and undiluted thick paint, **coat the raised part of the stamp** and then press it firmly onto a piece of fabric or paper. You could use a roller if you prefer.
4. **Repaint the stamp** each time you use it. Keep printing onto the surface, creating patterns or layers of motif and shapes.
5. You can **use more than one colour** to coat different parts of the stamp. Make sure that you work quickly so that the paint does not dry on the stamp.
6. Try **drawing shapes onto the cardboard** to create new stamp forms. If you vary the thickness of the paint on the stamps, this creates a more **textural effect**.

Anna Ray

Stamp Making

7. Build up layers of motif and shapes and **make as many stamps as you wish**. Vary the size and complexity of the shapes.
8. If you use more than one colour of paint across the stamp in stripes, you can make **multi-coloured motifs**.

Take it further:

Once the artwork is dry, you could embellish your design with pens and coloured markers, or you could stitch into it with a needle and thread. By making stamps of letters from the alphabet, you could then include words in your artwork. Try stamping onto patterned fabric or paper for a more complex effect.

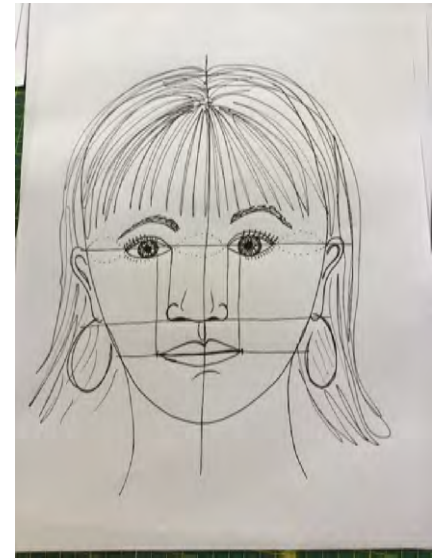
Harriet Riddell

Portraiture Drawing

Create your own portrait or draw the face of your drawing buddy. This exercise will teach you the proportions of the face, how to look and measure with your eyes whilst drawing.

Learn the rules so you know how to break them with artist and University of Hertfordshire alumna Harriet Riddell. Have fun and have a go, it does not need to be perfect.

Suitable for ages 6+, children and adults will need to work together.



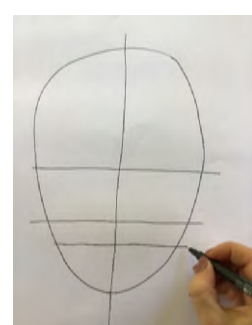
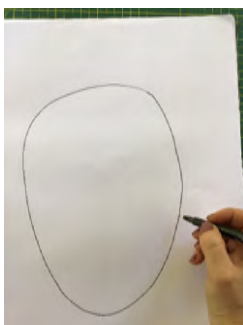
You will need:

- A piece of paper (the bigger the better, but A4 will do).
- A pen or a pencil or any kind of drawing tool (black marker pen is my favourite).
- A friend or family member to join in with you or a mirror if you are doing your own portrait.

Drawing the head:

Draw someone head on, so they are looking straight at you. Remember the top of the head is bigger than the bottom of your head, where the chin is.

1. Draw the head shape. I will draw an egg-shaped head – you can choose. Heads come in a variety of different shapes: circle, square, heart shaped, oval.
2. Draw a line directly through the middle of the head both vertically and horizontally. (Don't worry, this doesn't need to be perfect!)
3. From the middle line and the bottom of the chin, find the middle point and draw a line horizontally.
4. Add a line one third of the way down from the last line you just made to the chin.



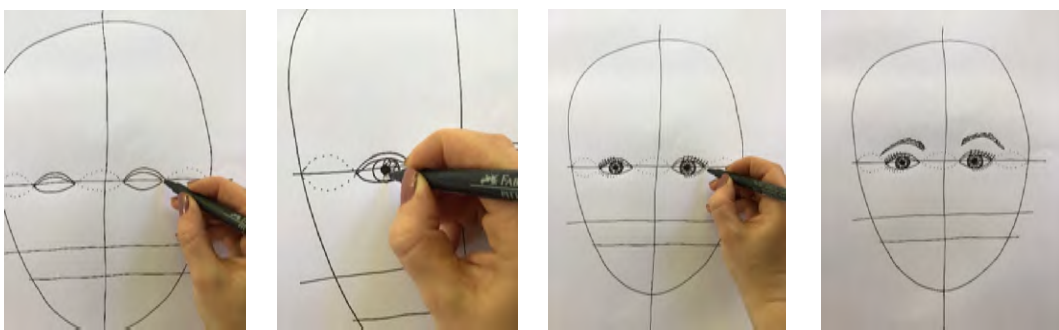
Harriet Riddell

Portraiture Drawing

Drawing the eyes:

