

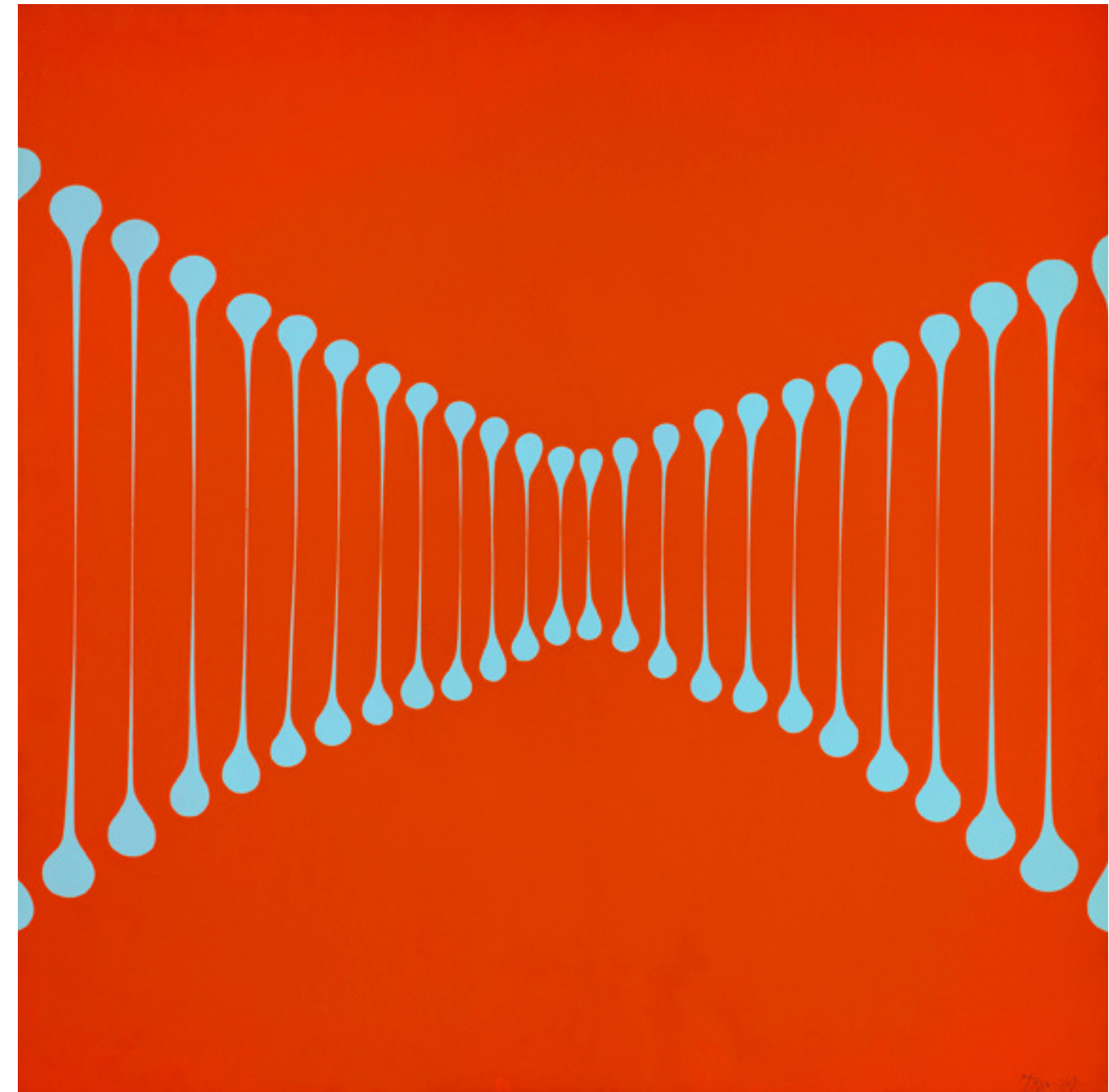
DOWNLOAD

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery



# Symmetry

Lesson Plan for Grade JK/SK  
Lesson Plan for Grade 1-3

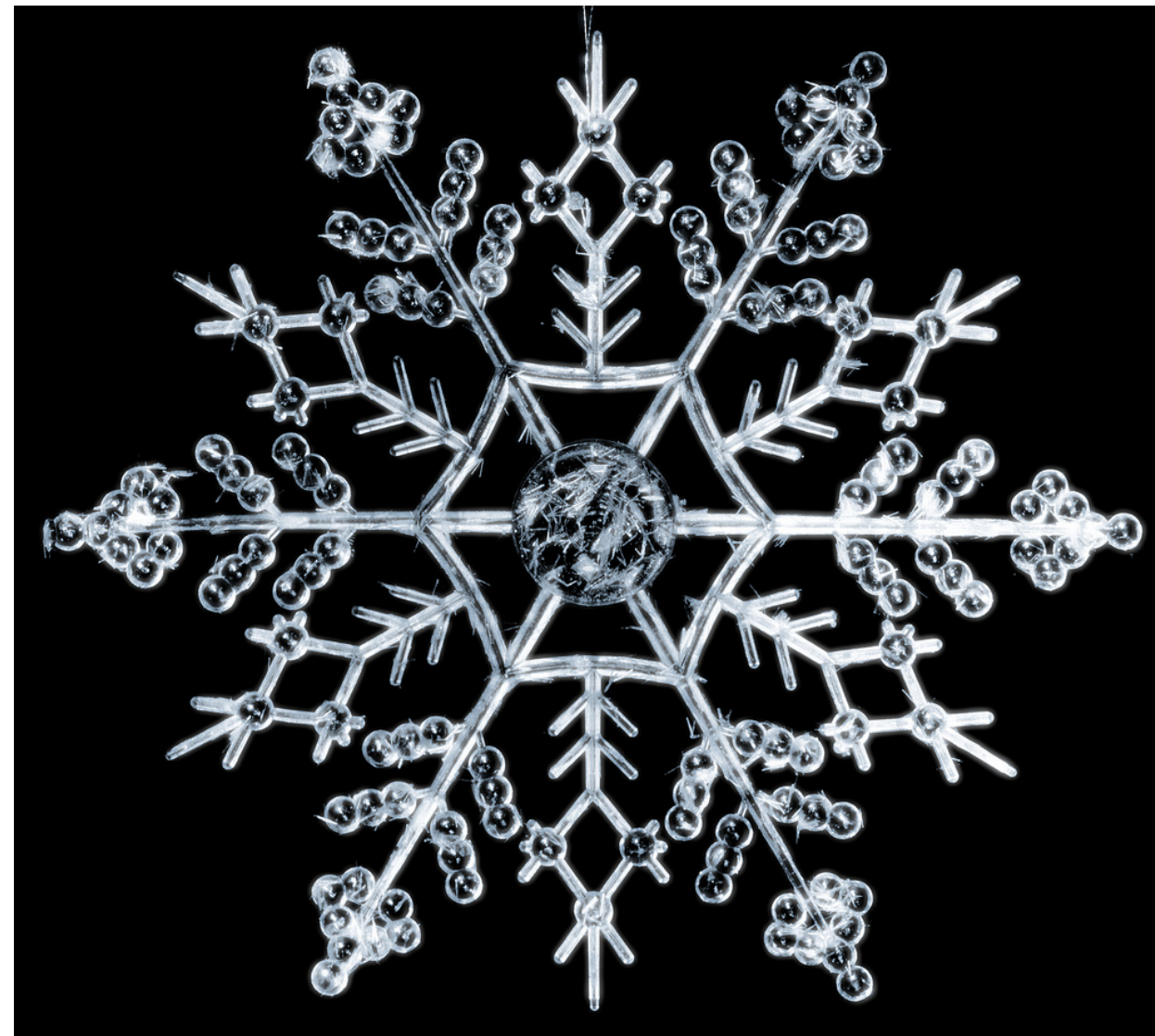


Harold Town, Stretch #7, 1969, oil and Lucite 44 on canvas. Gift of the artist's estate, 1994.

