

Welcome

Name:

Age:

Class:

School:



About Media Acti-learn

Media Acti-Learn is a fun, hands-on activity book designed to spark creativity, curiosity, and confidence in young minds through the world of media and storytelling. From creating podcasts and finger puppets to discovering animation techniques like the zoetrope and peep-hole projectors, this book invites children to explore, experiment, and express themselves.

Each activity is crafted to make learning joyful and interactive, using simple tools, recycled materials, and lots of imagination! Whether in the classroom, at home, or during workshops, Media Acti-Learn opens the door to playful exploration of sound, visuals, storytelling, and design. Media Acti-Learn is part of Agastya's mission to nurture a spirit of innovation, curiosity, and confidence through experiential learning.



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01

MY DAILY DANCE

FROM DAWN TO DUSK



Introduction:

A report is just a written or spoken description of what you have seen, heard, done, or studied.

Instructions:

Create an Adventure Report about your day! You can answer the questions by writing or drawing

Today's weather is:



Today I spotted:



My day was:

Someone
new I met:

Something
new I learnt:

I woke up at:

Something
new I tried:

Something new I saw:

I went to sleep at:

What I did during the day
(mapped according to time) :

6AM 7AM 8AM 9AM 10AM 11AM 12PM 1PM 2PM

3PM 4PM 5PM 6PM 7PM 8PM 9PM 10PM 11PM

If you have create a weekly
report, what would it look like?

ZINO- BIOGRAPHY!

Introduction:

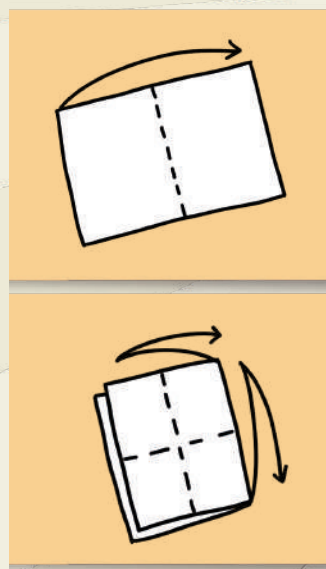
A zine is a pamphlet-like publication that can include text, images, artwork, found objects, or any other creative material that helps to express the writer's message.



Let's create a zine!

Materials required:

Paper, Pens, Pencils,
Markers, Stickers and
Scissors



1. Fold the Paper in Half

Take an A4 sheet and fold it lengthwise in half. Crease it well, then unfold it.

2. Fold it Again

Now fold the paper widthwise in half, and then fold each side in again to make 8 equal sections. Unfold the sheet — you should now see 8 rectangles.



3. Cut the Middle Line

Fold the paper in half widthwise again and carefully cut along the center crease — just the middle two rectangles. Stop at the first fold line (don't cut all the way through).



4. Open the Paper Fully

Open the paper fully — now it should have a slit in the middle.



5. Fold and Push the Paper

Fold the paper widthwise and gently push the sides inward so the cut area forms a diamond shape in the center.



6. Make the Pages

Keep pushing the sides until the pages form naturally into a booklet shape.

7. Fold the Booklet

Fold all the pages together neatly.

8. Your Zine is Ready!

You now have your mini book (zine) with 8 pages — ready to be filled with your ideas, stories, or art!

Write/draw the following in your zine:

You can illustrate, cut and paste images from newspapers or magazines, add photographs or any other elements to decorate your zine.

- I look like (draw yourself):
- My family looks like:
- My house looks like:
- My favourite food:
- My best friend(s):
- 3 things I love about myself:
- My biggest fears:
- My favourite sport:
- When I grow up, I want to be _____.
- A special memory (within 5 lines):
- What do you want to be remembered for? If I am a superhero, I would look like:
- My super powers would be:



Scan to Watch!



Can you create a zine about your village/city?

THE JOYFUL TIMES

Introduction:

A newspaper is a publication printed on paper and issued regularly, usually once a day. It gives information and opinions about current events and news, read by the public to stay informed about their local city, state, or country.



Let's make the front page of a newspaper!

Concepts: A day out with friends/A Sunday at home/About your pet, grandparents, etc.

1. Choose your favourite (3 or 4) topics.
2. Research your topic, gather information and take notes on key facts and quotes.
3. Write the articles in 100-150 words.
4. Make sure your article has an introduction, middle and a conclusion.
5. Write a headline for each article.
6. Use a white chart/paper - draw margins on it and create the front page of your newspaper.
7. Give a fun name to your newspaper and fill it with your articles.
8. Cut and paste images, or draw figures, scenes and charts.

What is the structure of a newspaper?

Headline: Attention-grabbing, short, catchy title, few-word summary of the story



Name of the newspaper

Advertisement

Body: The detailed account of the event or occurrence, divided into small paragraphs

Photograph with caption and credits



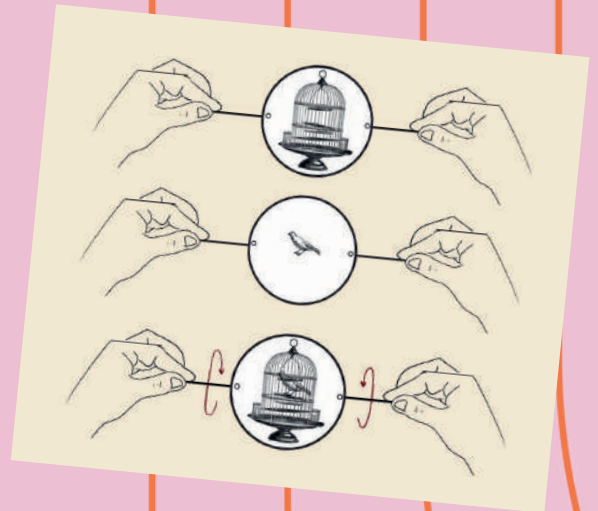
Now we know how to create a newspaper, why don't we start a class newspaper?



--

[illegible]

SPIN & FUN

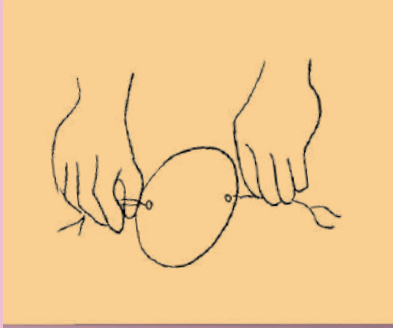


Introduction:

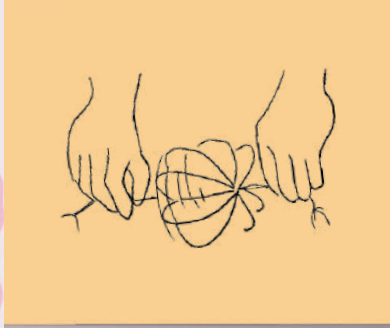
A thaumatrope (from the Greek words *thauma* ["wonder"] and *tropos* ["turn"], or "spinning wonder") is an optical toy that demonstrates persistence of vision and uses an optical illusion to make two images appear as one.



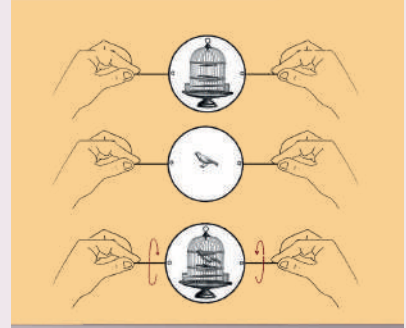
Let's create our own Thaumatrope!