We often perceive the eyes to be higher, this is because our hair covers much of our head (for some of us) and we like to believe the face starts with the eyes. Have a look at your partner or the mirror; can you see how the eyes are in the middle of yours/their head? This is really important when you are drawing, you start to really look at what or who you are drawing. Knowing these basic rules will help you to get a more accurate drawing later.

1. Put the eyes on the middle line. Notice how the line goes directly through the middle of the eye. Technically you should be able to fit 5 eyes the same size across the face. This will give you an idea of how big the eyes should be.
2. Draw an eyelid following the top line of your eye; draw a thin eyelid within your eye shape.
3. Put two big irises in the eyes, the hole circle should just touch the top and bottom part of the eye.
4. Draw another smaller circle within the iris. Make these the same size in each eye and make sure you colour them in nice and black. It's amazing how colouring the pupils can really bring your portraits to life!
5. Fill your iris around the pupil with loop-de-loops, lines or a light shading.
6. Next, add eyelashes, girls and boys both have eyelashes, but you can make your portrait more feminine by drawing longer lashes.
7. Add eyebrows, these come in all shapes and sizes, they usually follow the line of the eye but a little higher and start and end with the eye.

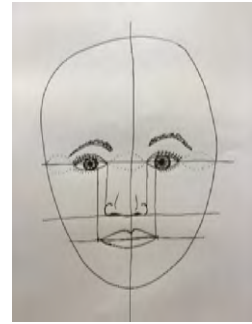
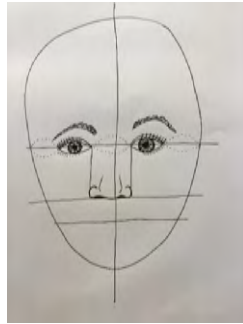
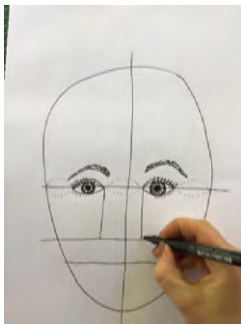


Harriet Riddell

Portraiture Drawing

Drawing the nose and lips:

1. See the line you have drawn down below the eye line, that is going to be the bottom of your nose. Draw a line from the inside corners of the eyes down to that line.
2. Those new lines tell you where the edges of your nose are. Draw two nostrils on the horizontal line and curl the line-up and around the vertical lines to start to form the nose.
3. Draw vertical lines down from the inside edge of the iris to the last horizontal line on the face. This should indicate the sides of your mouth. The mouth moves, a lot! So, it can be a difficult thing to draw. It can be small and large; the top lip can be thicker than the bottom lip or the bottom lip thicker than the top. Have a look at yourself in the mirror or at your partner and see which lip looks thicker.
4. Do you notice the dark line that runs in between the two lips? This is a shadow line and it can look good if you enhance this with a thick or dark line.



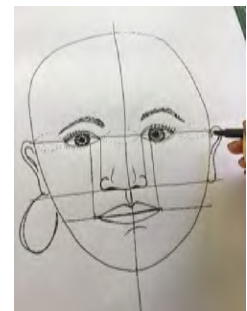
Drawing the ears:

Now can you guess where the eyes go?

Point on your drawing where you think they go.

(Who guessed on the middle line? Yes, the eyes are in the middle of your head.)

1. The ears tend to start on the same line as the eyes. Imagine when you are wearing glasses, add a straight line from the arms of the glasses to sit on the top of your ears and cover your eyes.
2. Add earrings if you want to jazz this drawing up!



Harriet Riddell

Portraiture Drawing

Drawing your hair and neck:

The hair! Everyone has different hair, styles, colours and consistency.
On this funny looking lady, I'll draw a fringe.

1. To draw a fringe, you start the hairline a little lower the top of the head.
2. Add lines thinking about the hair volume and it can have a rise slightly away from the egg shape head you have drawn. If you are drawing afro hair texture, the curl patterns would be really tightly coiled.
3. Let us give her a neck. Start the line at the bottom of the ears and draw down, with a slight curve to make the neck a little thinner than just a straight down thick neck.