# What is Symmetry?

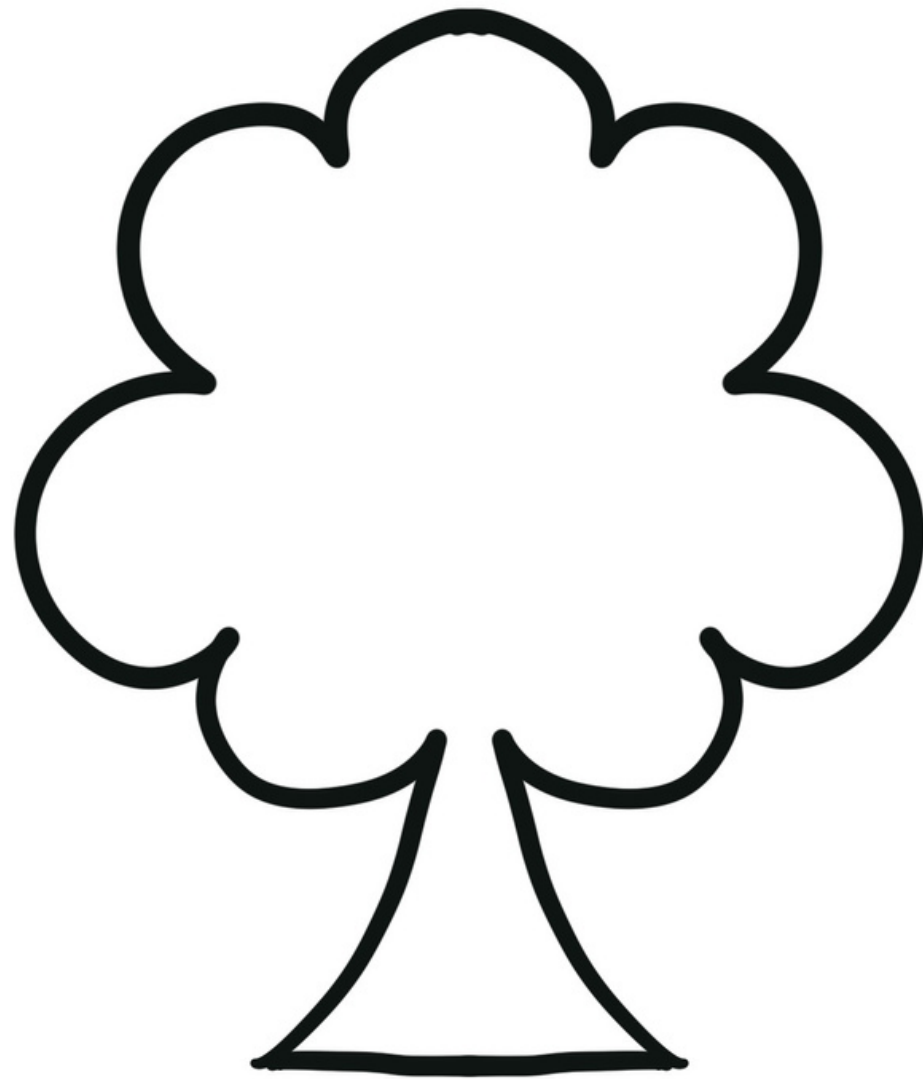
Symmetry is a balance achieved through mirroring portions of an image.

Symmetry is all around us, in shapes, letters, nature's wonders, towering structures, and all sorts of objects!