1. Cut template A or B on page no. 18, stick it on a thin cardboard.



2. Fold in the middle and attach a thread to the sides.



3. Twist the thread and pull it to spin



Caution:

Be careful while using the scissors/cutters

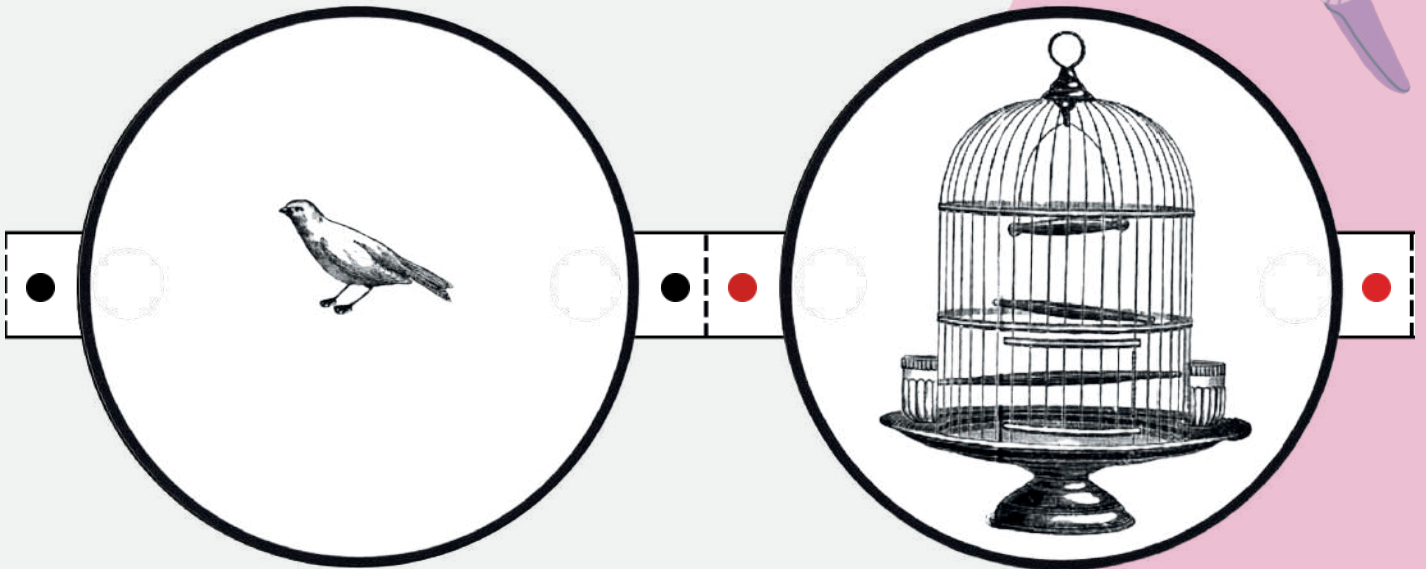
Materials required:

Thin cardboard ,
Scissors,
Glue or gluestick,
Hole punch (optional),
String or thread

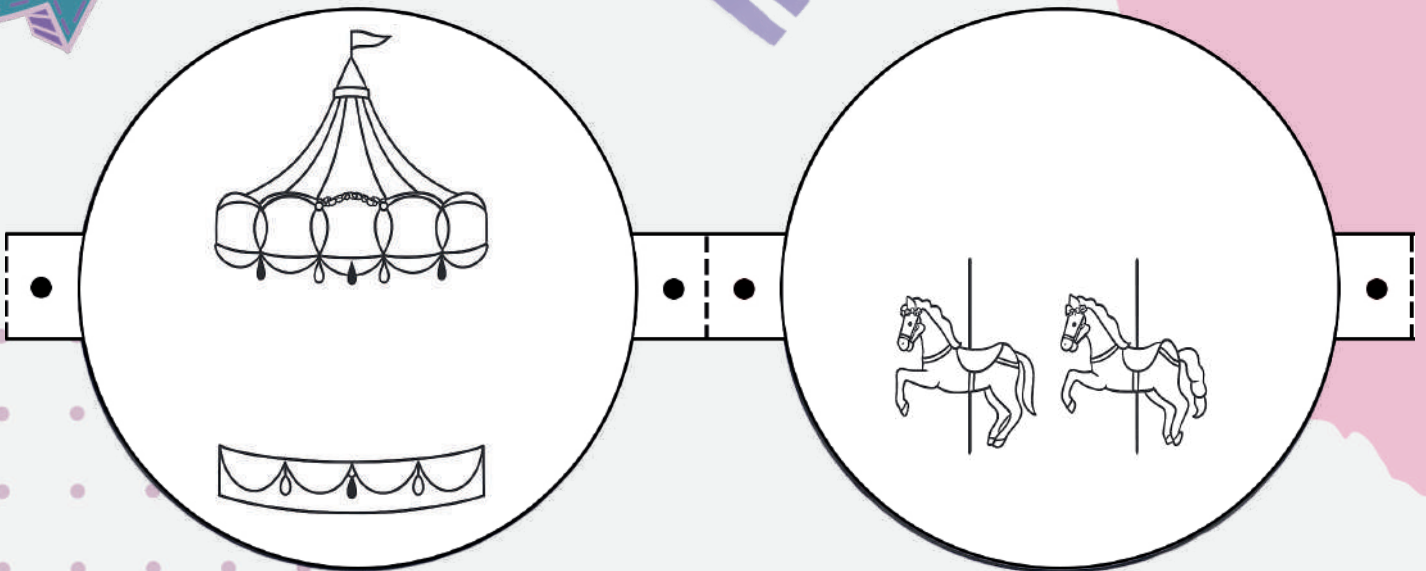
Did you know?

Thaumatrope and Phenakistoscope! (next activity) are based on persistence of vision, a phenomenon that happens with our eyes. When we see an image, the image is held on the retina (the screen of our eye) for a moment (about a tenth of a second). If a new image appears within that time, the brain merges the images, appearing to make up a single image or as a continuous sequence.