Yes, like me, you might have drawn a somewhat unnatural looking person! I hope that by knowing these little measurements, it will help you measure with your eyes.

Now have a good look at yourself or your partner, and look and the space in-between the eyes, is it the same size as one of the eyes? Are the eyebrows dark and bushy, or faint and thin? Measuring with your eyes is a great tool to help make better drawings.

How to take this further:

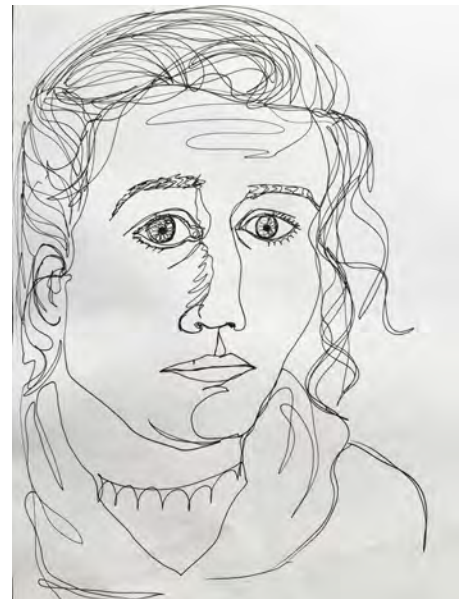
Did you know there are usually 7 or 8 heads in an adult's body? If you stand back from a friend or a life size mirror, you can measure their head and then fit that shape in 8 times down the body. Why not try drawing a life size image of yourself or your friend using the 8 head rule? Now try and draw a portrait of yourself, or your friend without the guidelines, just remember the rules in your head and really look at what your drawing.

Harriet Riddell

Freestyle Drawing

Join artist and University of Hertfordshire alumna Harriet Riddell to learn the rules of drawing so you know how to break them... These quick drawing exercises will help you to be free and loose while you draw, not to be afraid of 'mistakes' and to help you to engage with your eye so it works together with your hand while you draw.

Suitable for ages 5+, but children and adults will need to work together.



You will need:

- A few pieces of paper (the bigger the better, but A4 will do).
- A pen, a pencil, or any kind of drawing tool. Black marker pen is my favourite.
- A table, a big book or board to lean on.
- A friend or family member to join in with you or a mirror if you are doing a portrait.
- Optional – a timer (e.g. egg timer or from your phone).
- Good lighting, make sure you can see well.

Step by Step – Drawing a face freestyle:

Pair up with a friend, family member or set up a mirror in front of your face. Look at your partner or yourself in the mirror.

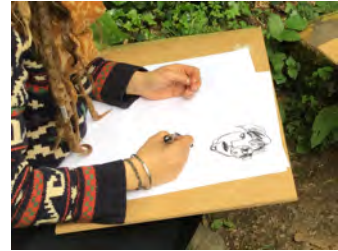
1. Do a drawing with **one continuous line**, or a contour drawing. Similar to how mountains are represented on maps by a series of lines.
2. **Keep your pen on the paper**, so everything is joined together by a single line. (This is the way I draw with my sewing machine).
3. **Start with the eyes**, they sit in the middle of the face, this will help you to map out the rest of the face. TIP: try not to draw the head first, start with the features and work your way out.
4. Draw one eye then head down to the nose and back up for the second eye. Or if you or your partner wear glasses, then you can use the frame of the glasses to jump to the second eye and then head down to the nose.

Harriet Riddell

Freestyle Drawing



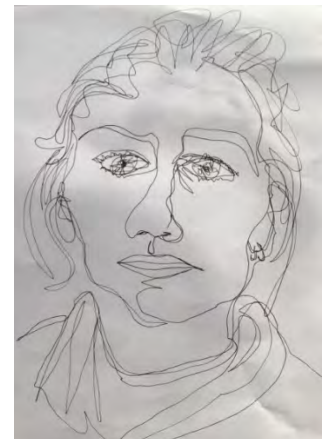
5. After the eyes and nose, **draw the mouth, chin and the head** around all your features.
6. Draw any route around the face you like. This is a helpful hint on how I would do it. There is no right or wrong.



Quick continuous drawings with a timer:

These are fast drawings; you will throw these away after we have done them. These are exercises to loosen you up, so don't be too precious with your outcomes.