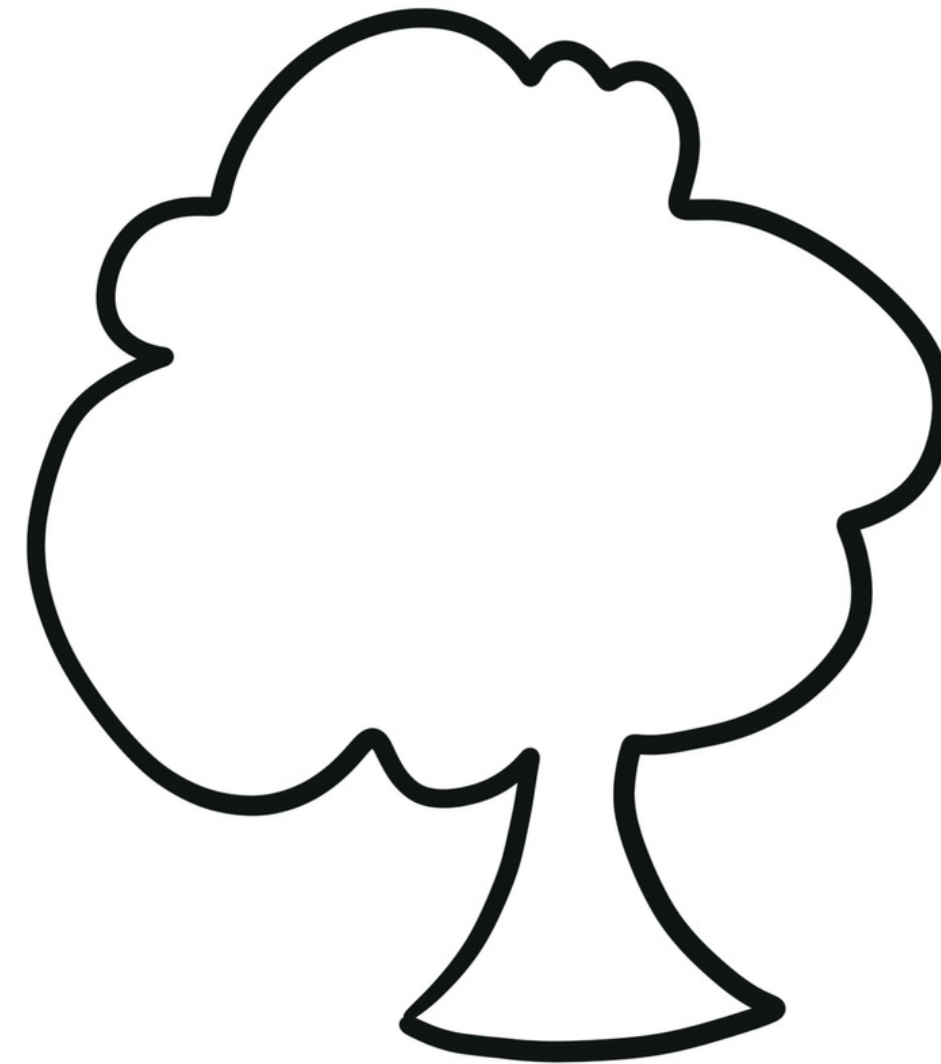


**Art is about your opinion, not right or wrong.**

**Which do you prefer?**



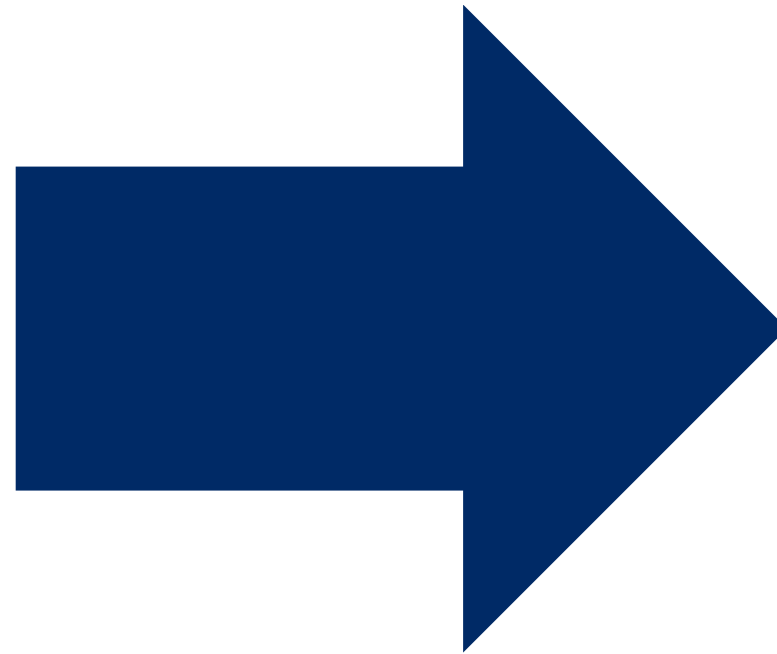
**balanced - symmetrical**



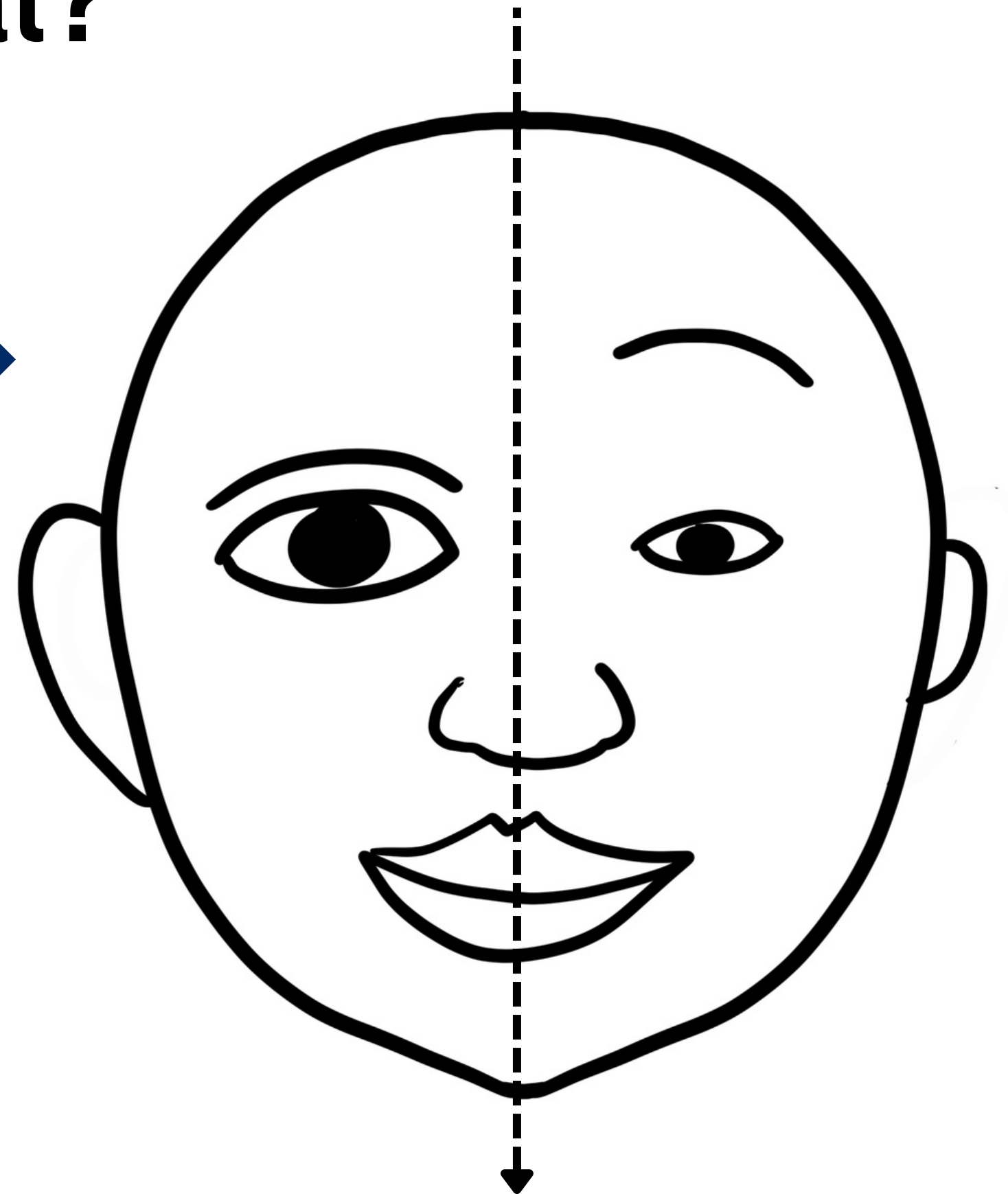
**not balanced - asymmetrical**

# Is our face symmetrical?

Look at this face.

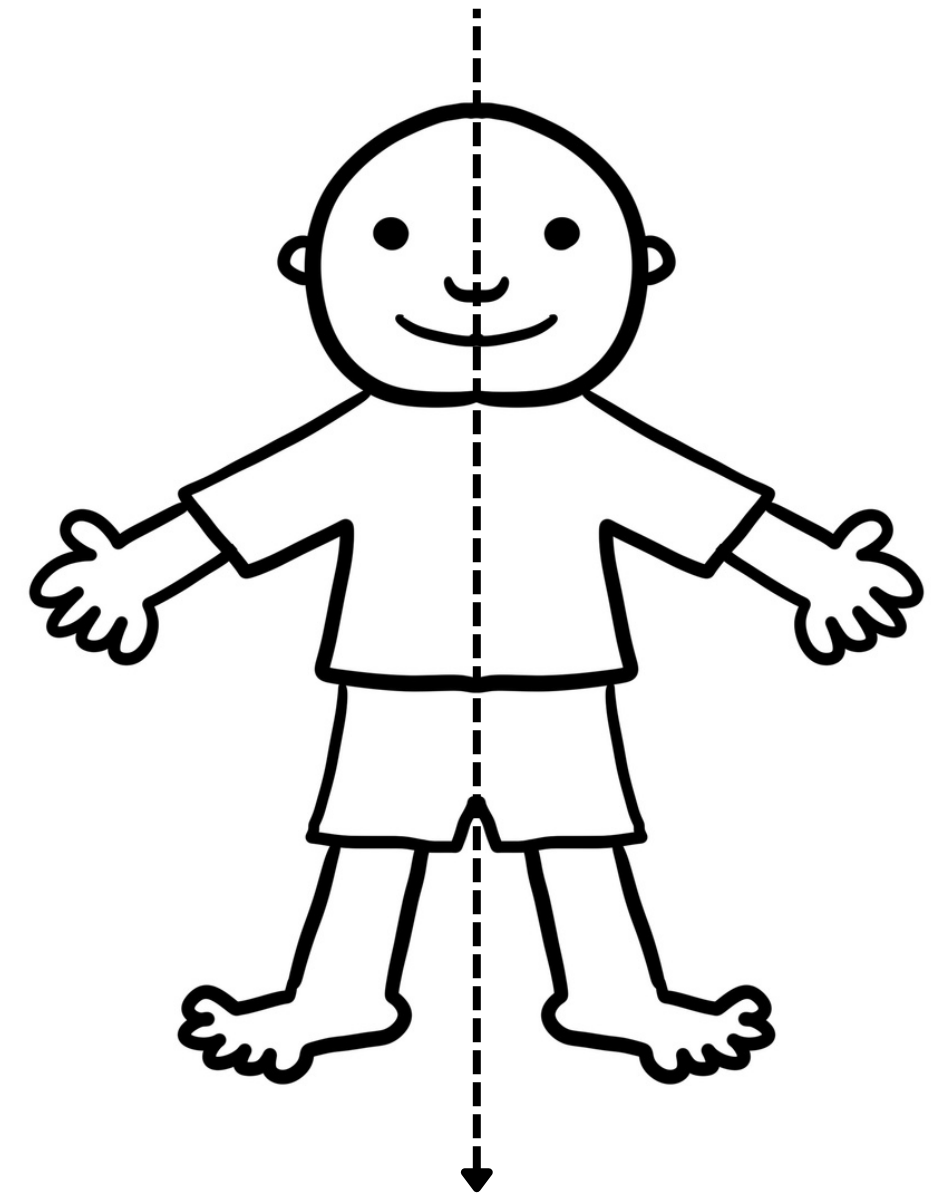


What things need to change to make the face match on both sides of the dotted line?