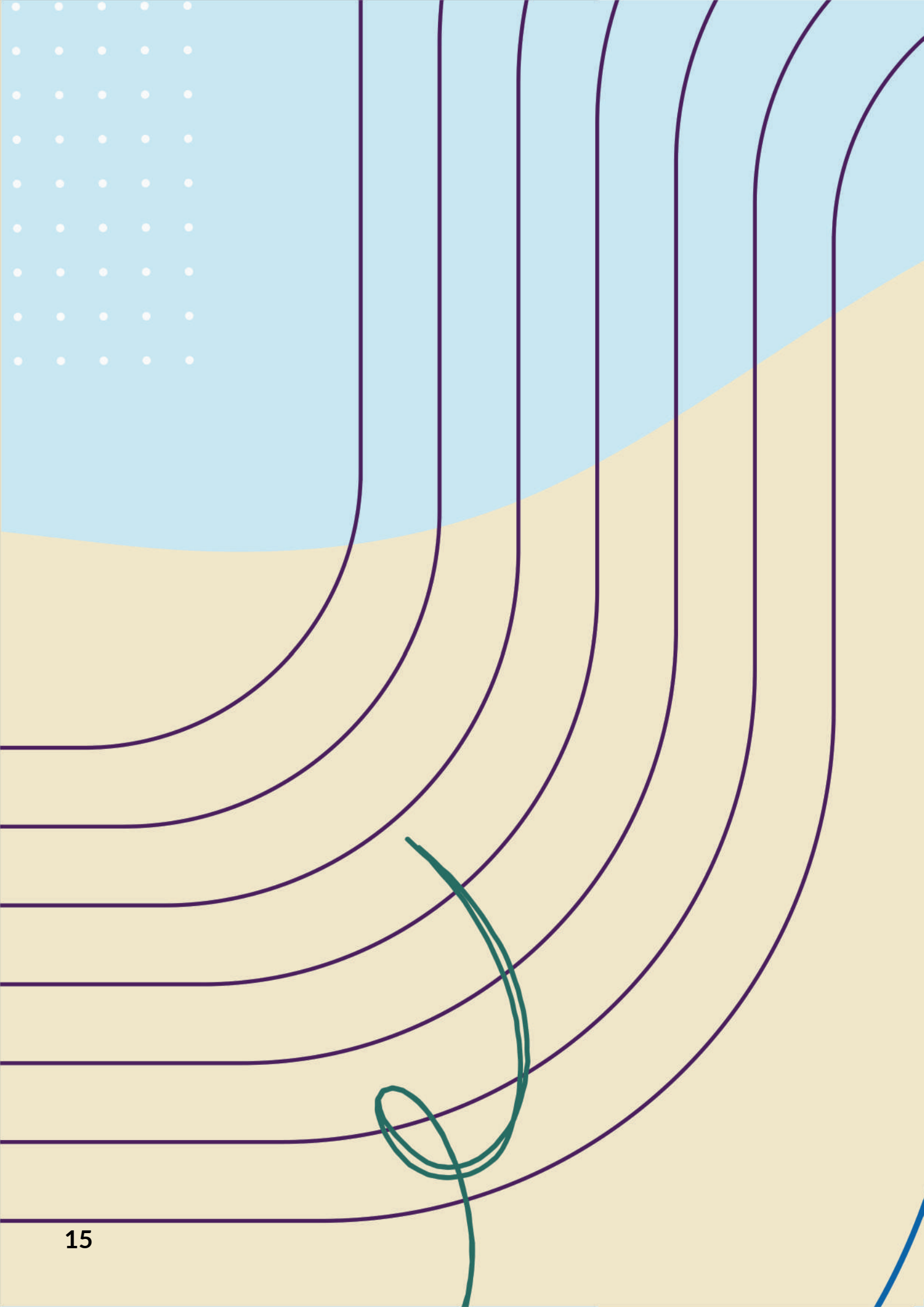
A



B



What did you observe when the
Thumtrotpe was spinning?



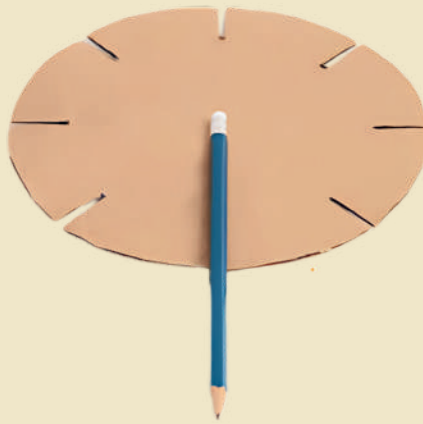
ANIMATION MACHINE!

Introduction:

A phenakistoscope is one of the first animation toys ever made! It's a spinning disk with drawings that look like they move when you spin it and look through slits in a mirror. The pictures change so fast, your eyes see them as one moving animation — like magic!



Let's create our own Phenakistoscope!



Materials required:

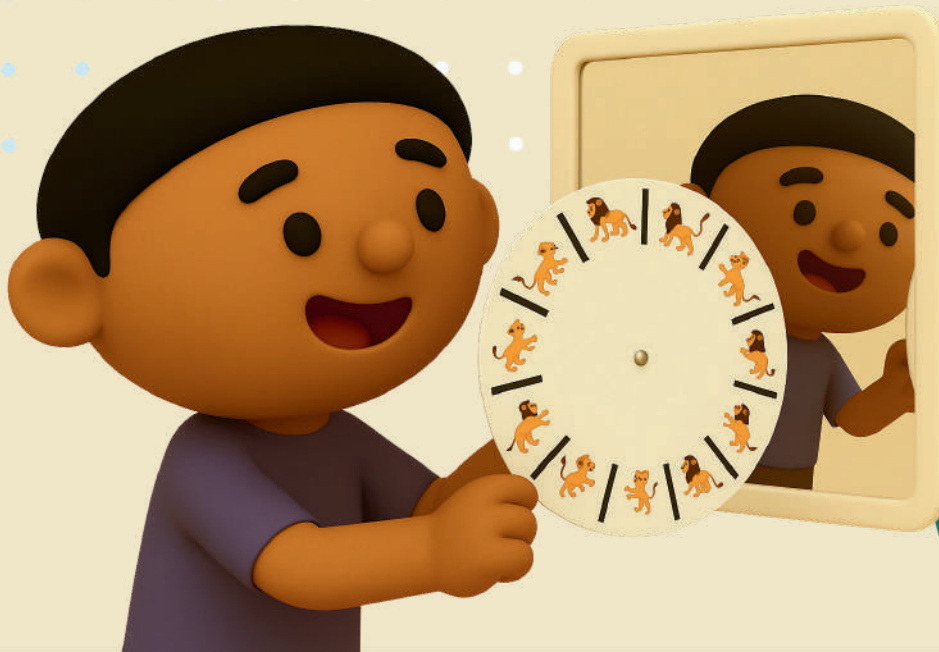
Provided template,
thumb pin,
pencil/ straw plane
mirror,
and cardboard

Instructions:

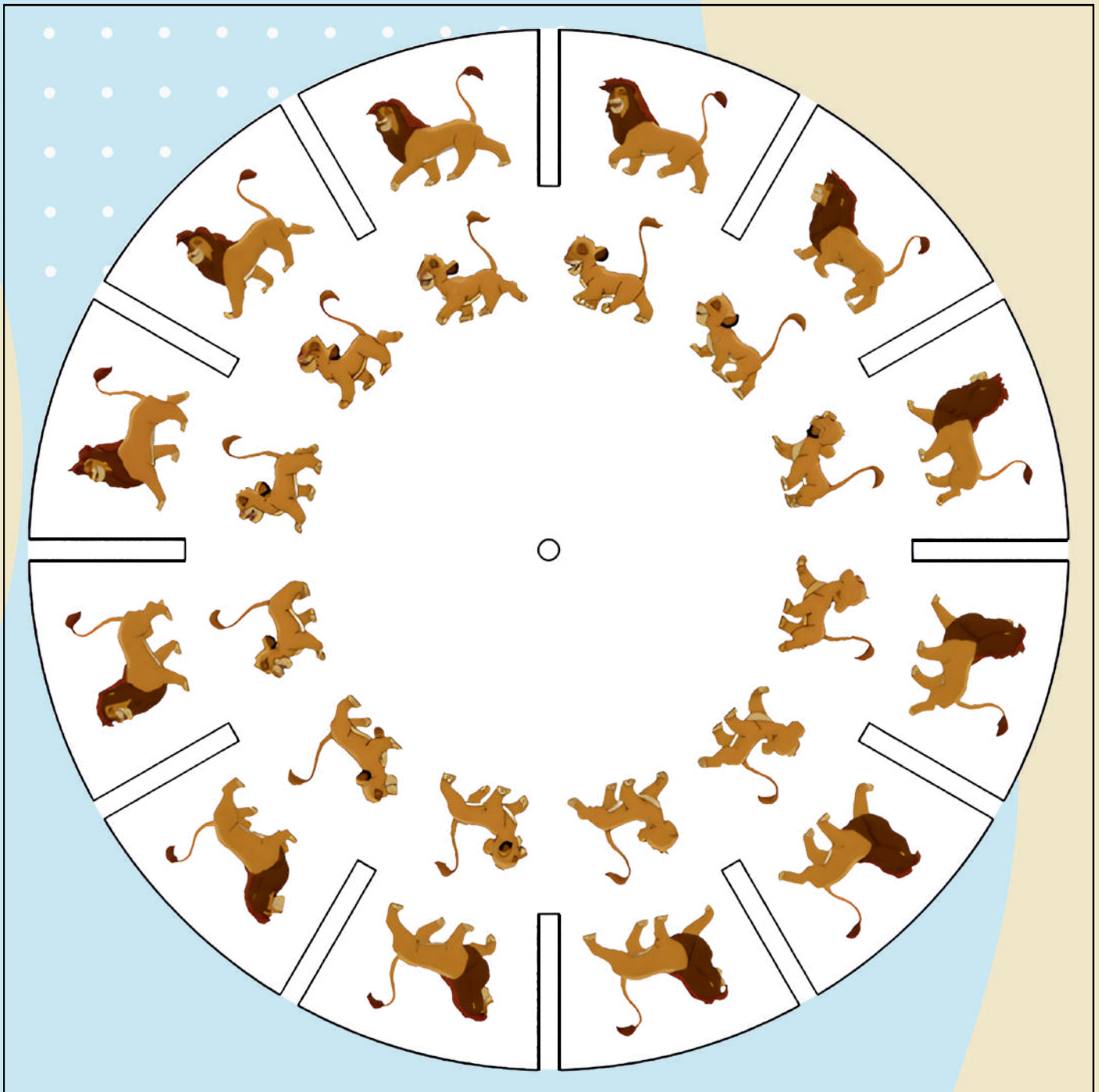
1. Stick the template on the cardboard.
2. Cut the outline of the template.
3. Cut out the slits on the template.
4. Insert a thumb pin in the center of the template and rotate in front of the mirror.
5. See the template image on the mirror, through the slits.



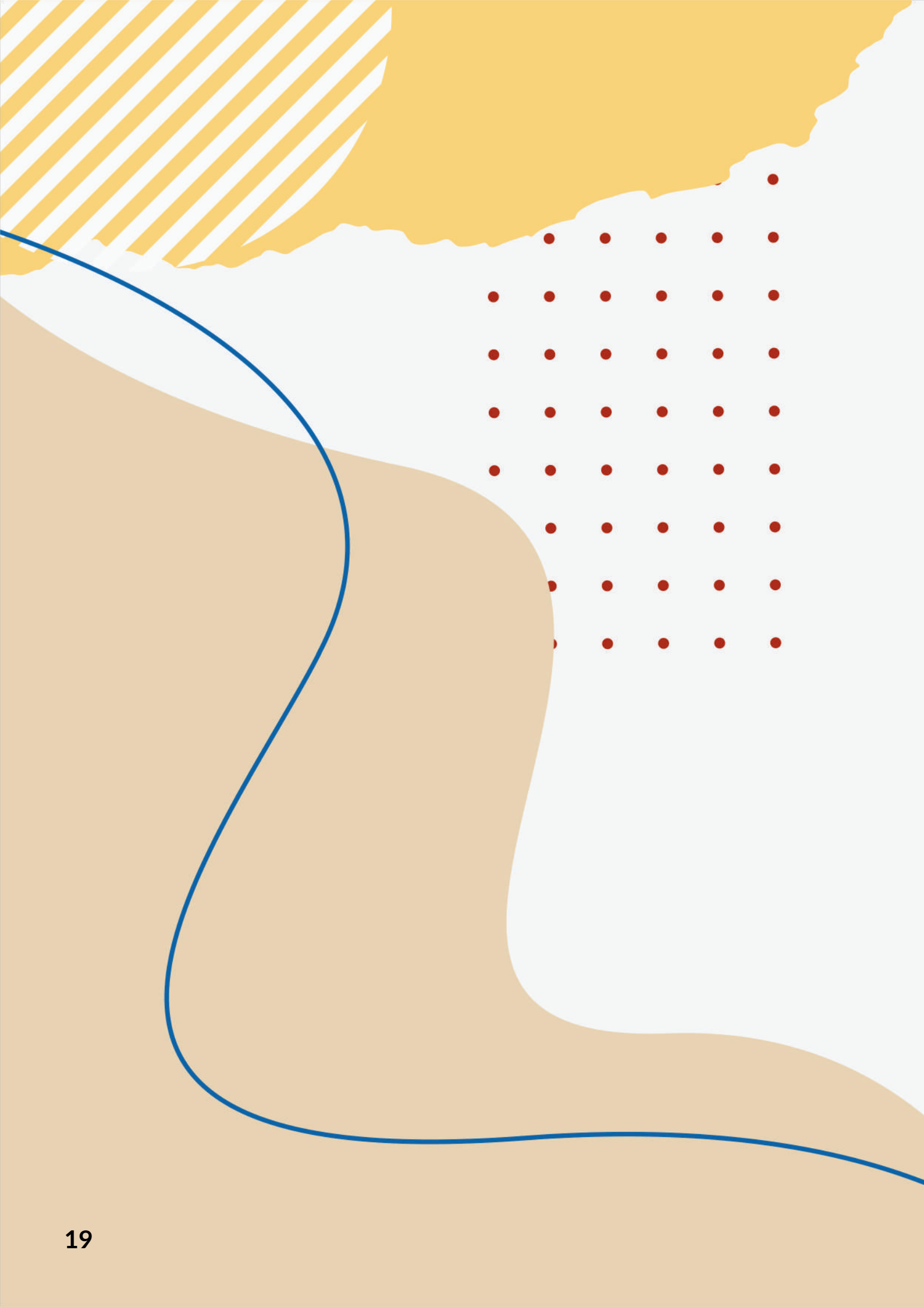
Scan to Watch!



Phenakistoscope template



Can you think of other ways to convert a still image into a moving image?



MANY MOODS



Introduction:

Colour theory in film and TV is the strategic use of colours to trigger specific emotional and psychological responses from the audience. Filmmakers apply colour choices to enhance storytelling, develop characters, and create immersive atmospheres.

Colours and it's meaning



Red

Love, Danger,
Energy



Blue

Calm, Trust,
Sadness



Green

Peace, Growth,
Nature



Yellow

Happiness,
Sunshine, Caution



Purple

Magic, Creativity,
Royalty

Instructions:

Analyse the role colours play in setting the mood of a visual (photo/video). Based on different moods mentioned, colour the images provided accordingly:

Mood 1: Happy



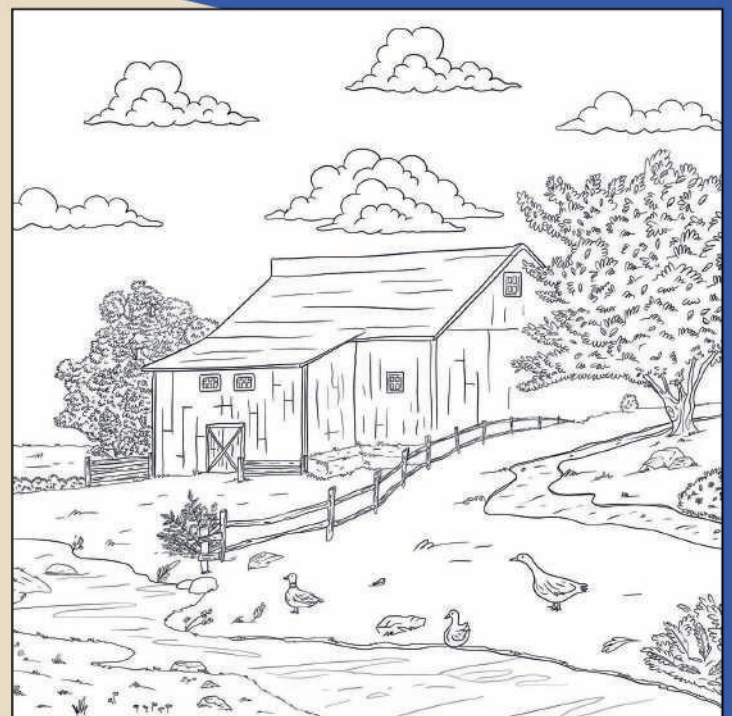
Mood 2: Mysterious



Mood 1: Bright and Cheerful

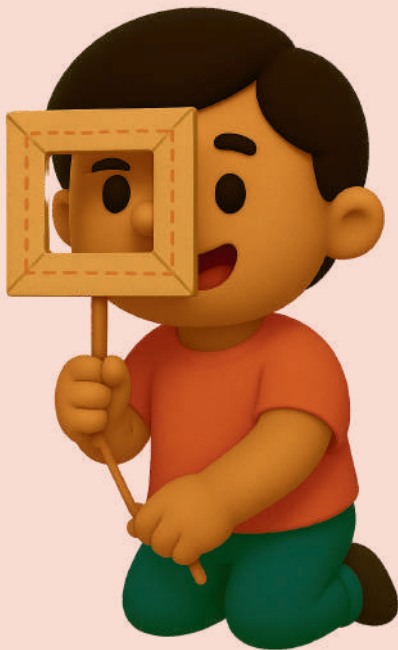


Mood 2: Dull and Gloomy



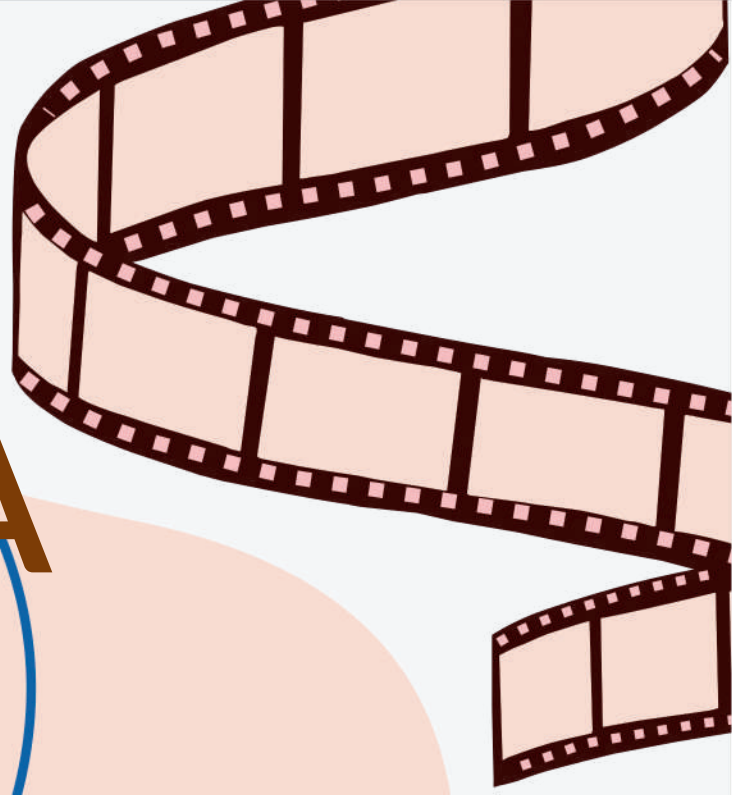
Next time you watch a movie, observe how colour is used in each scene!

FREEZE A FRAME



Introduction:

Today, we're going on a photo walk! But instead of just snapping pictures, we'll slow down and really look at the world around us. Notice the little things you usually miss — light, colors, shapes, shadows, people, nature. Try to see the beauty in everyday moments and find right angles to turn them into photographs.



Let's create a viewfinder to take on our photo walk!

1. Cut along the orange dotted lines to separate out the viewfinder frame.
2. Stick the frame onto a cardboard of the same size.
3. Cut along the orange dotted lines to create your viewfinder.
4. Attach a stick or cardboard strip with the help of tape or glue to the back of it to create a handle.
5. Grab a pencil and a notebook, and walk around your neighbourhood with the viewfinder.
6. Find the perfect frame and draw it in your notebook.



Caution:

Be careful while using the scissors/cutters

Materials required:

Paper
Pens
Pencils
Markers
Cardboard
Scissors

Suggestion:

You can also take a photograph of your frame if you have access to a mobile phone or a camera.

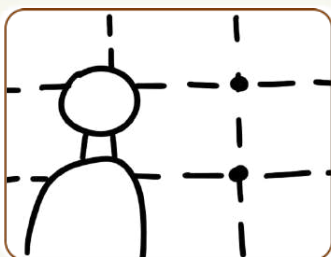
For your next photo walk, why don't you pick a theme and frame your photos accordingly?



**CUT ALONG LINES TO CREATE
YOUR VIEWFINDER**



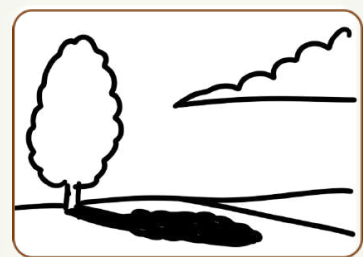
Explore some of these shots on your walk!



