



This toolkit has been designed for you, Ypsilanti, to inspire wild ideas, intriguing solutions, valuable explorations, and enjoyable moments. Most importantly, these cards aim to ignite your curiosity about the world around you. What will you do with your unique and powerful brain?

## **BEGIN ANYWHERE!**

The Fly Creativity Toolkit was created in collaboration with Eastern Michigan University School of Art & Design and generously funded by Sappi Ideas that Matter.

Illustrations by Kaitlin Meyette.

Cards printed on 130# Sappi Opus dull cover.  
Box printed on 120# Sappi Opus dull cover.



Riverside Arts Center  
76 N. Huron St.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
[riversidearts.org](http://riversidearts.org)



**sappi** | **ideas  
that  
matter**

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**Go to the library and find a poem. Illustrate it on the other side of this card.**



**Illustrate the poem.**



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**Invent your own ice cream flavor  
and draw a picture of it on the  
other side of this card.**

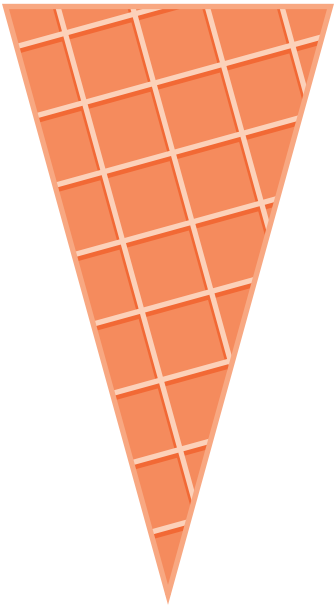


**Deliver this to Go Ice Cream  
to be displayed.**

**10 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197**



**Draw your flavor.**

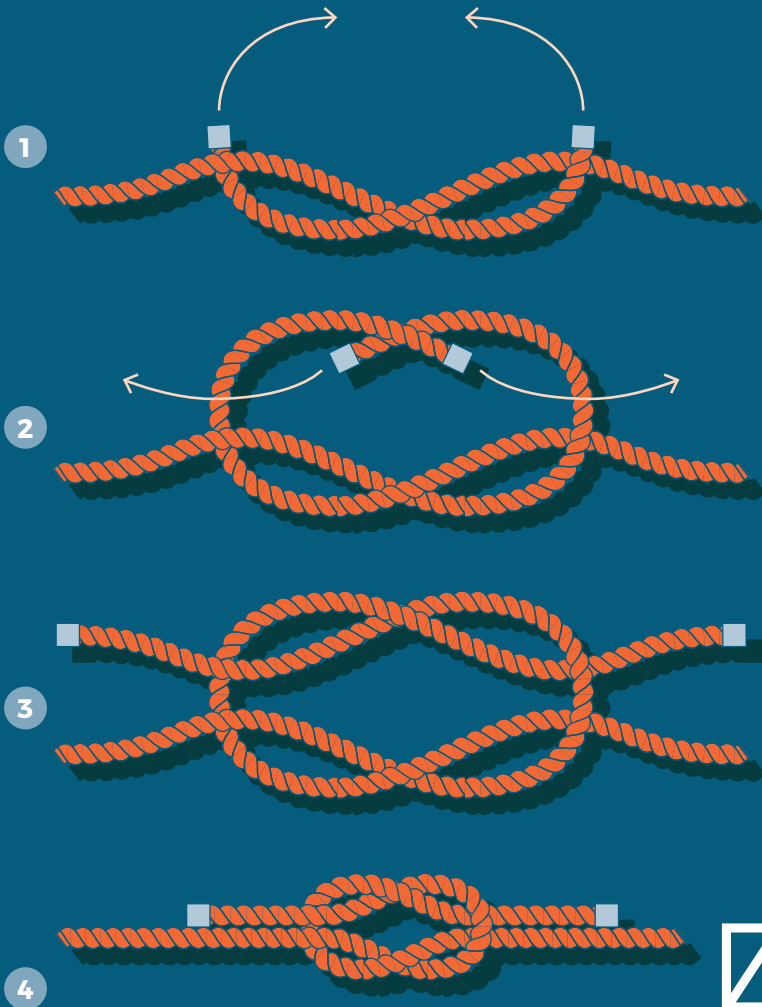


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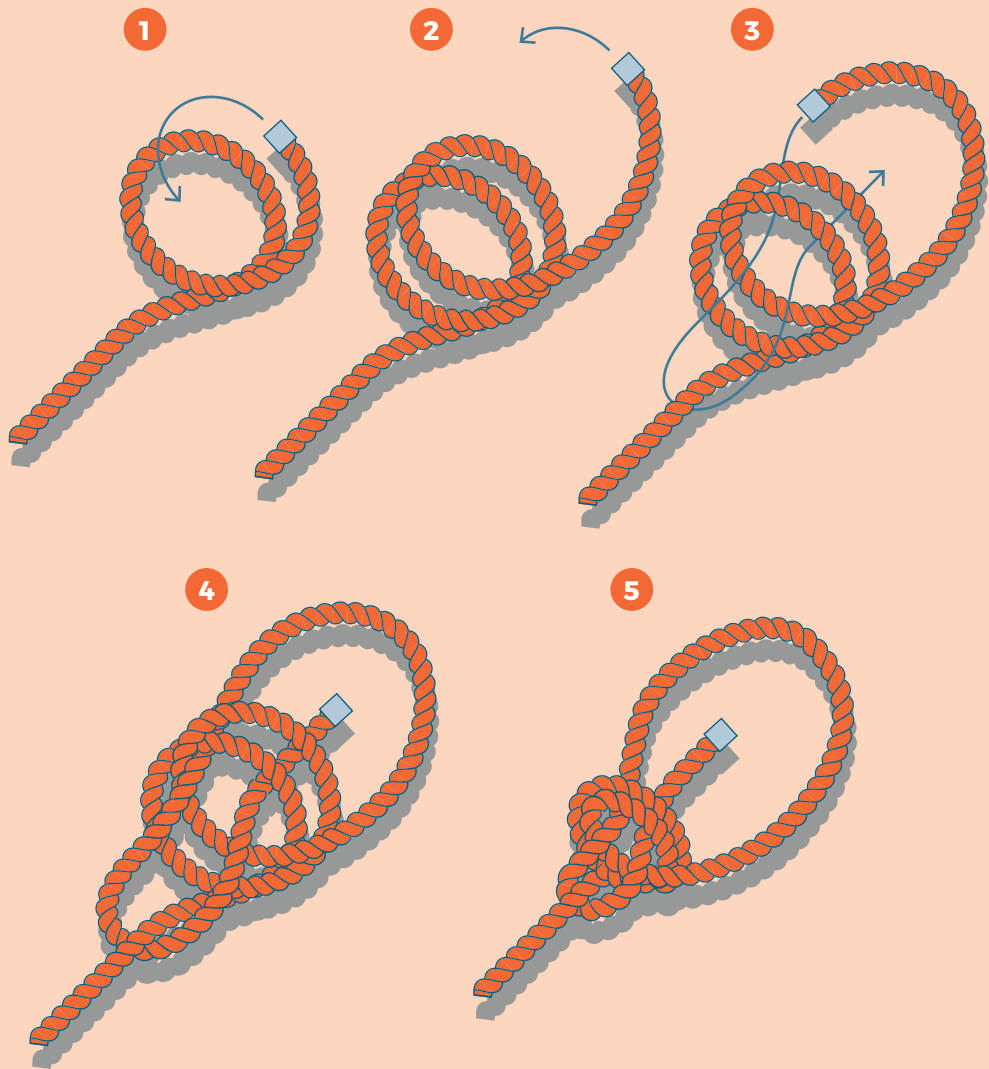
## Tie knots!

Find some rope or string and give these knots a try.