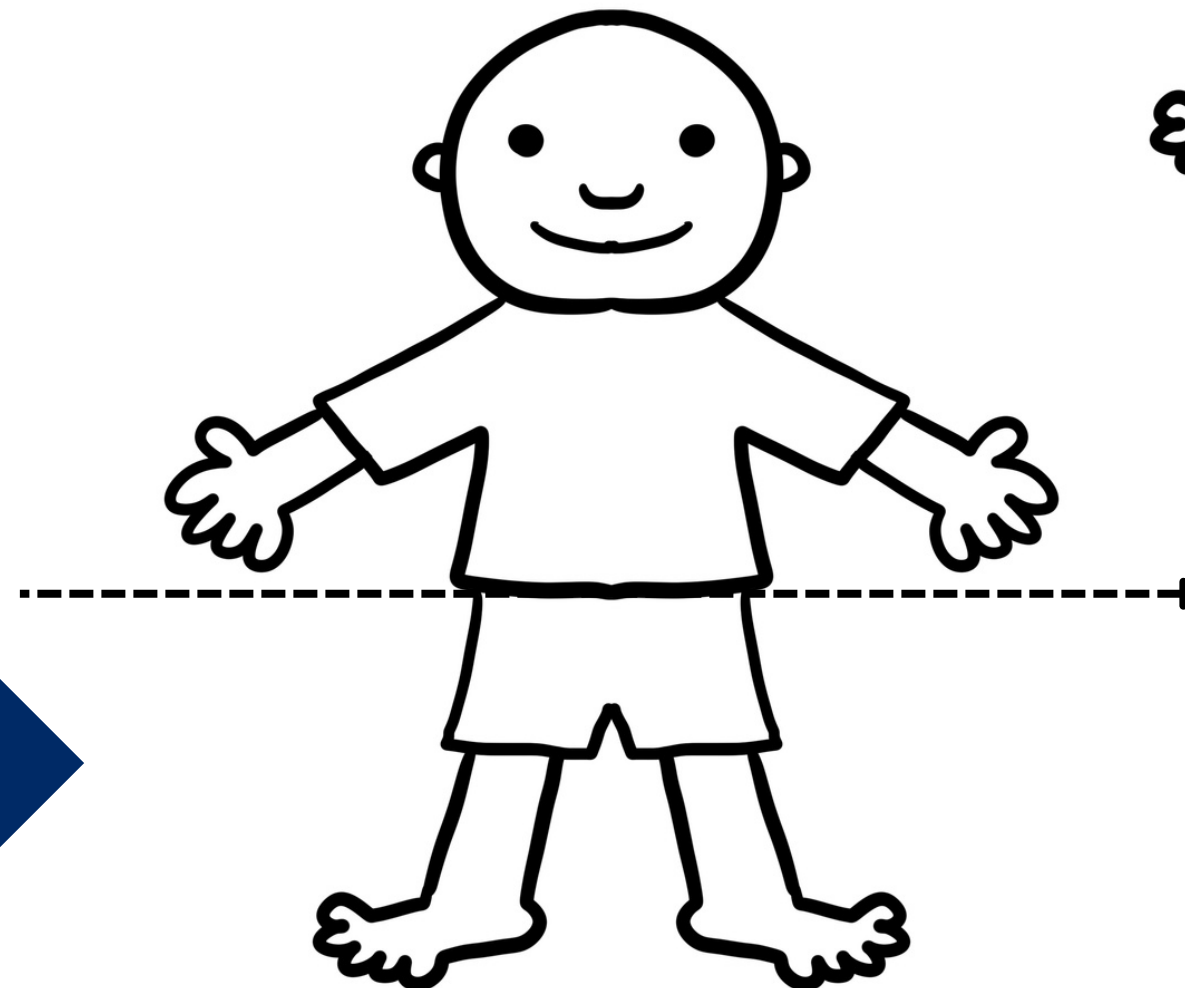


# Is our body symmetrical?

Does it look symmetrical  
from side to side?

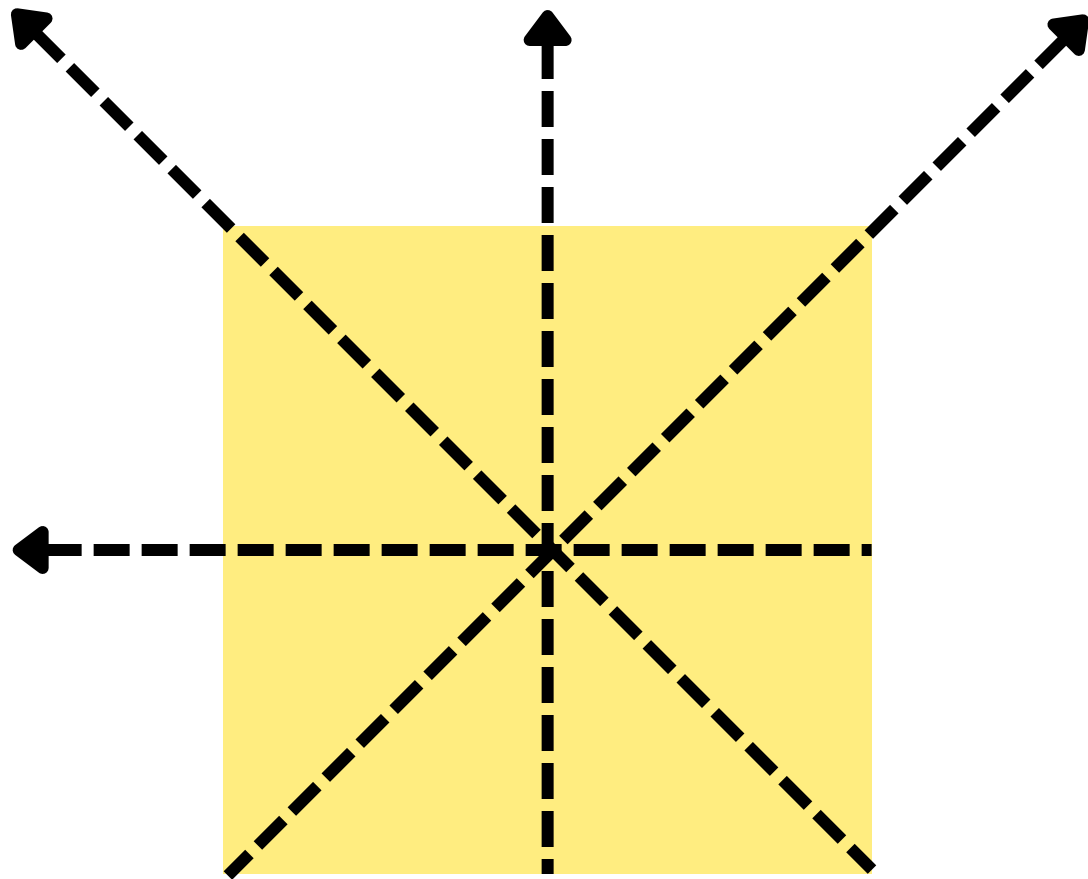


Does our body look  
symmetrical  
from top to  
bottom?