1. **Set a timer** for 4 minutes (alternatively draw until you have finished).
2. **Pick up your pen** and put it in your least dominant hand. (All ambidextrous people get off lightly on this occasion!)
3. Now look at your partner or mirror, **put your pen on the paper where you would like to start** and begin to draw. Do not lift your pen from the paper and make sure the pen is in the 'wrong' hand.
4. Start drawing! It is difficult. I know.
5. When finished, **have a look at your drawing**, if you or your partner are wearing earrings, glasses, a headband – did you include them? These are the little touches, which later will help build your portraits in to excellent drawings, next time, include those parts.
6. Was your drawing very small leaving lots of blank paper? Or was your drawing too big and you couldn't quite fit the whole face in? Next time draw a little smaller or bigger, so it fits the paper.
7. **Turn the paper over** and use the back for your next drawing.



Harriet Riddell

Freestyle Drawing

Quick drawing 1: Keep your eyes on the face

Next up... is another one line drawing but this time... **you are not allowed to look** at your paper while you are drawing.

1. **Use your non-dominant hand** again.
2. **Start your drawing** with the eyes and as you look at your subject, allow your hand to follow your gaze on the paper. Try not to peep, and really look at what you are drawing.



When finished, you will have successfully drawn an interesting Picasso drawing. Well done. Throw it away! New paper...

Quick drawing 2: Dominant hand

1. **Draw using the continuous line** drawing technique.
 - 1.1. DO NOT look at your paper
 - 1.2. You can use your dominant hand (whichever hand you are most comfortable drawing with).
2. Do a quick **4 minute** drawing, do not look at the paper.



Quick drawing 3: Look at the paper

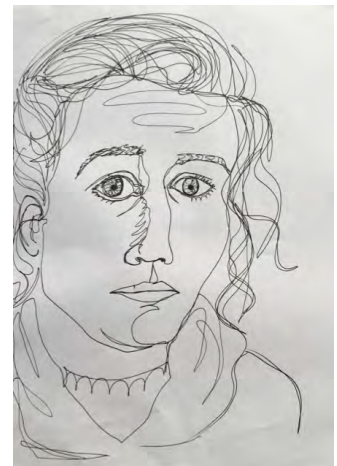
Next drawing ... Get a new piece of paper. You can use your dominant hand, and you **CAN** look at your paper – YAY.

Repeat using the one continuous line drawing style, draw your partner or your reflection. **Be quick**, try not to think too much, but remember to really **look** at who your drawing.

Final drawing

Now you can use any style of drawing you like, i.e. You **CAN** lift the pen from the paper if you want to.

1. **Use your dominant hand.** If you are drawing a partner, on this occasion, you can take it in turns to sit and pose.
2. Once you have both done your drawings, **compare** this one with the one you did before, do you like it better? Or do you prefer the previous?
3. Now you have **REALLY** studied the face, you can do a drawing you would like to keep. Remember to **keep the freedom and spontaneity** you had in your last drawings. Be loose and do not be afraid of mistakes, because really there are none.



Harriet Riddell

Freestyle Drawing

Take it Further:

- **Include words** in a drawing – perhaps hidden in the hair? Words that you or your partner might have said or describe your/their interests.
- Drawing an observational portrait **with your feet**, clasp the pen in your toes and draw!
- **Use a long stick** and dip it in ink or paint or tape a felt tip pen to the end and try drawing the face standing a metre away from your paper.
- Draw the face with **straight lines**, creating a Cubist approach to the face.
- Use a **sewing machine** and a free motion embroidery foot and try stitching the face onto canvas or a denim (it helps if the fabric is a heavy-weight). Care and adult supervision required.

Emma Roberts

Star Making

Stars are not only for night-time, create your own star display with this paper activity. You can create your own patterns too and create a star that is just for you.

Suitable for all ages but adults will need to supervise young children.

You will need:

- 8 pieces of square paper
- Colouring materials: paint and paint brush, crayons, colouring pens (optional)
- PVA glue or similar



Instructions:

1. To prepare the paper

- a. **Cut** out 8 pieces of square paper.
- b. You can **decorate** one side of each paper or leave plain. Allow to dry and place under a heavy book to keep flat (especially if you have used paint).

2. To make the star

- a. **Fold** square in half and fold in half again.
- b. **Open** the square up.
- c. Turn paper to show plain side, fold from one corner into the centre of the paper – creating a triangle.
- d. Repeat, **folding all corners** to complete a square.
- e. Take top corner and fold down – you are **making a kite** shape.
- f. **Repeat** on opposite side to complete the kite shape.
- g. **Repeat** the above with all the other pieces of paper.