### The Square (Reef) Knot



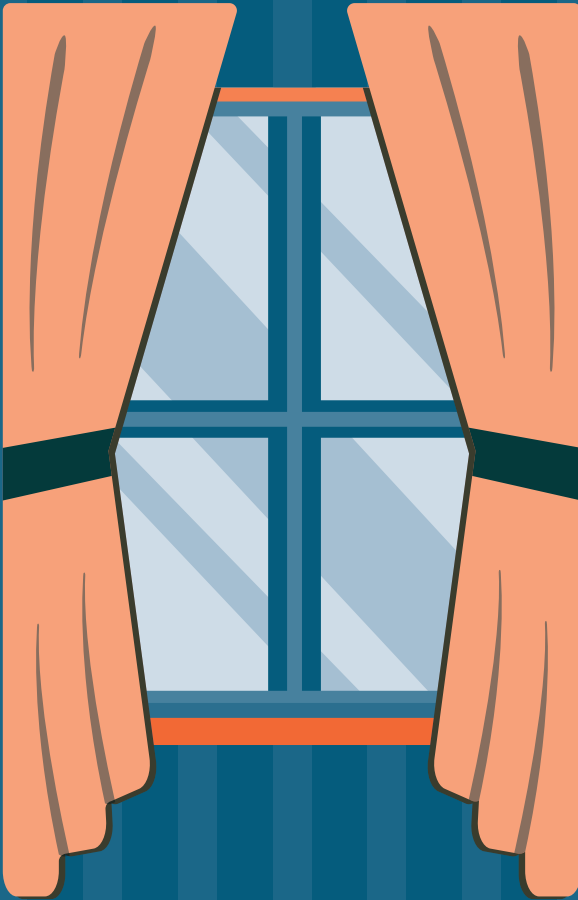
# The Double Bowline





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**Change the view outside  
your window.**



# 05

**DRAW**

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**Draw the space between  
two things.**



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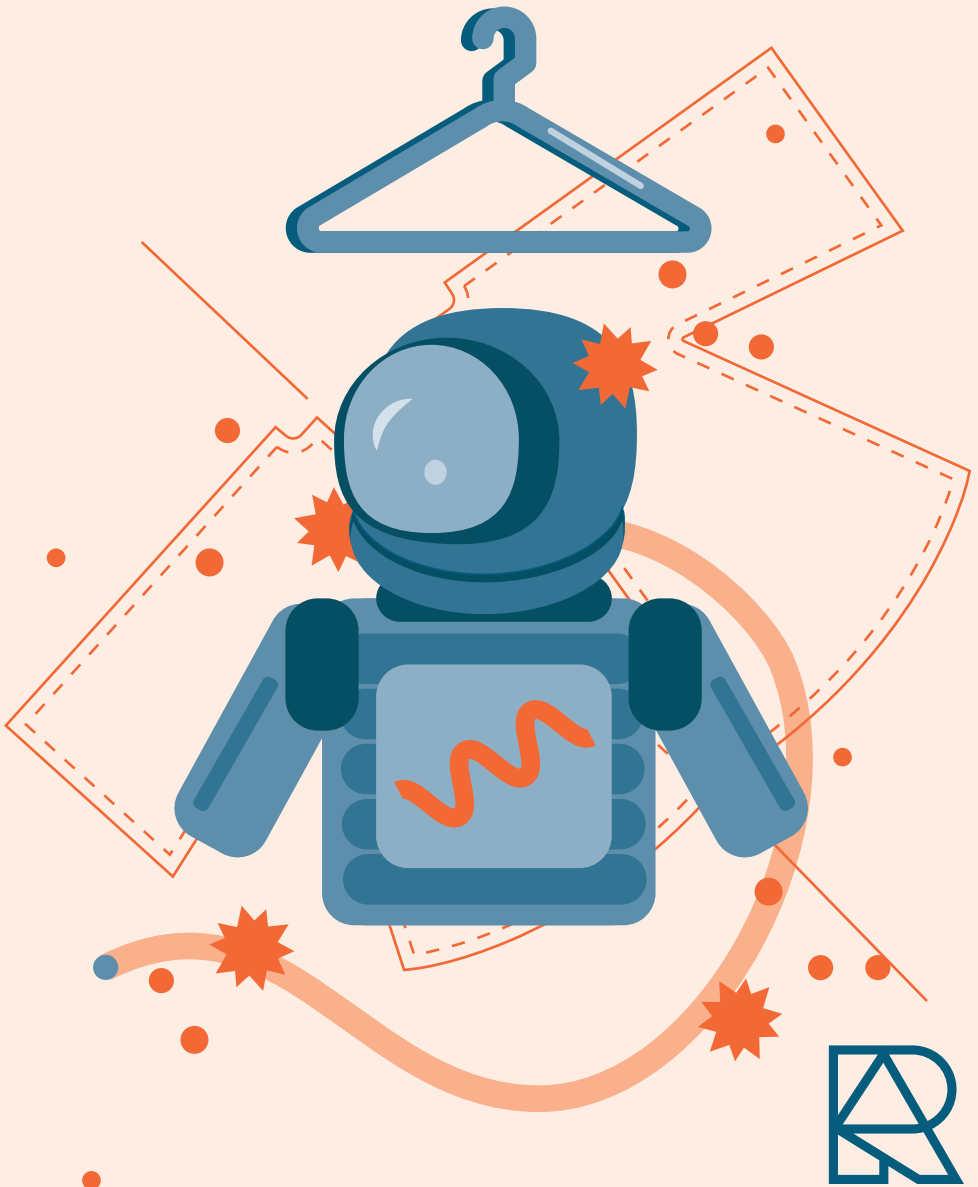
**Draw a diagram of your favorite song.**



**Draw the diagram here.**



**Design an outfit for the future.**



**Draw your outfit here.**



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**Make a dance about  
your day.**



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**Draw something only  
you have noticed.**





**Draw a map from where you are to where you want to go – physically or metaphorically.**



physically: relating to the real world.

metaphorically: representative or symbolic of something else.

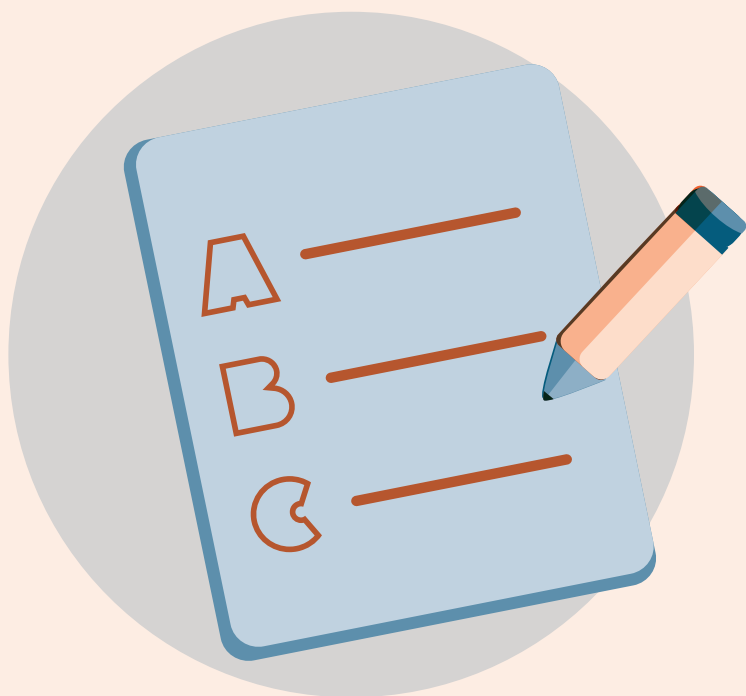


**Draw your map here.**



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**Write a poem where the first line begins with A, second line begins with B, the third line begins with C... all the way to the last line which begins with Z. Anything can happen in between.**



This kind of poem is called an abecedarian.



A...

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

K

L

M

N

O

P

Q

R

S

T

U

V

W

X

Y

Z



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**Taste a new food and  
write a poem about it.**

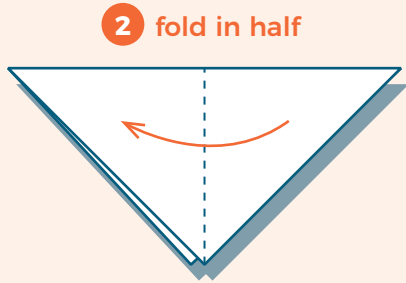
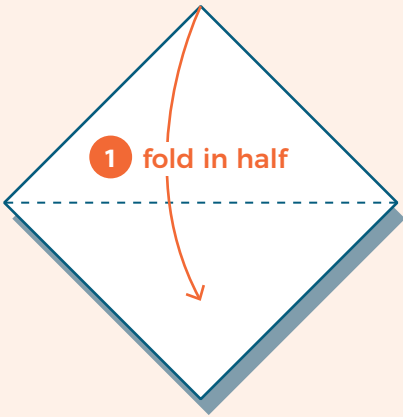


**Write your poem here.**

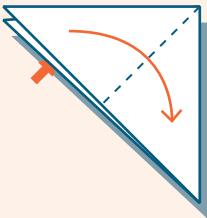
[illegible]

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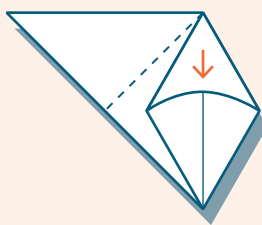
## Make a paper crane.