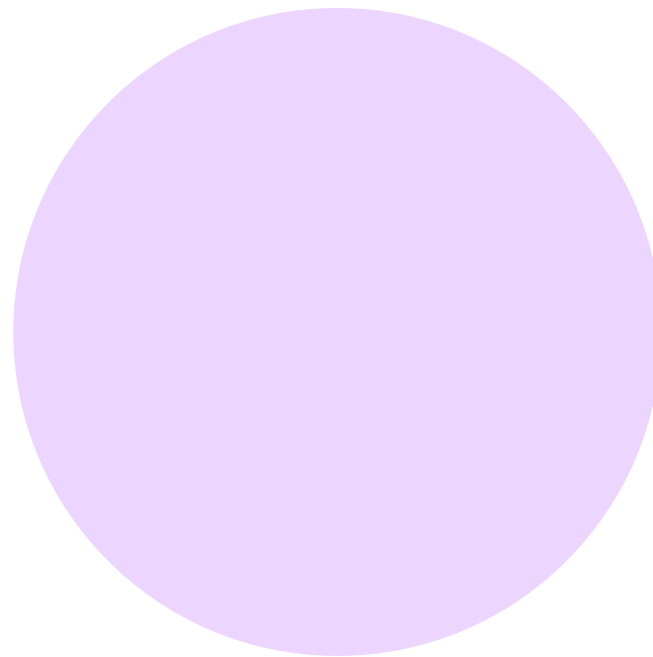


# Simple Shape Lines of Symmetry

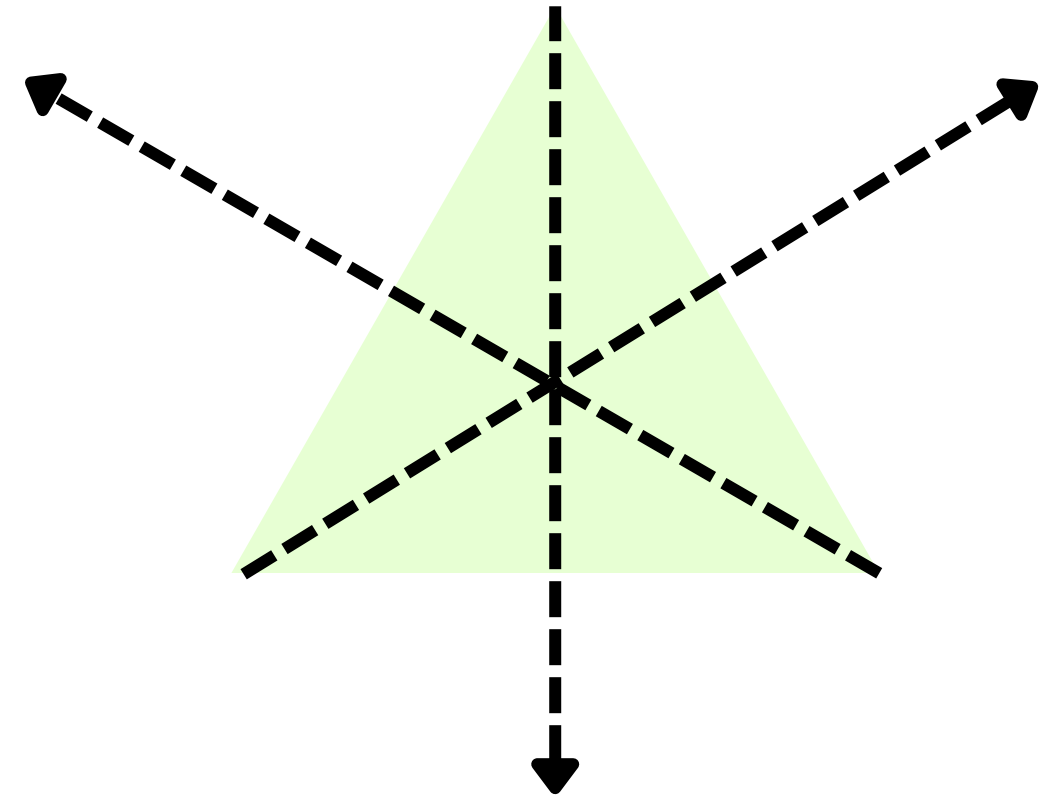
**Squares : Can be folded in half or diagonally.**