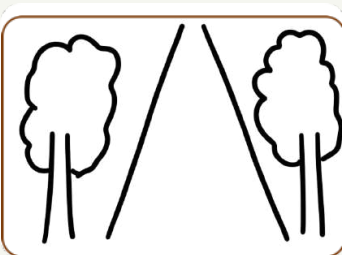
Rule of Thirds



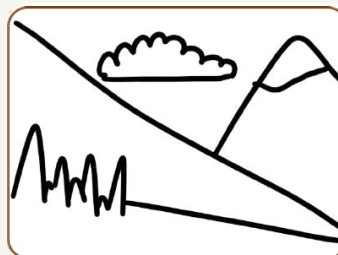
Shadows and Reflections



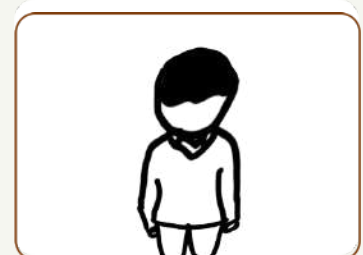
L-Shaped



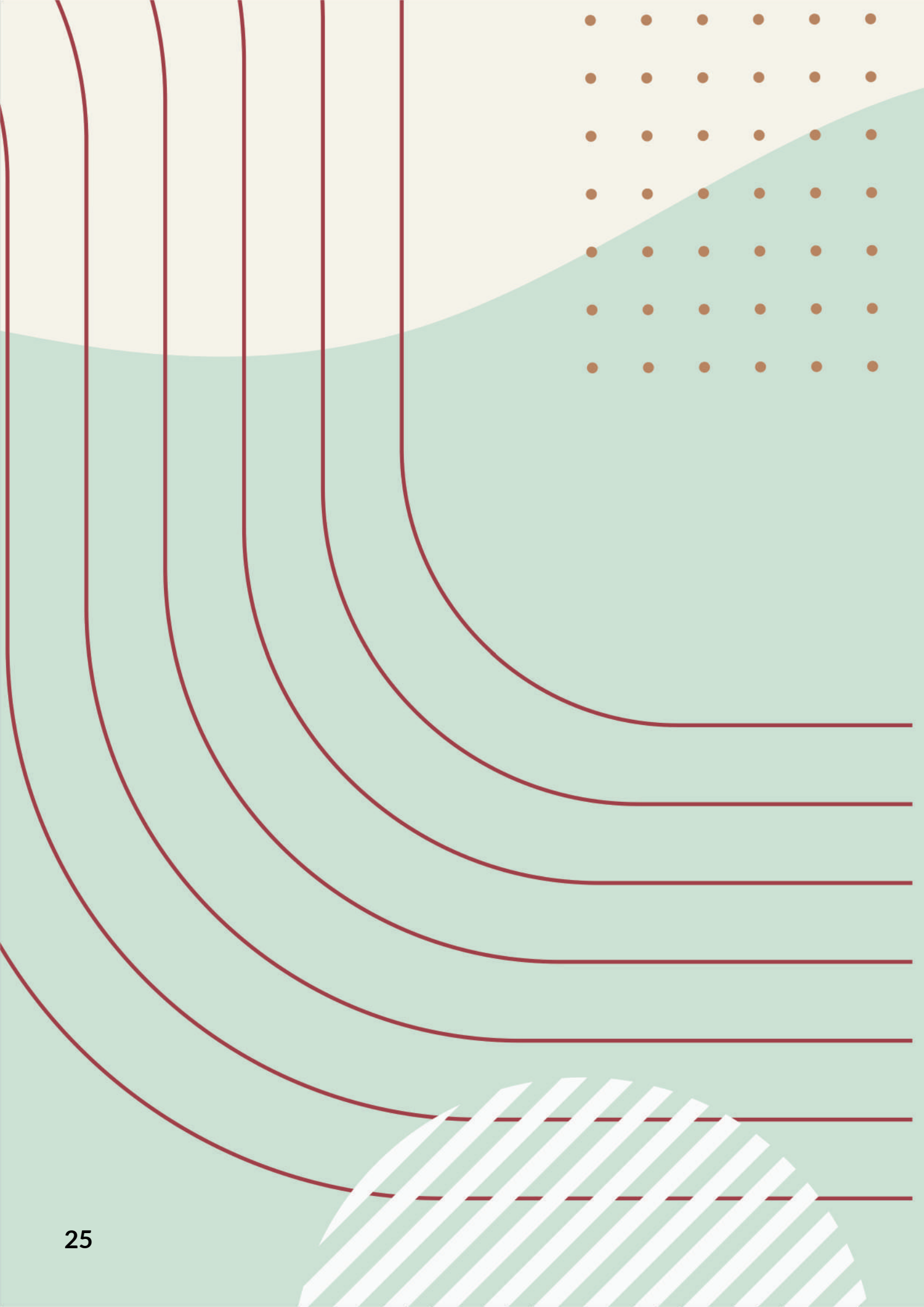
Balance and Symmetry



Diagonal



Bird's Eye View



HEARTY CONVERSATIONS



Introduction:

A podcast is like a radio show you can listen to anytime on a phone or computer. You don't watch it - you listen to it.

People talk, tell stories, or share cool ideas. In some podcasts, the host talks to a guest, like a fun chat you hear with your ears!

Let's create a podcast!

Instructions:

1. Pick a name for your podcast and choose a family member to be your guest.
2. Split your podcast into parts: introduction, main chat, and closing.
3. Write down the questions you want to ask your guest.
4. Use the template in the next page to draft your introduction and conclusion.
5. For the main chat, ask your guest the questions you have drafted. Make sure to ask lots of follow-up questions.
6. Use your phone recorder to record the podcast.

Examples:

(For Parents)

1.What was the hardest part of raising kids? 2.What's your favorite memory from when I was little?

(For Siblings)

1.What's your favorite thing we do together? 2.What's one thing you think makes us a great team?

(For Grandparents)

1.What's the best family advice you've ever received?
2.What's a family tradition you hope never changes?



Scan to listen!



Introduction:

Welcome to the _____ podcast! I'm your host, _____.

In today's episode, we're having a freewheeling chat with my _____ (family member's relationship to you), _____, who _____ (something interesting or funny about the guest).

We'll talk about everything from _____ (topic or memory) to _____ (another topic or story), and share some laughs along the way!

Conclusion:

(Thank your host and end the podcast)

It was a _____ [describe your discussion] conversation. Appreciate your _____[time/love/wisdom/insight/honesty/your word of choice].

Thanks for joining us, _____ [guest name]!

Now let's draft some questions for a podcast guest from your school. Record it with your friends!



A WARLI TALE



Introduction:

Storyboarding is like making a comic strip to plan a film or animation. You draw each scene in order to show what's happening, where it's happening, and what the characters are doing. It helps you see the whole story before making it — like a practice version! Today, we'll learn storyboarding using Warli characters — simple stick figures from traditional Indian art. It's a fun and creative way to tell stories using pictures!



What is Warli?

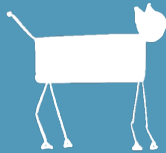
Warli art is a traditional tribal art form that originated in Maharashtra and is mainly practised by the Warli tribe. The art form is characterised by its simplicity, use of basic geometric shapes, and white-on-brown colour scheme. Warli art mainly depicts everyday rural life, including farming, hunting, and social gatherings.



Man



Woman



Cat



Sun



Birds



Tree



Mountain



Houses



Patterns

Storyboarding with Warli Characters – Let's Tell a Story!

- Use stick figures. Draw an 'X' for the body, a line for the neck, and a circle for the head.
- Use the first and last frames given. Think of what happens in the beginning, middle, and end of your story.
- Use the storyboard sheet or draw rectangles on a blank paper. Sketch Scenes: In each box, draw one part of the story. Show what happens next.
- Under each box, write what's happening. You can even add simple dialogues if you want!
- Look through your storyboard. Make changes and finish it up! Have fun creating your Warli story!



Why don't you explore other Indian art forms to create a storyboard?

COOK UP A CHARACTER

10

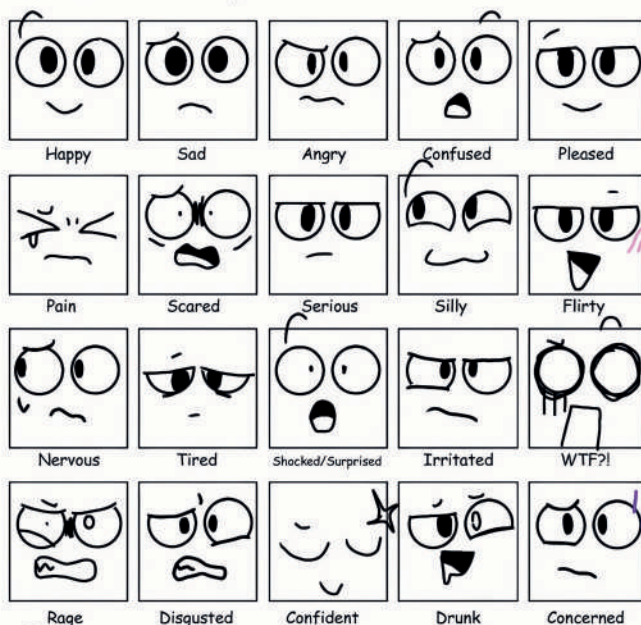


Introduction:

A character is someone in a story. It can be a person, a talking animal, or even a magical creature! Every character has special qualities called character traits — like being kind, brave, funny, or even selfish. These traits show us how the character thinks, feels, and acts in different situations.