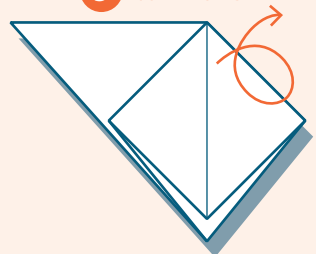
3 open the pocket



4 flatten to square



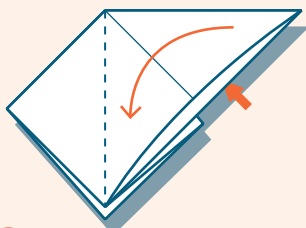
5 turn over



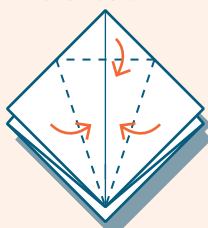
Instructions continued on back of card. ➡



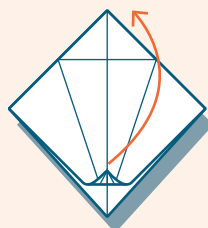
**6** open and flatten like 3 & 4.



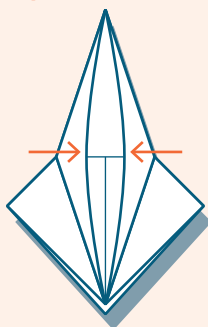
**7** fold to make creases and fold back



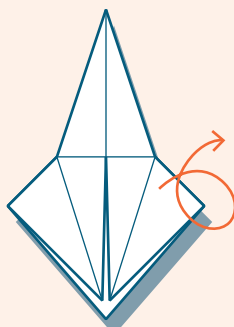
**8** pick a tip and lift upwards



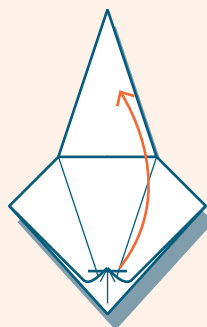
**9** flatten the pocket



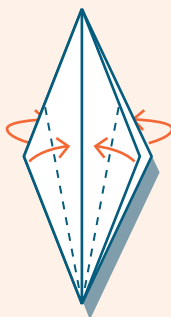
**10** turn over



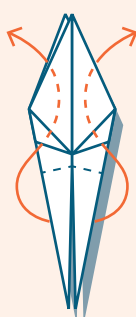
**11** fold open and flatten like 7, 8, 9



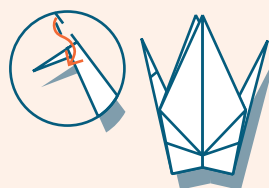
**12** fold to meet the center line



**13** pocket fold in the dotted line



**14** pocket fold the head.



**15** open the wings



The crane is lucky in Japanese culture. Legend says that anyone who folds one thousand paper cranes will have their heart's desire come true.

How many can you make?

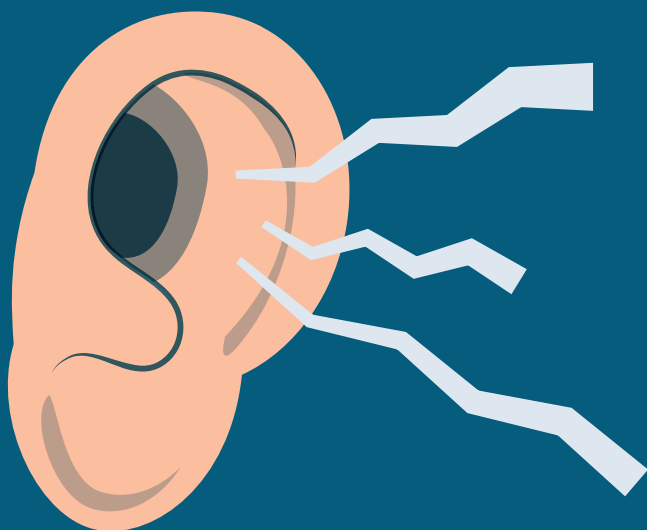


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**Take a breath and be still.  
Listen. Then list all the sounds  
that you hear.**



**“There is no such thing as an empty space  
or an empty time. There is always some-  
thing to see, something to hear. In fact, try  
as we may to make a silence, we cannot.”**

**—John Cage, composer**

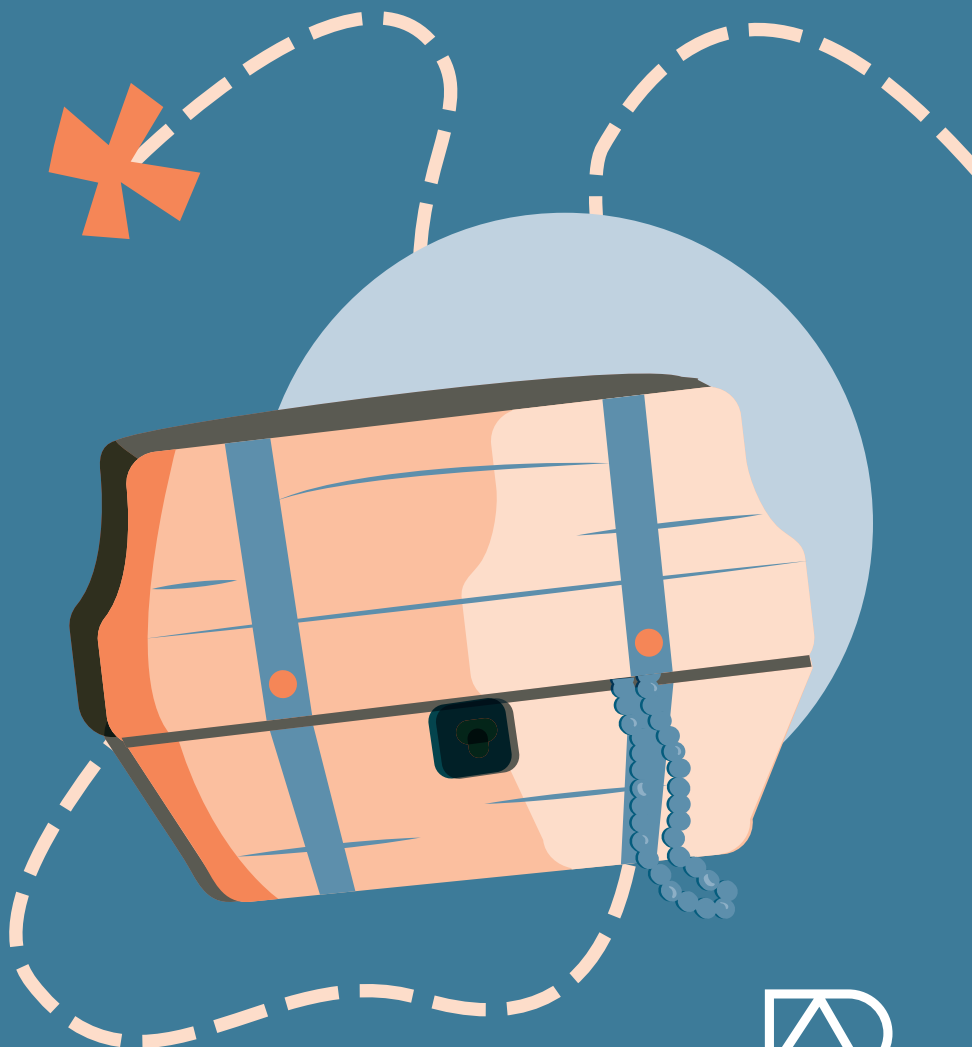


This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal orange ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.



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**Hide a treasure and draw a treasure map so others can find it.**



**Draw your treasure map here.**



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**Find a bit of text from a magazine or flyer. Cut out each word. Put them into a bag and shake. Pour them out and read the poem.**



**Paste or write your poem here.**



# 17

DRAW

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**Draw a picture of yourself on the back of this card.**



Mail or put it in the Riverside Arts Center Mailbox. We'll exhibit them in Ma Lou's.