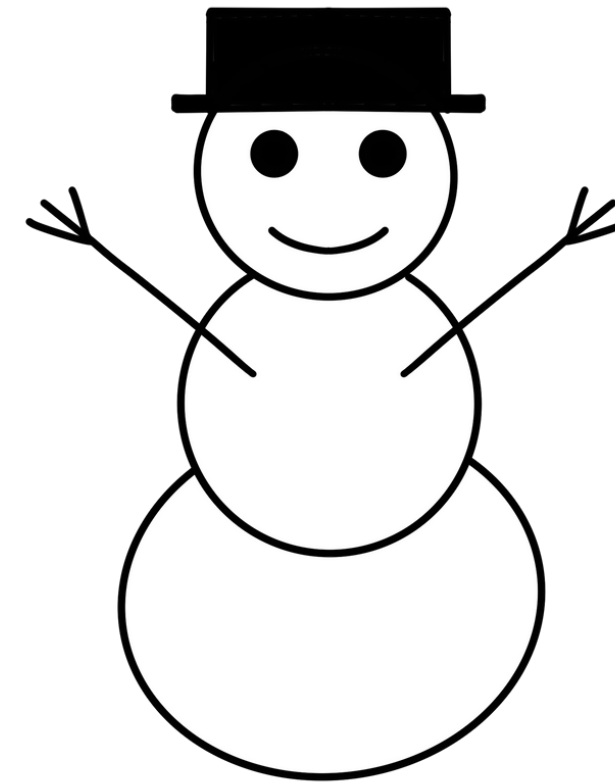
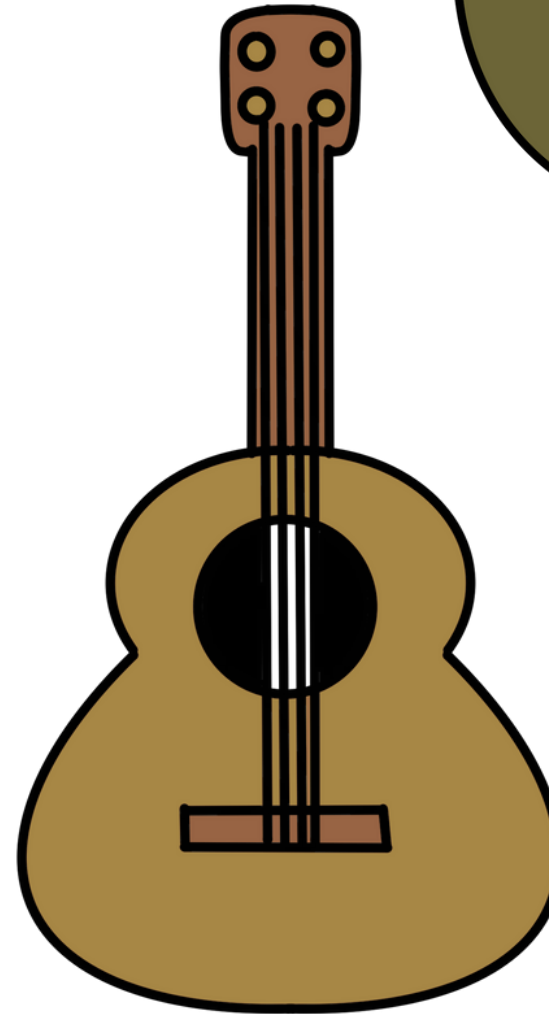
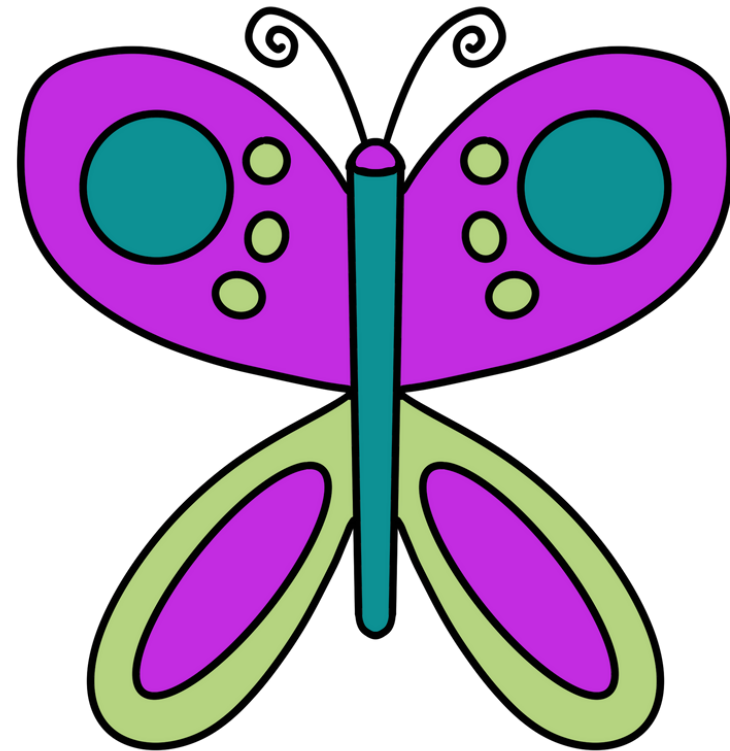
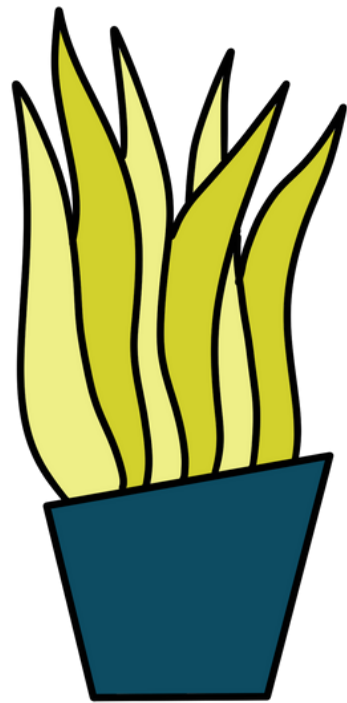
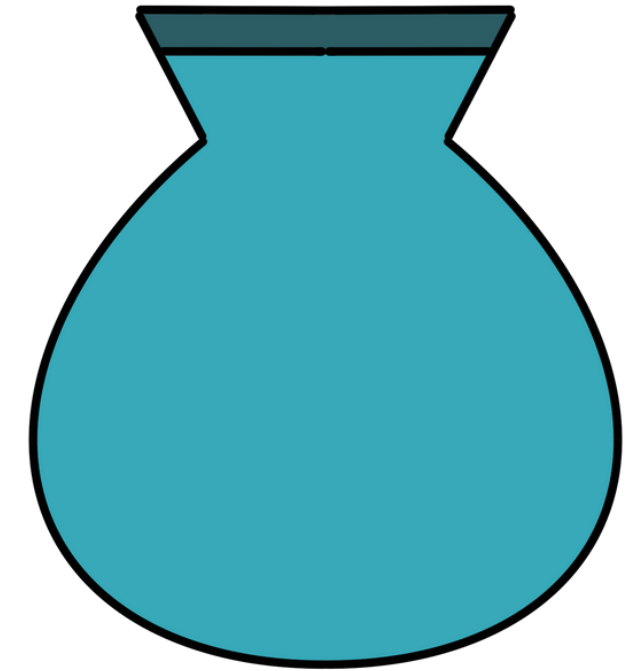
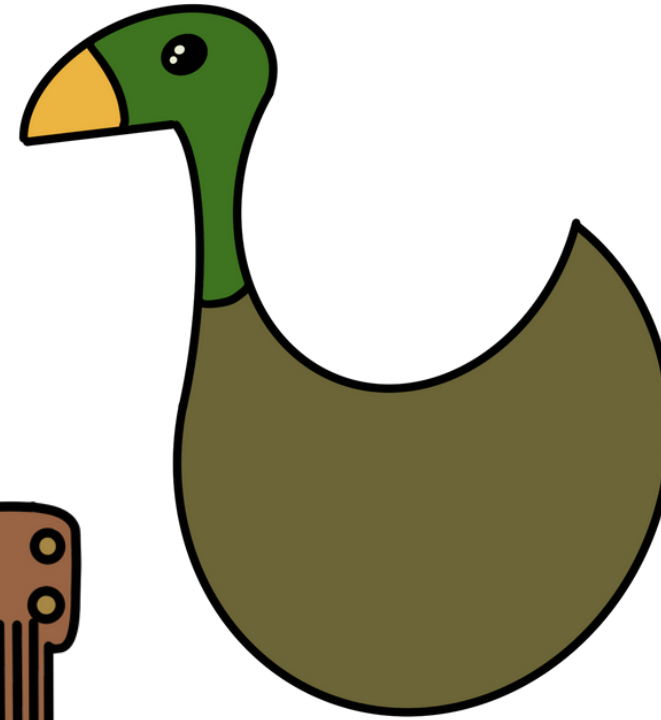
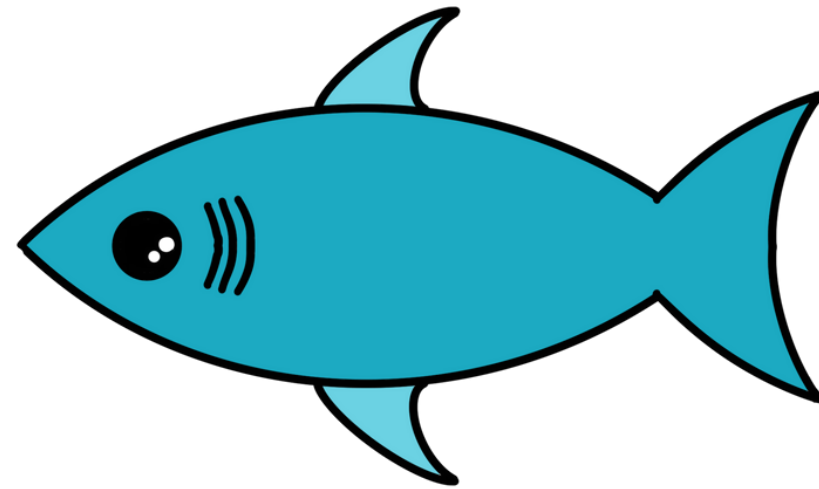
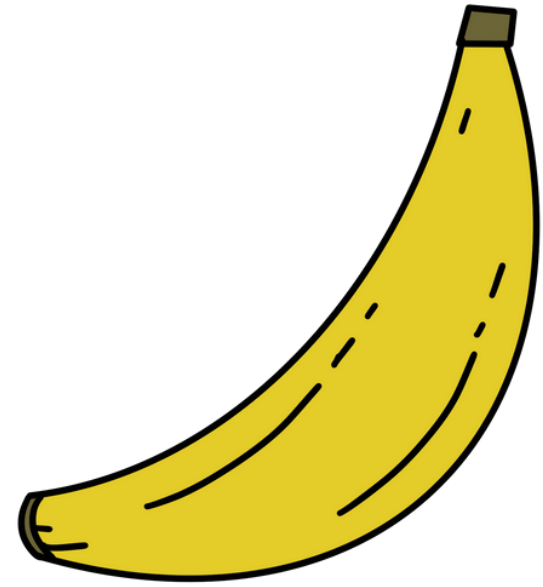
**Circles : Can be folded in half from any point.**



**Triangles (equilateral) : Can be folded in half from any point.**



# Which shapes are symmetrical?



Use a ruler or straight edge to see if you can find a line of symmetry.