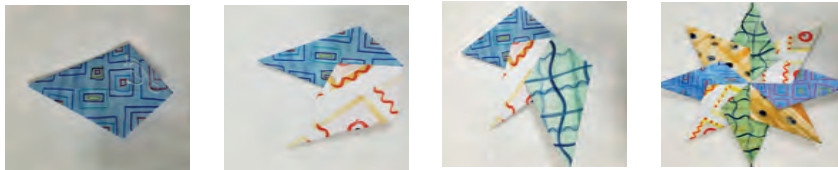


Emma Roberts

Star Making

3. To put the star together

- a. Place your first **kite shape** as shown.
- b. **Apply glue** as shown.
- c. **Glue** 2nd kite shape on to 1st as shown.
- d. **Repeat**, this sequence until **all 8 points** of the star are attached.
- e. When finished, **glue loose underside** of star down flat, to keep tidy.



4. Display your finished star, this could be in a window or on a wall.

Take it further:

You can make more stars to create a starry sky display. They can be different sizes (depending on the size of the paper you start with) and you can decorate them differently.



CREATIVE CHARACTERS

by Harry Woodgate

INTRODUCTION

Create and share your own quirky characters using these fun and interactive drawing prompts that are designed to get your creativity flowing, and suitable for kids – and big kids – of all ages!

Below are a selection of characters, costumes and activities to choose from.

All you need to do is print out this document and cut the prompts into individual slips of paper, and pick one at random out of a hat. Make sure to share your creations with UH Arts and Harry Woodgate on social media (links below).

Harry Woodgate

CREATIVE CHARACTERS

STEP ONE - CHARACTER

First step – who will your character be? A lion? An armadillo? Print and cut these out to see...

A PIGEON

AN ANXIOUS
GHOST

A LION

A DRAGON

AN ANTEATER

A WHALE

A LLAMA

A GRUMPY
YETI

A TWO-HEADED
SNAKE

AN ANGRY
ARMADILLO

A STRAWBERRY

Harry Woodgate

CREATIVE CHARACTERS

STEP TWO - COSTUMES

Alright, you've got your character – now, what are they going to wear? Keep it understated with a simple bowler hat, or go all out in glamorous make up?

a bowler hat *heart-shaped sunglasses* *antlers with baubles*
giant goth platform boots *a zebra costume* *stripy pants (outside trousers)*
a space helmet *a suit of armour* *a lampshade for a hat*
an invisibility cloak

STEP THREE - ACTIVITIES

Last step now – what's your character going to be doing? Getting their groove on, or doing a bit of comfort baking while they stay in self-isolation? Use these prompts to find out.

All that's left to do now is combine your three prompts into one illustration – look at the next page to find some tips...

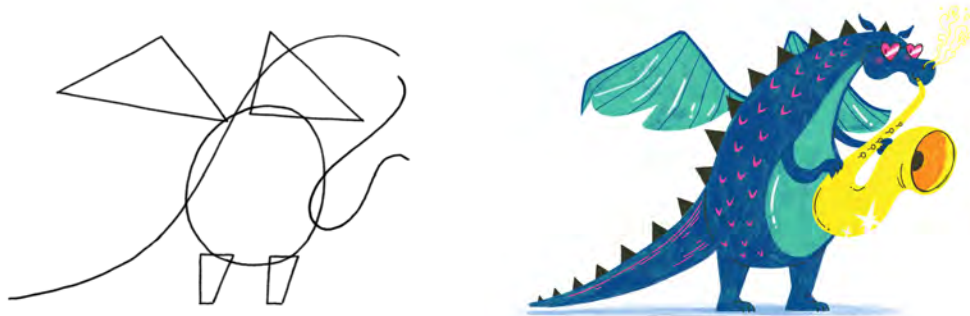
FIGURE SKATING *PLAYING FETCH WITH A VERY TINY DUCK* *BAKING A CAKE*
RIDING A VERY TALL UNICYCLE *BUSTIN' MOVES* *PLAYING THAT SAX*
SINGING (BADLY) *WATERING A ROW OF FRIENDLY PLANTS* *SCUBA DIVING*
DINING AT A TERRIBLY POSH RESTAURANT *DISSOLVING INTO A POOL OF GLOOP*

Harry Woodgate

CREATIVE CHARACTERS

CHARACTER DESIGN TIPS

Wondering about how to make your character stand out? A method I often use when I'm illustrating is to simplify everything down, and then exaggerate certain elements for effect.