76 N Huron St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197



**Draw yourself here.**





**Curate a “Top Ten” Mini Gallery.  
Draw or document your 10  
favorite things on the back of  
this card.**



**Draw your 10 things here.**



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**Design a city. Who lives there? What kind of spaces does it need?**



**Draw your city here.**



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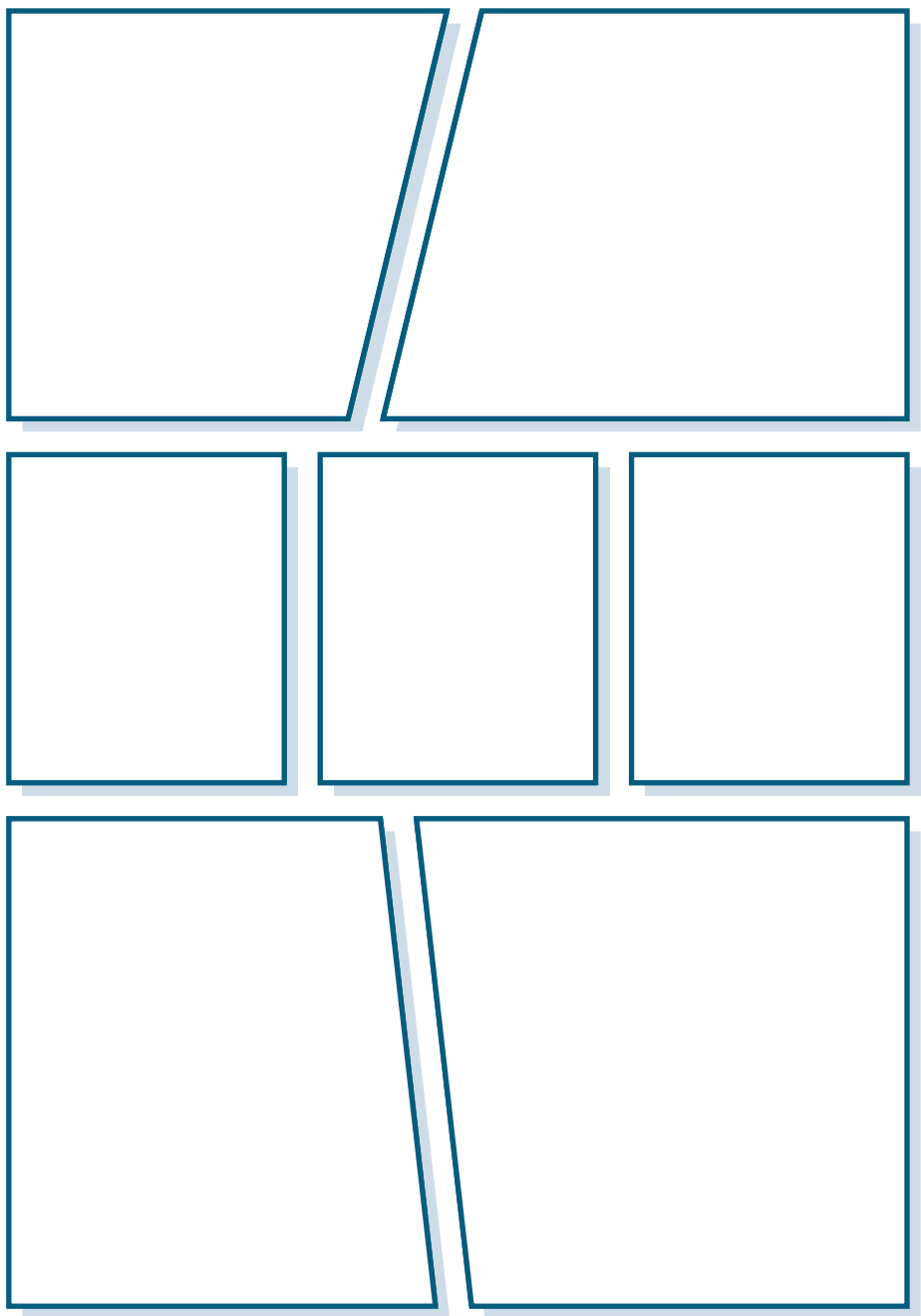
# 20

WRITE  
DRAW

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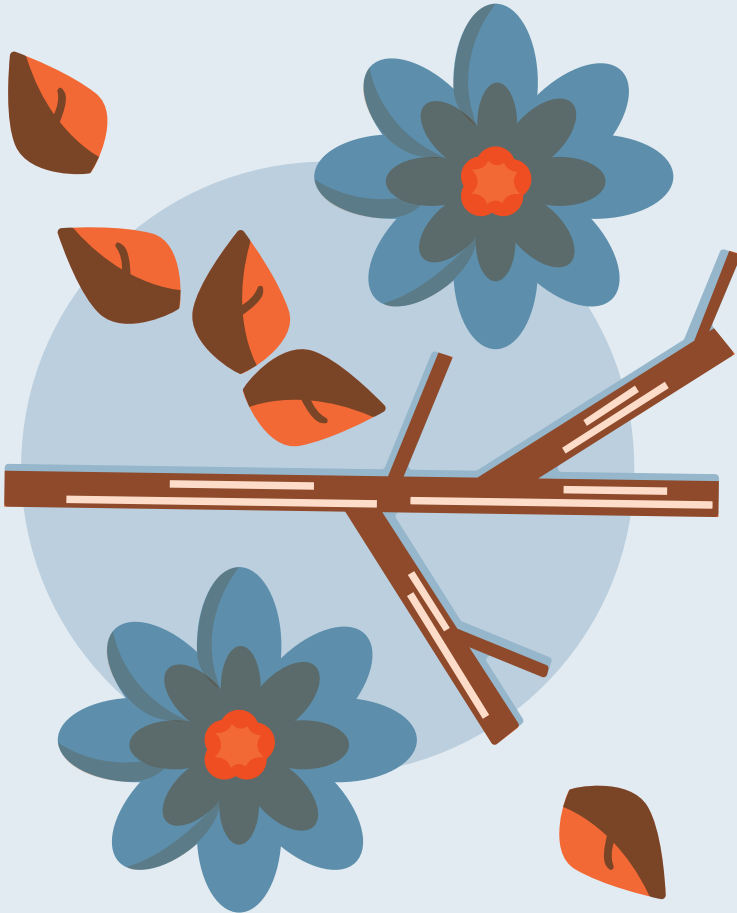
**Make a comic of your  
earliest memories.**





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**Collect items from nature and arrange them beautifully.**



**“People also leave presence in a place even when they are no longer there.”**

**—Andy Goldsworthy, artist**



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**Illustrate the letters of your favorite word.**



Typography is the art of arranging letterforms to be readable or interesting to look at.



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**Scientists have discovered  
a new creature. What does  
it look like?**



**Draw the creature here.**



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**Take off your left shoe  
and draw it in detail.**



**Draw your shoe here.**



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## Make tangram animals.



The tangram is a puzzle consisting of seven flat shapes, called tans, which are put together to form specific shapes (given only an outline or silhouette) using all seven pieces, which may not overlap.



**Cut out the 7 shapes below and use them all to create tangrams in the shape of animals. See how many different animal shapes you can create.**



Examples of a chicken and a rabbit are on the front of this card. How many more can you come up with?

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**Create a new kind of  
handshake. Teach it to  
a friend.**



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**Map an escape route.**





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**Write a love song to your favorite food.**



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal red ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.



# 29

DESIGN

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**Design a new alphabet.**



**Use this to sketch some ideas.**



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**It's the future. What do you most dislike doing? Invent something to solve that.**



**Describe or draw your invention.**



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**Draw someone important to you and share it with them.**