Personality traits:

Honest, Brave, Optimistic, Kind,
Shy, Sensitive, Angry, Sneaky



Physical traits:

- Super tall or very tiny
- Long, curly moustache
- Animal ears or a tail
- Big round glasses
- Coloured hair
- Robot arms or legs
- Extra arms or hands



How to visualise these character traits?

Kind:

Soft, rounded facial features, gentle eyes with a warm expression, a slightly upward curved smile.

Brave:

Serious expression, focused eyebrows, flat smile, straight and stiff body posture, relaxed crossed arms, legs outward.

Angry:

Smirk on face, furrowed eyebrows, flared nostrils, reddened face, squared mouth.

Physical traits of my character:

Personality traits of my character:

Describe your character here

Shy

Honest?
Brave?
Kind?

Tall?
Short?
Chubby?



Draw your character here

If your character was a superhero, what characteristics would they have?

COME ALIVE!

11



Introduction:

A finger puppet is a tiny toy you wear on your finger. You can move it with your hand to make it talk, walk, or act like a character in a story! They are a fun way to tell stories using your fingers like little actors!



Let's create a finger puppet

Materials required:

Tape
Glue
Scissors
Pens and pencils

Instructions:

1. Let's give life and form to the characters you have created.
2. Cut and paste page 48 on a sheet of cardboard.
3. Cut out your character from the page.
4. Now cut out the strips given on next page and stick your character in the middle.
5. Join the ends of the strip and stick it with tape.
6. Wear it around your finger and enjoy your own finger puppet!



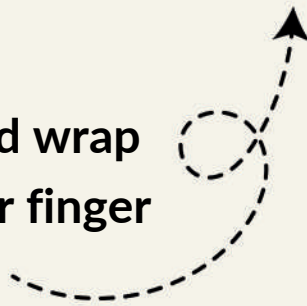
Caution:

Be careful while using the scissors/cutters

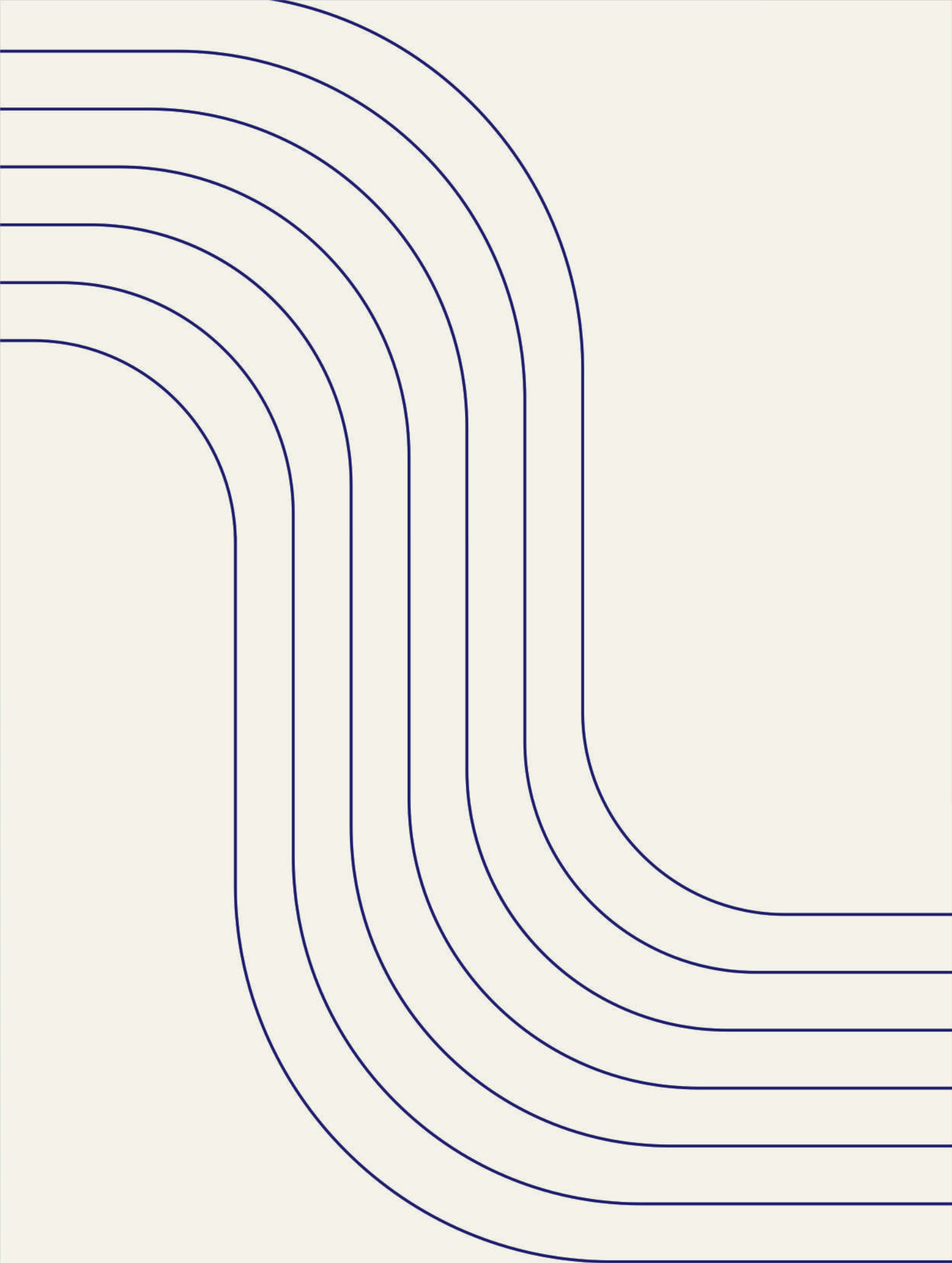




Cut this and wrap
around your finger



Can you create finger puppets of some
animals?



12

SAY WHAT!



Introduction:

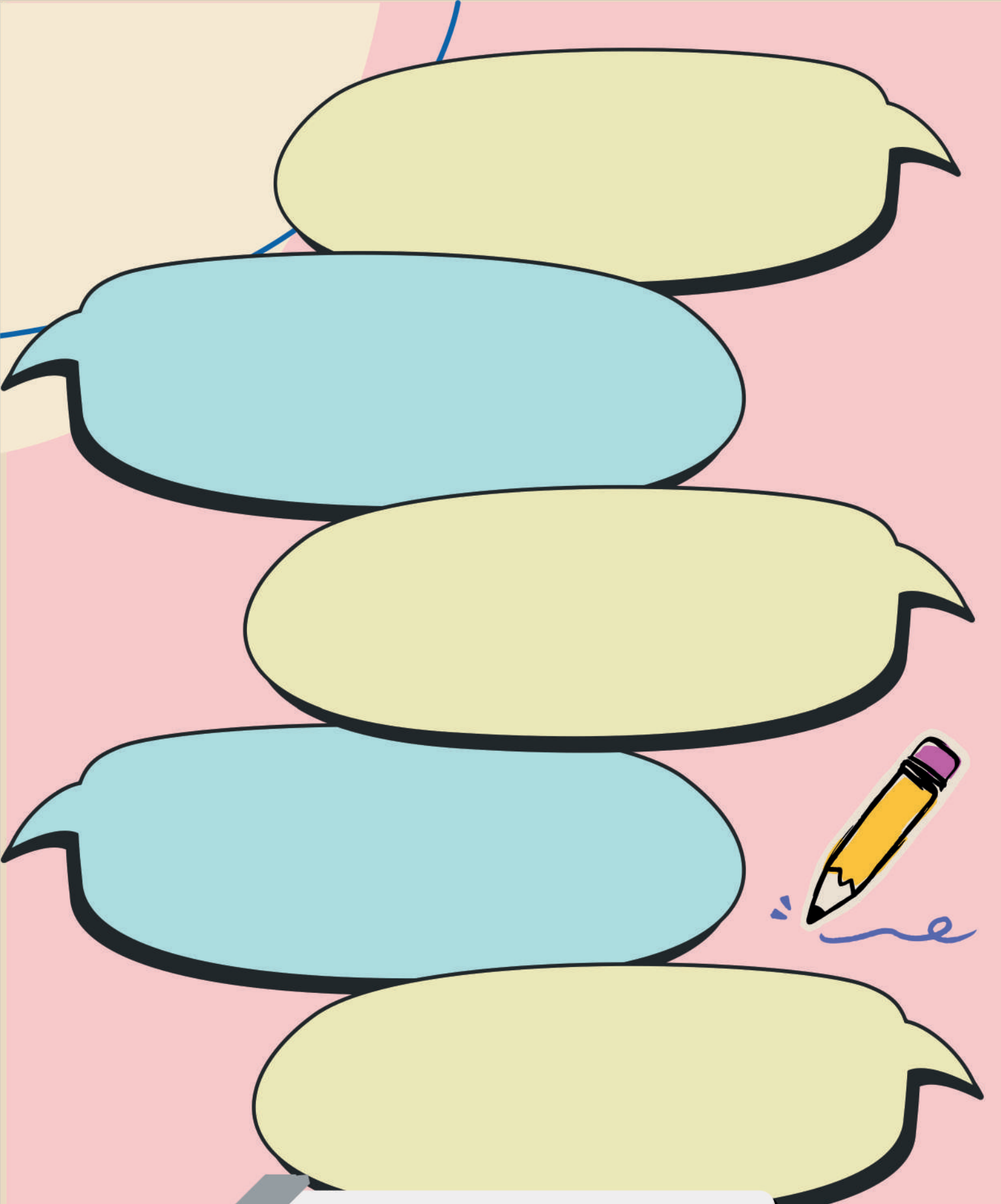
Dialogue writing is the act of writing a conversation between two or more characters in a story.

Instructions:

1. With the characters (and their personalities) you created in previous exercises in mind, consider one of the scenario below.
2. Imagine a conversation in that scene between your characters.
3. Write simple, short, creative dialogues between your characters.

Scenario 1: Your characters are going to a fair in their town.

Scenario 2: Your character and their brother/sister are fighting over a ball.



Why don't you enact these lines with your friend and record the audio?

MAKE SOME NOISE

13



Introduction:

Foley is the art of making everyday sounds for movies and videos after they are filmed. These sounds make the scenes feel real! For example, Foley artists use things like shoes, clothes, or metal spoons to create sounds like footsteps, rustling, or clinking. They don't record the real sound during shooting — they make it later using different objects. It's a fun way to bring stories to life with sound!

Start by listening to some sounds around you.

For example: Water running from a tap, doors shutting, the sound of a pencil hitting against different surfaces.



Examples:

Grass: Walk on crumpled plastic bags for a crunching effect.

Rain: Shake a container of rice or beans for a rain sound. **Thunder:** Roll a large ball across a wooden surface for rumbling thunder.

Bird wings flapping: Flap a pair of rubber or leather gloves to simulate the sound of bird wings flapping. **Horse sounds:** Clap two blocks of wood together rhythmically.

Instructions:

Create the sounds given below using material you can find around your house:

- Thunderstorm with heavy rain
- Breaking a glass Licking an ice cream
- Wind People running

Make a note of what you have created each sound with in the table on the right.



Scan to watch



Scan to watch

Sound Effect	Created with

Also try this!

If you have access to a mobile phone, record these sounds and use it for the next activity.



What foley sounds would you add to the dialogues you recorded in the previous activity?

14

PUPPETS, PALS, PLAY



Introduction:

Puppet theatre is a fun way to tell stories using puppets you make yourself! Each puppet is made to match a special character in your story. You get to think about how the character looks, talks, and acts.

Materials required:

Pencil or pens
Ruler
Cardboard box
Scissors/cutters
Tape Glue
Coloured paper or fabric

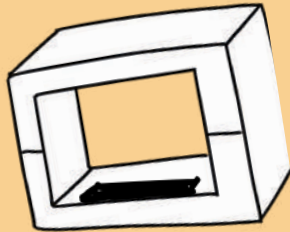
Let's create a puppet theatre frame

Instructions:



1. To prepare the theatre frame, take a Shoe box or bigger box that will serve as the base of the puppet theatre.

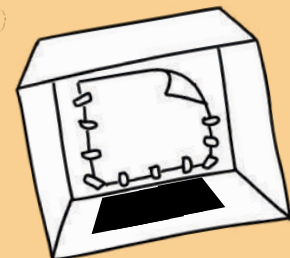
2. Use scissors to cut a rectangular opening in one side of the box to act as a stage.



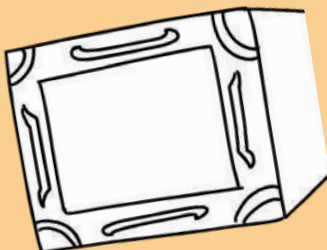
3. Cut the bottom of the stage to use the finger puppets created in the previous activity.

4. Use coloured paper or newspapers to cover the outside of the box.

5. You can draw or make curtains, and any other decorations you like with things you find at home.



6. Create a backdrop one yourself (use coloured paper or any fabric to draw a scene) and glue it to the inside of your theatre.



7. Use your finger puppets to enact your story from the dialogue writing exercise.

8. Invite friends or family members and perform your puppet show.

Why don't you create finger puppets for characters from your favourite story and stage a play?

Draw your background and cut the page



AND “CUT”!

LIGHTS, STORY & IMAGINATION

Introduction:

Film editing is like putting together pieces of a puzzle to tell a story. After a movie is filmed, editors choose the best parts and arrange them in the right order. They cut out extra bits, add sounds or music, and make the story flow smoothly.



Let's understand how editing a sequence of images in a certain order can create a story!

Instructions:

1. Look at the pictures on the next page and imagine a story.
2. Decide which picture comes first, second, third... and number them.
3. Cut out the pictures and paste them in the right order on a strip of A4 paper.
4. Fill the spaces in between with your own drawings, stickers, or decorations to complete the scenes.
5. Write your story below the strip or add speech bubbles and notes next to the pictures.
6. Once your story strip is ready, keep it safe—you'll use it to make your own mini projector in the next activity!

Did you know?

Editing can be done for many reasons; some of them are:

Storytelling: Editing can shape the story, pacing, and emotional impact of a film.

Continuity: Continuity in film means keeping things like clothes, objects, and actions the same in every shot so it looks like the story is happening without any mistakes.



Cut out the images



Pick 10 random photos from a newspaper or a magazine and stitch them together to create a story.





Certificate

This is to certify that _____ of class _____ from
_____ has successfully completed
Media Acti-Learn, exploring the world of creativity,
imagination, and storytelling.

Learner's signature

Parent/Teacher/
Guardian's signature