**Which letters in the alphabet are  
symmetrical? Let's guess!**

**A B C D E F G H I K L**

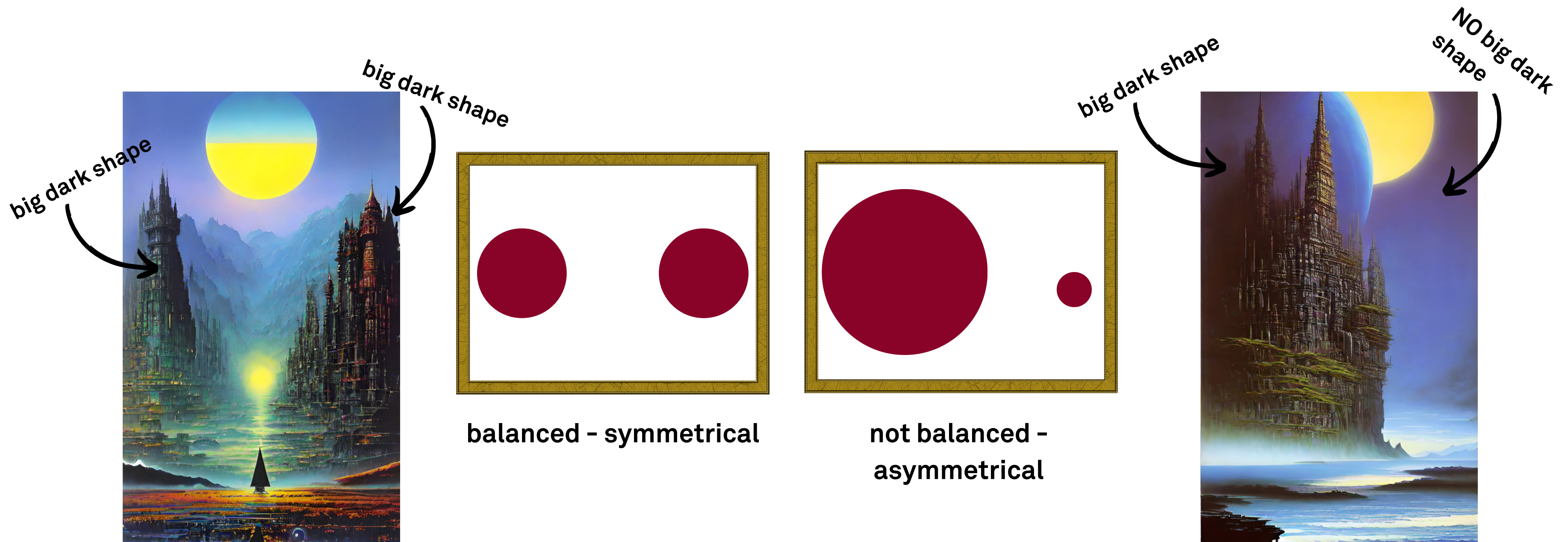
**M N O P Q R S T U V**

**W X Y Z**



# Symmetry in Art

In art, symmetry is achieved when both sides of a painting have equal visual weight, balancing the composition. This is done by placing similar objects with the same visual weight on both sides.



# Hortense Gordon

- 1 She was Canadian and was a part of the Painters 11 in Oshawa.
- 2 Very involved in her community.
- 3 Spent time both as a student of art and a teacher of art.
- 4 Learned many different ways and styles of painting.



# Hortense Gordon

- 1 How many birds shapes do you see?
- 2 Do the birds have the same shape?
- 3 Does this art show symmetry or not? Does it look balanced?

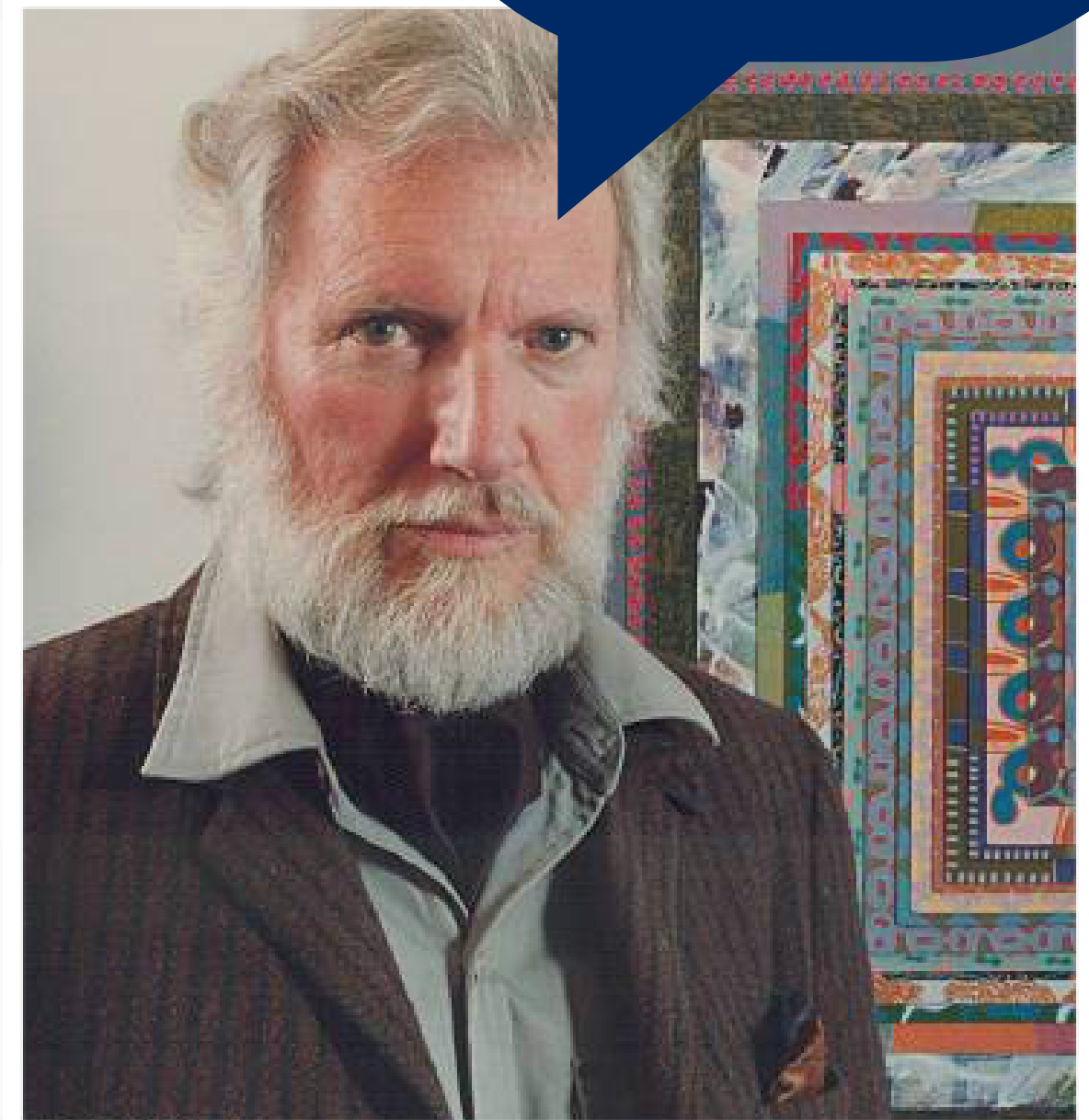


Hortense Gordon, Plate, Bird Design, 1928, hand-painted porcelain.  
Gift of the heirs of the Hortense Gordon estate, 1971.