**“The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction, both are transformed.”**

**—Carl Jung, psychiatrist**



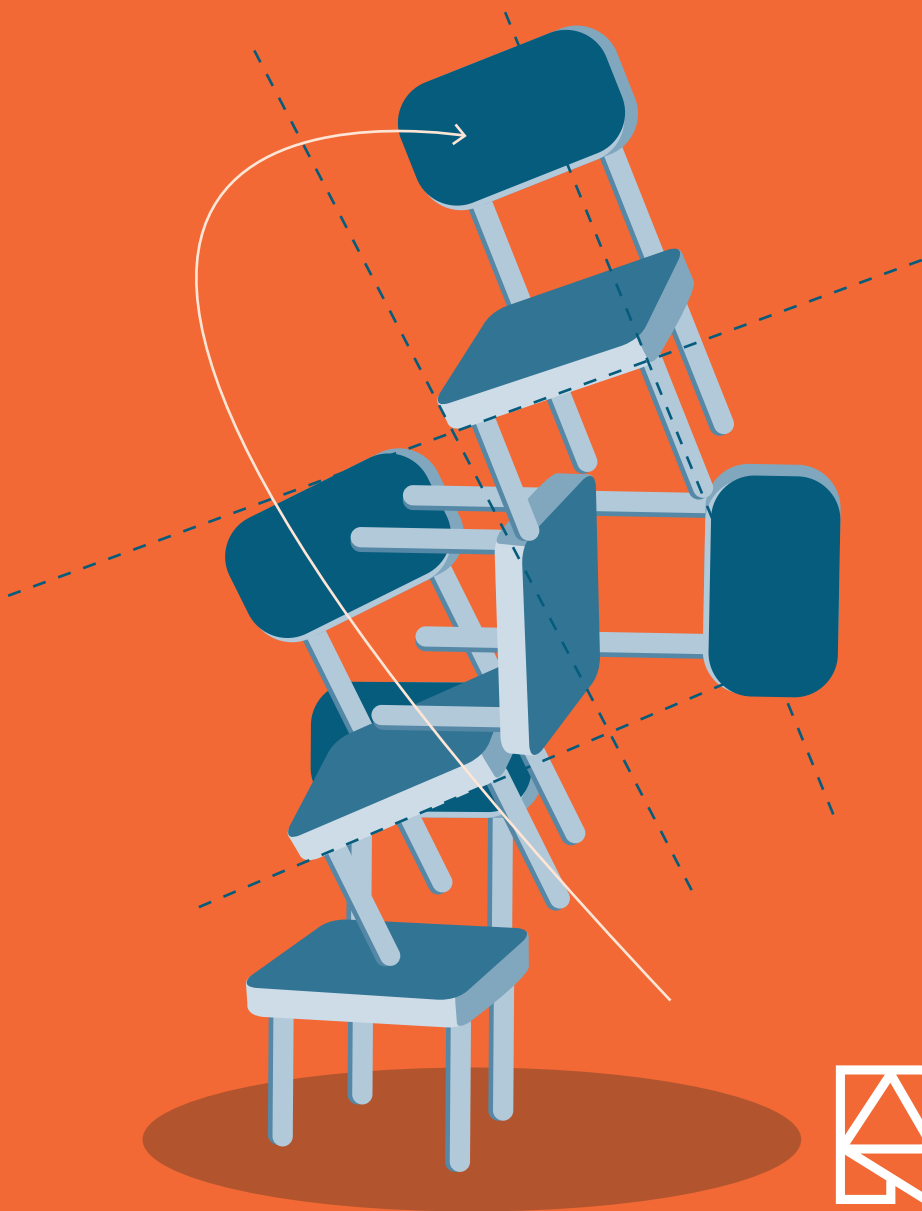
**Draw who matters to you.**





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## Redesign a classroom.



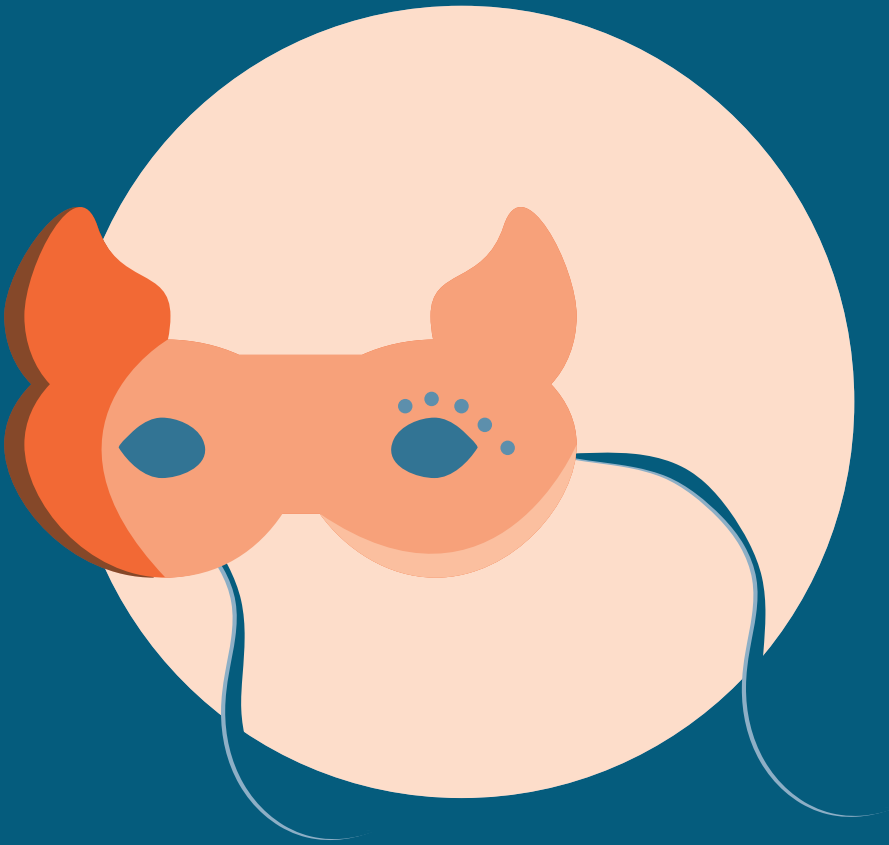
**Draw your design here.**



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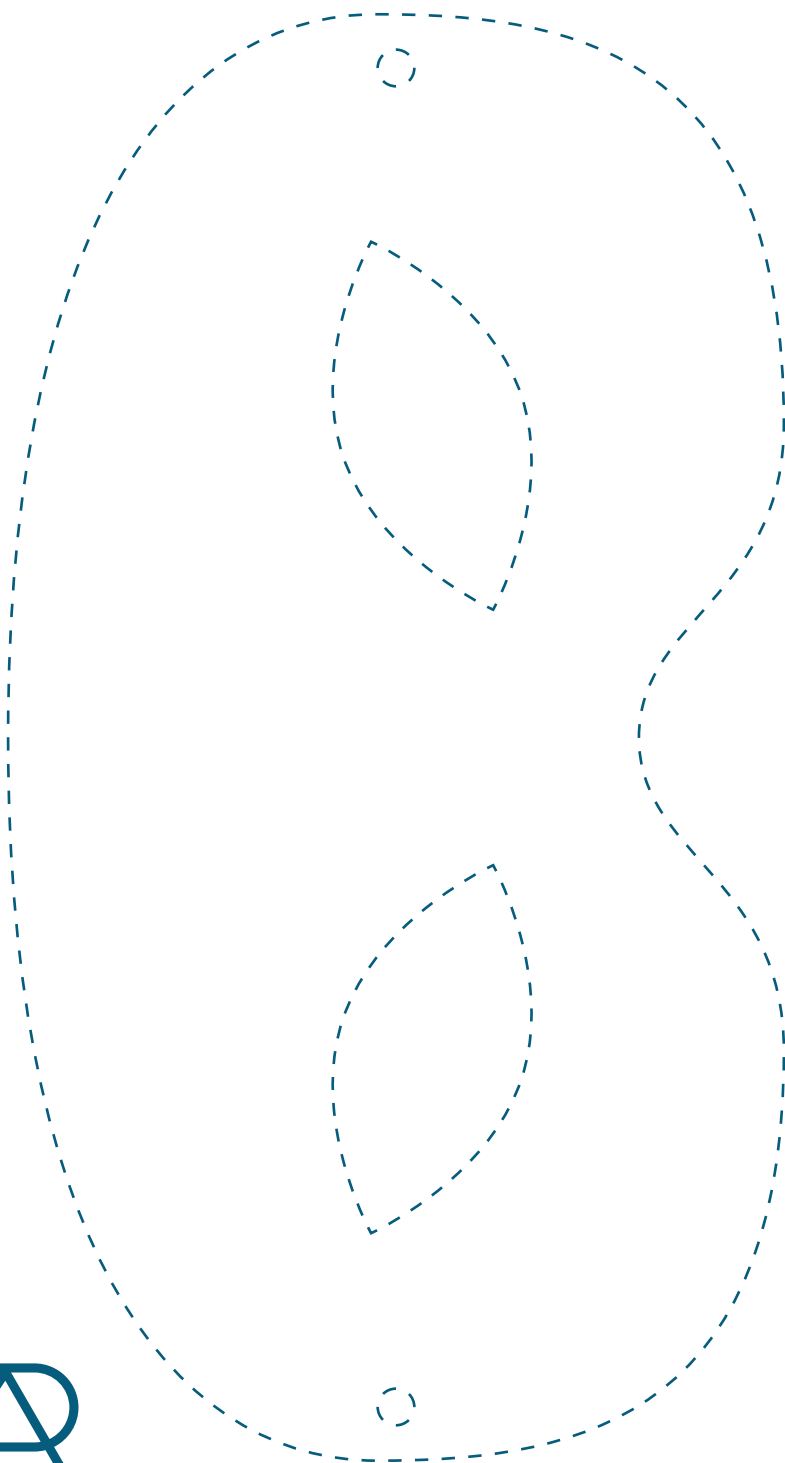
**Make a mask that shows people your true self.**



**“Ninety-nine percent of who you are is invisible and untouchable.”**

**—R. Buckminster Fuller, inventor**





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## Make music from a found object.