For example, if your character is a dragon, try breaking him down into basic shapes – a big circle for the belly, a long curve for the tail, and two triangles for the wings. Play around with the size of these shapes and see how it changes the personality of your character.

Similarly, think about how you can simplify a character's expression so that you use the least amount of drawing to convey as much emotion as you can. (I find, as a rule of thumb, the larger the eyes and the higher up the mouth, the cuter your character looks!).

Finally, how are you using colour? Sometimes limiting yourself to a palette of five or six colours helps you to think more about how different colours interact with each other for different effects. Use contrasting colours to exaggerate different aspects of your character.



ALL FINISHED!

We would like to thank all the participating artists for sharing their skills, ideas and creativity with us

Please find out more about these talented creatives via their website:

Camilla Brendon

Camilla Brendon investigates sustainability and environmental activism – often using waste materials to create artworks.

Instagram: @camillabrendon
Facebook: CamillaBrendonArtist
Twitter: @camillabrendon
www.camillabrendon.com

Sarah Evans

Sarah Evans takes drawing and reinvents it through animation, installation and performance – she is inspired by nature and place – to create imaginary worlds.

Instagram: @evans.saz

Lee Farmer

Lee Farmer is an artist and designer whose varied creative practice includes cake making and painting.

Instagram: @MrLeeFarmer
www.leefarmer.net

Jane Glynn

Jane Glynn explores time and memory in her practice, through a wide range of media including bookmaking, painting, sculpture and graphic memoirs.

Instagram: @janeglynnphillips
Twitter: @janeglynn
www.janeglynn.co.uk

Amanda Ralph

Amanda Ralph is an installation artist who uses found objects to create 'ready-made art' that is inspired by the everyday.

Instagram: @artist_amanda_ralph

Anna Ray

Anna Ray works in the field of art textiles and soft sculpture creating artworks that call to be touched – made using specialist techniques such as stitching and stuffing fabrics.

Instagram: @annarayart
Facebook: AnnaRayArt
Twitter: @annarayart
www.annaray.co.uk

Proliferate Arts

Instagram: @ProliferateArts
YouTube: PROLIFERATE ARTS

Harriet Riddell

Harriet Riddell uses observational drawing, her sewing machine and bicycle are part of her performance textile artist practice. She is an Alumna of the University of Hertfordshire.

Instagram: @InStitchYou
Twitter: @HarrietRiddell
www.institchyou.co.uk



Emma Roberts

Emma Roberts is a creative who has experience with illustration and teaching. She uses a wide range of arts techniques to engage people with creative ideas and activities.

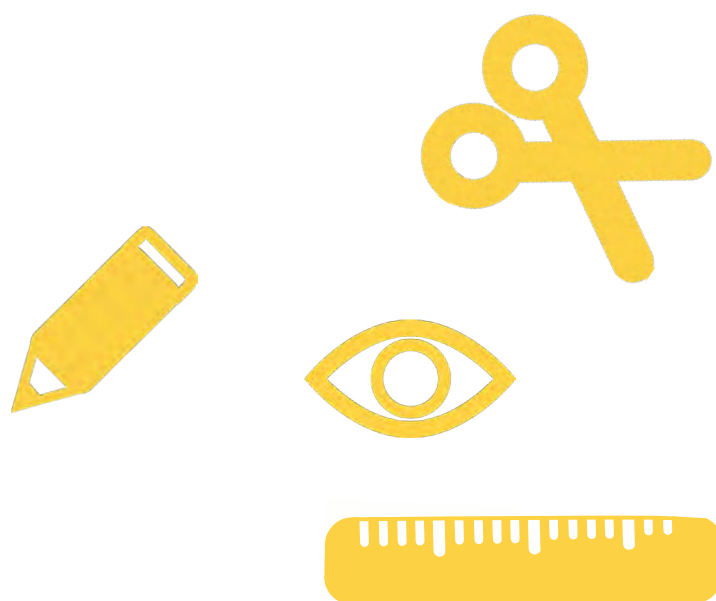
Harry Woodgate

Harry Woodgate is an illustrator who loves using fun, bright colours and quirky characters in their work.

Instagram: @harrywoodgateart

Twitter: @harrywoodgate

www.harrywoodgate.com



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