"You can play a shoestring if you're sincere."

—John Coltrane, jazz musician



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**Draw a detailed map of an imaginary world.**



# 36

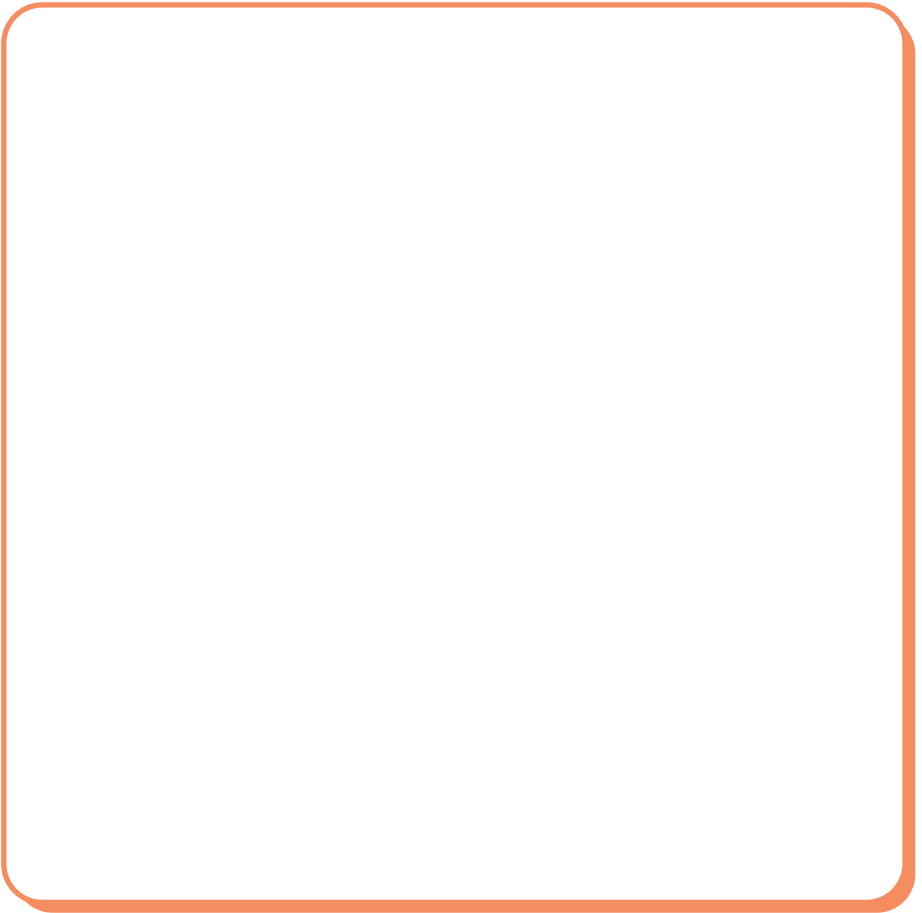
CONNECT

**Anonymously help one person every day this week.**



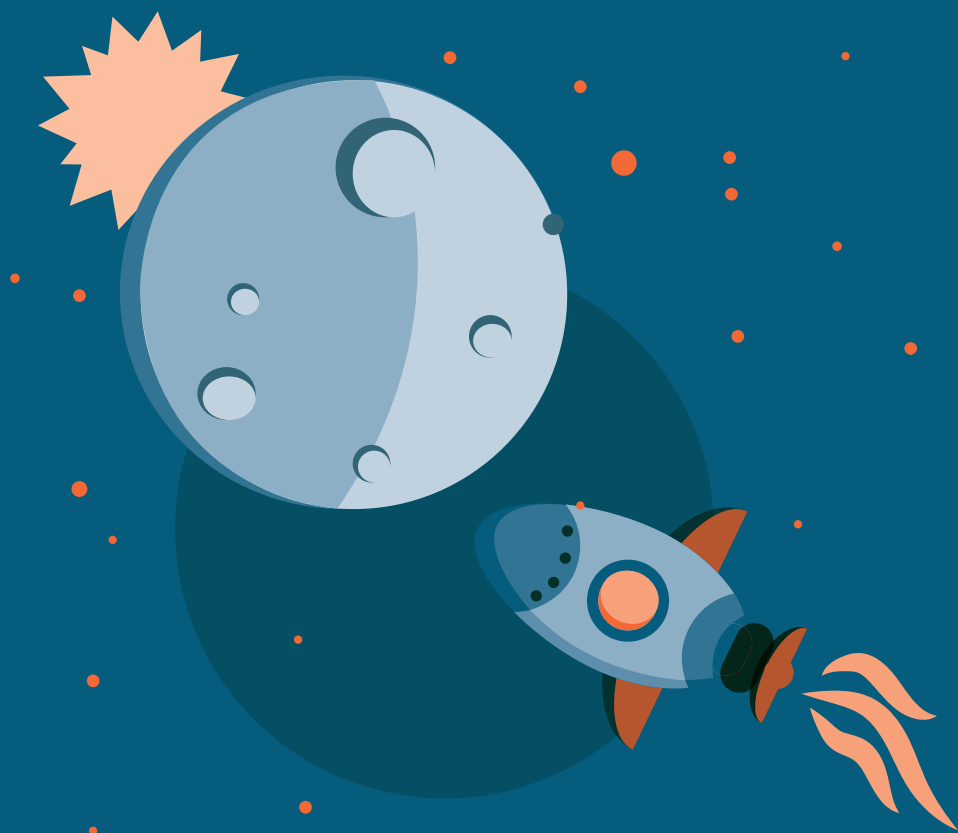
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**Make cool shadows on the wall and trace them. Draw your favorite shadows below.**

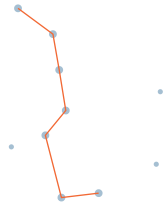




**In the night sky, find the constellations the Big Dipper and the Little Dipper. Then find your own images in the stars.**



Draw your constellations here.



The Big Dipper



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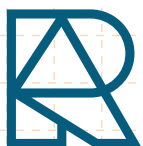
**Many yoga poses are based on animals such as downward dog, cat, and cobra. Invent your own animal pose.**



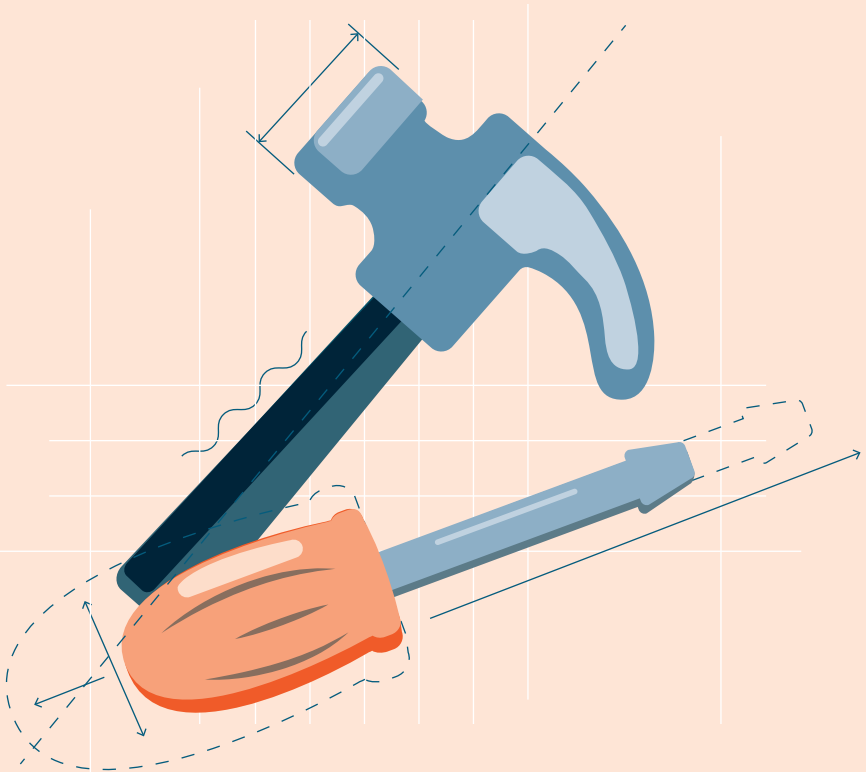
**“daring dino”**



**Diagram your yoga pose here.**



**Tools can be any object that helps us, like pencils or toothbrushes. What tools do you use everyday? Choose one and design a better version of it.**



**Tool: a device or implement, especially one held in the hand, used to carry out a particular function.**



**Draw your design here.**



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**Do some people watching.  
Notice how people are the same  
and how they are different. How  
do they look? How do they act?**



This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal red lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook paper or a form designed for handwritten entries. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.





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**Have a conversation without words. How are you expressing what you want the other person to know?**



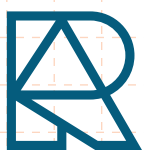
**Draw or describe how you  
communicated to each other.**



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**Use the back of this card to design a flyer advertising your best personality traits.**





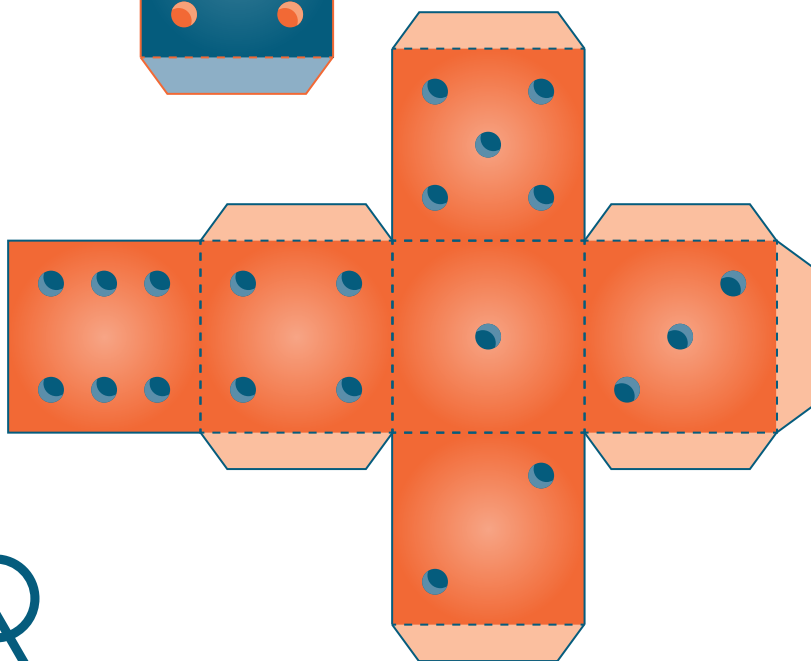
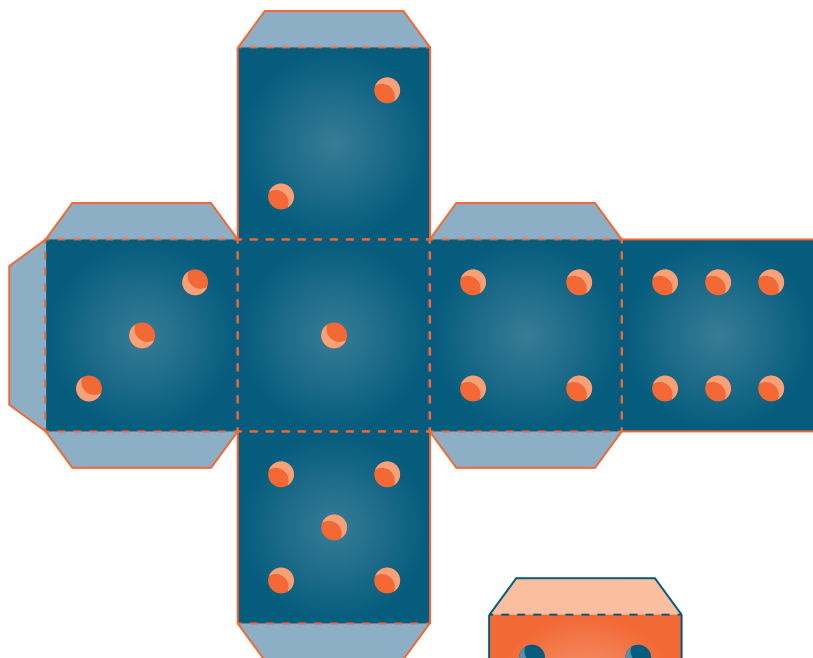
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**Cut out the dice template  
on the back. Use the dice  
to create a game.**



**Cut the solid lines.**  
**Fold on the dotted lines.**  
**Glue tabs to the back.**



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**“Take an object.  
Do something to it.  
Do something else to it.”**

**—Jasper Johns, artist**



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**What is your superpower?  
What is your kryptonite?  
Write or draw the answer.**



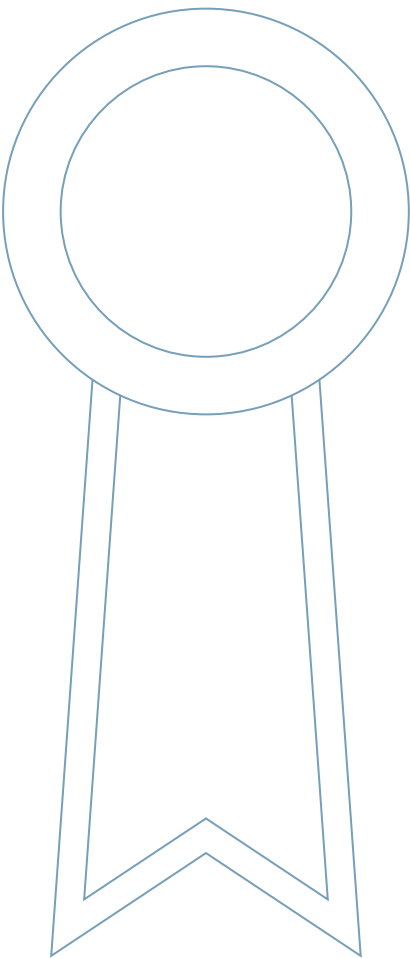
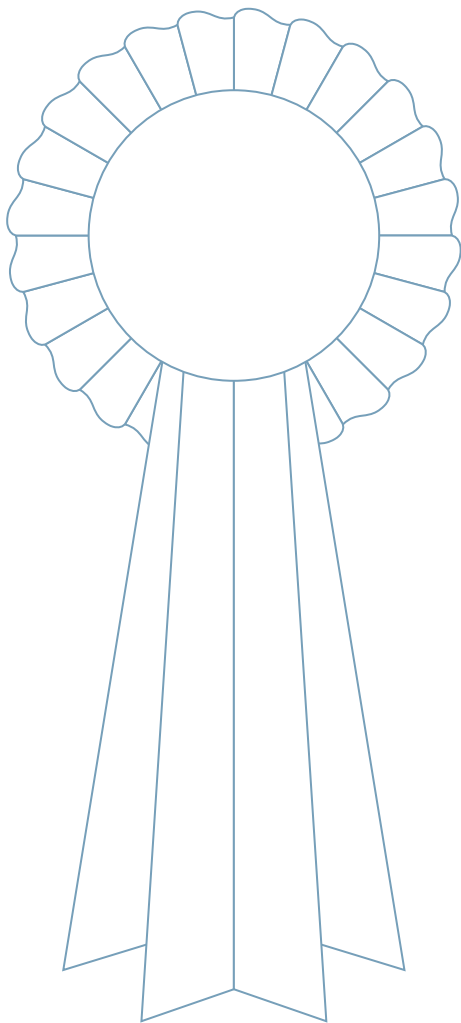


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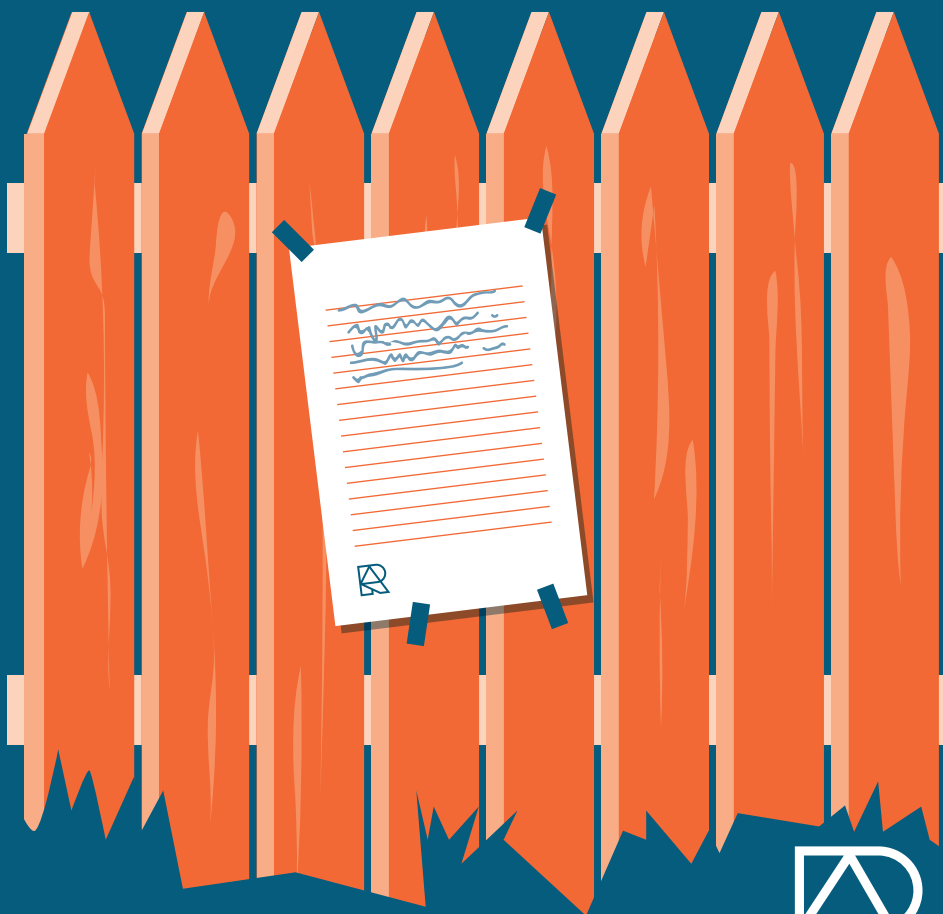
**Create artistic awards for people you admire. Write down what people are getting awarded for and give them away as gifts**



**Use these blank awards or make your own.**



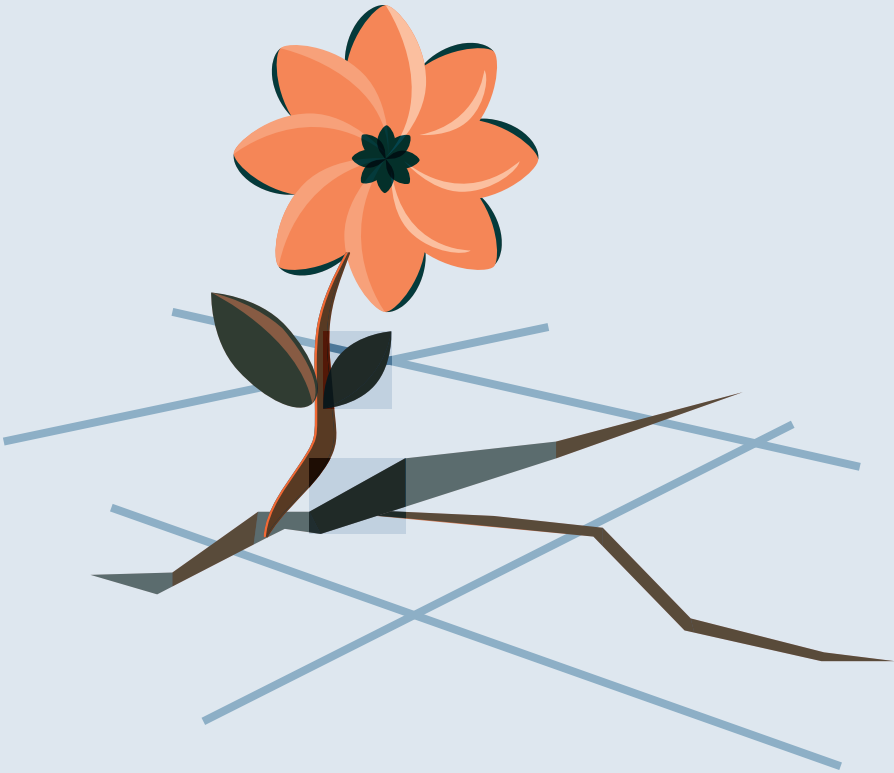
**On the back of this card write down one thing you absolutely know about life. Tape it up in a public place.**



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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**Look for something beautiful in an unexpected place.**



“You see you wouldn't ask why the rose that grew from the concrete had damaged petals. On the contrary, we would all celebrate its tenacity. We would all love its will to reach the sun.”

—**Tupac Shakur**, musician



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**Pick flowers and leaves. Arrange them on top of the sidewalk and lay this card on top. Pound the paper gently with a rock or hammer to create a nature print.**



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**A Quiet Moment – Go into a public space and do nothing with your hands. Look at the world around you. What are the patterns? What do you hear?**

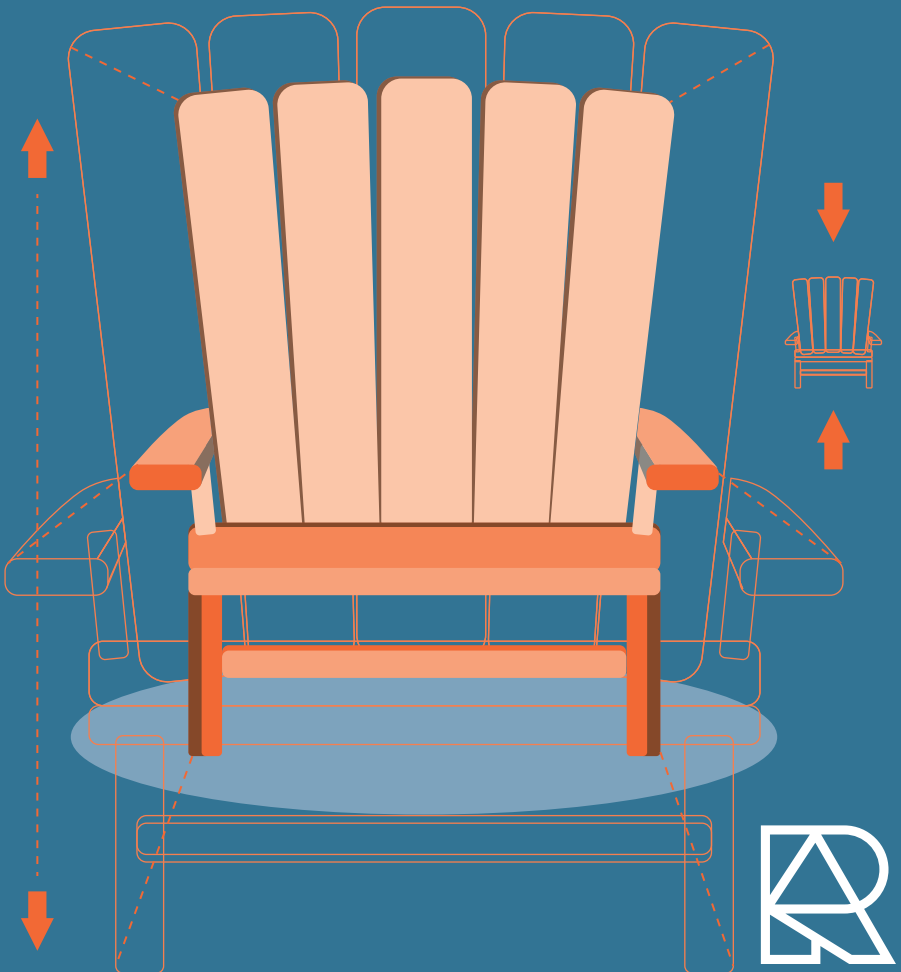


**Write or draw your  
observations here.**





**Visit the giant yellow chair in Riverside Park. Redesign something in town that would be improved by being extra big or extra small.**



**Draw your design here.**



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**Ask a friend advice on  
something confusing.**



---

**Design a perfect day. Write or draw what that would be.**



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**Write about the times when  
you feel most like yourself.**



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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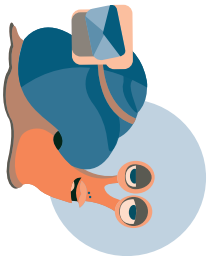
DESIGN

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Make this into a postcard and send it via snail mail.



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This card is part of the Fly Creativity Toolkit.  
Available from Riverside Arts Center.