# Harold Town

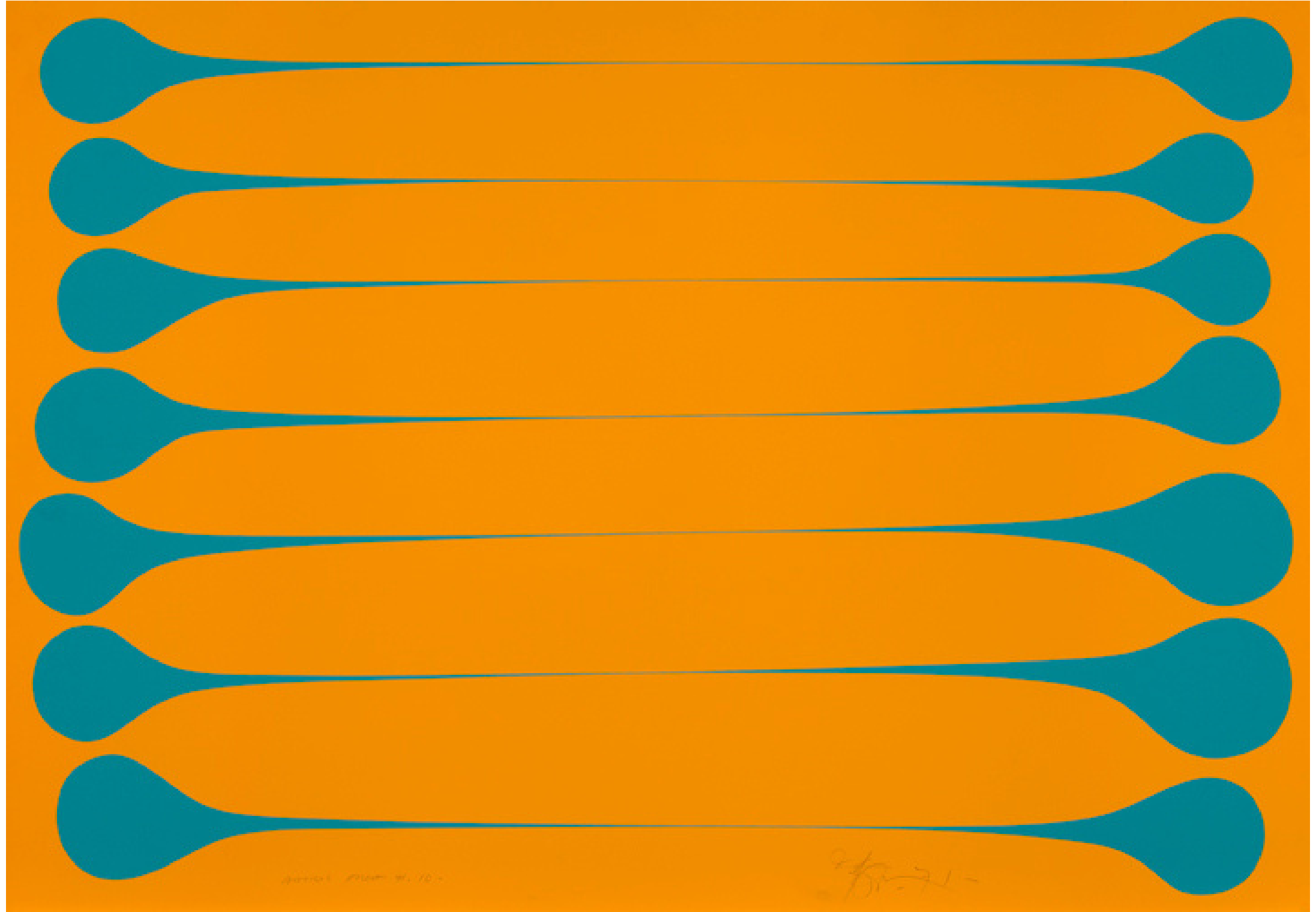
- 1 He was Canadian and was part of the Painters 11 in Oshawa.
- 2 Started work as a magazine illustrator.
- 3 Also spent time a writer as well as an artist.
- 4 Worked in a variety of media – painting, printmaking, assemblage and collage.

Who Was He?



# Harold Town

- 1 Does this art feel balanced? Is it symmetrical?
- 2 Do you find symmetry in art to be interesting or boring?



Harold Town, Stretch No. 1(a), 1971?, serigraph on paper. Gift of the artist, 1970.

# Harold Town

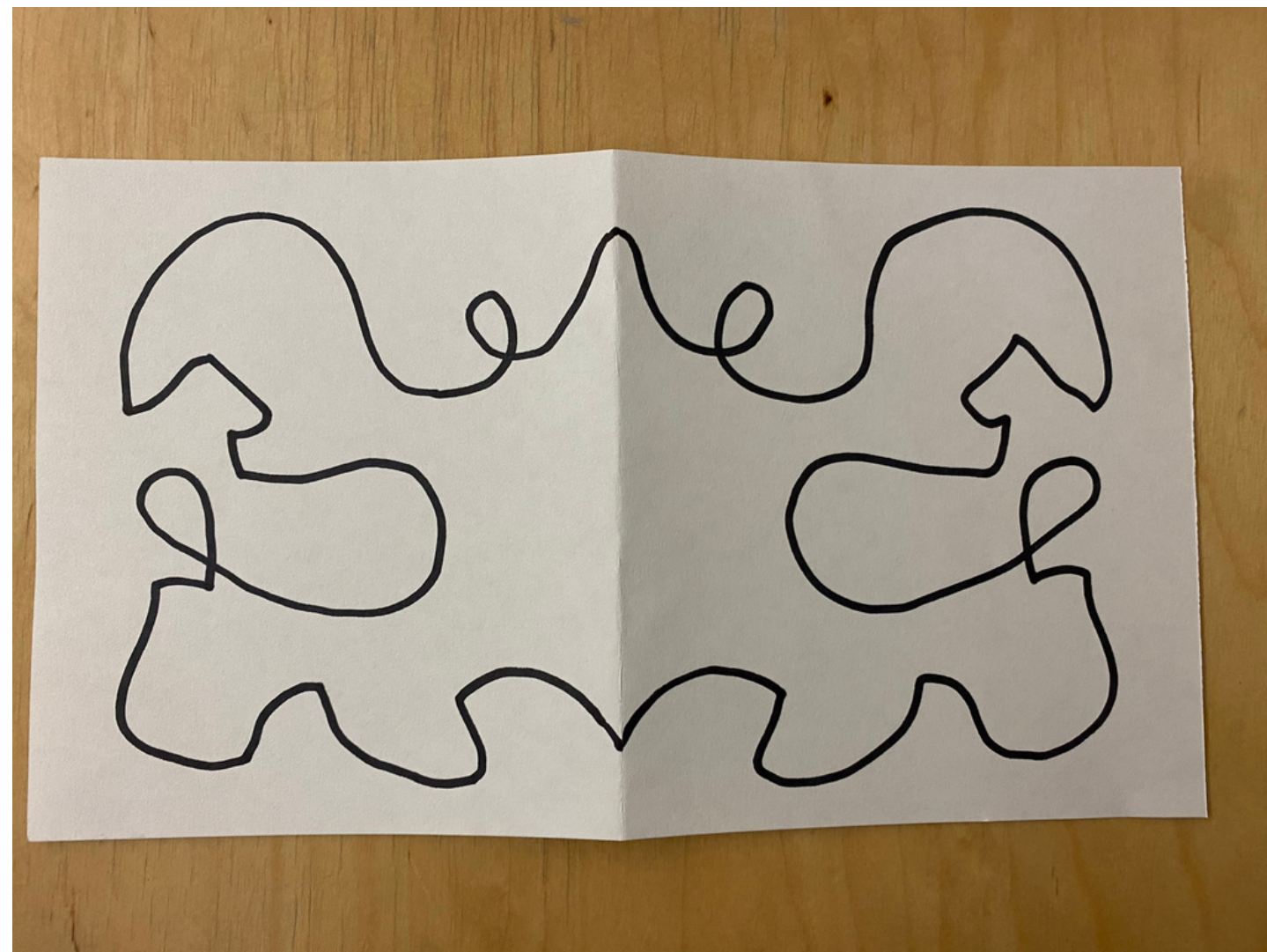
- 1 Does this art feel balanced?  
Is it symmetrical?
- 2 Does the art feel heavier  
on one side? Which side?
- 3 Do you like that the  
artwork feels unbalanced?

Harold Town, Monument, 1959, mixed media with Chinese paper on masonite.  
Purchase, 1971.



# Art Activity : Grade 1-3

## Symmetry Drawing



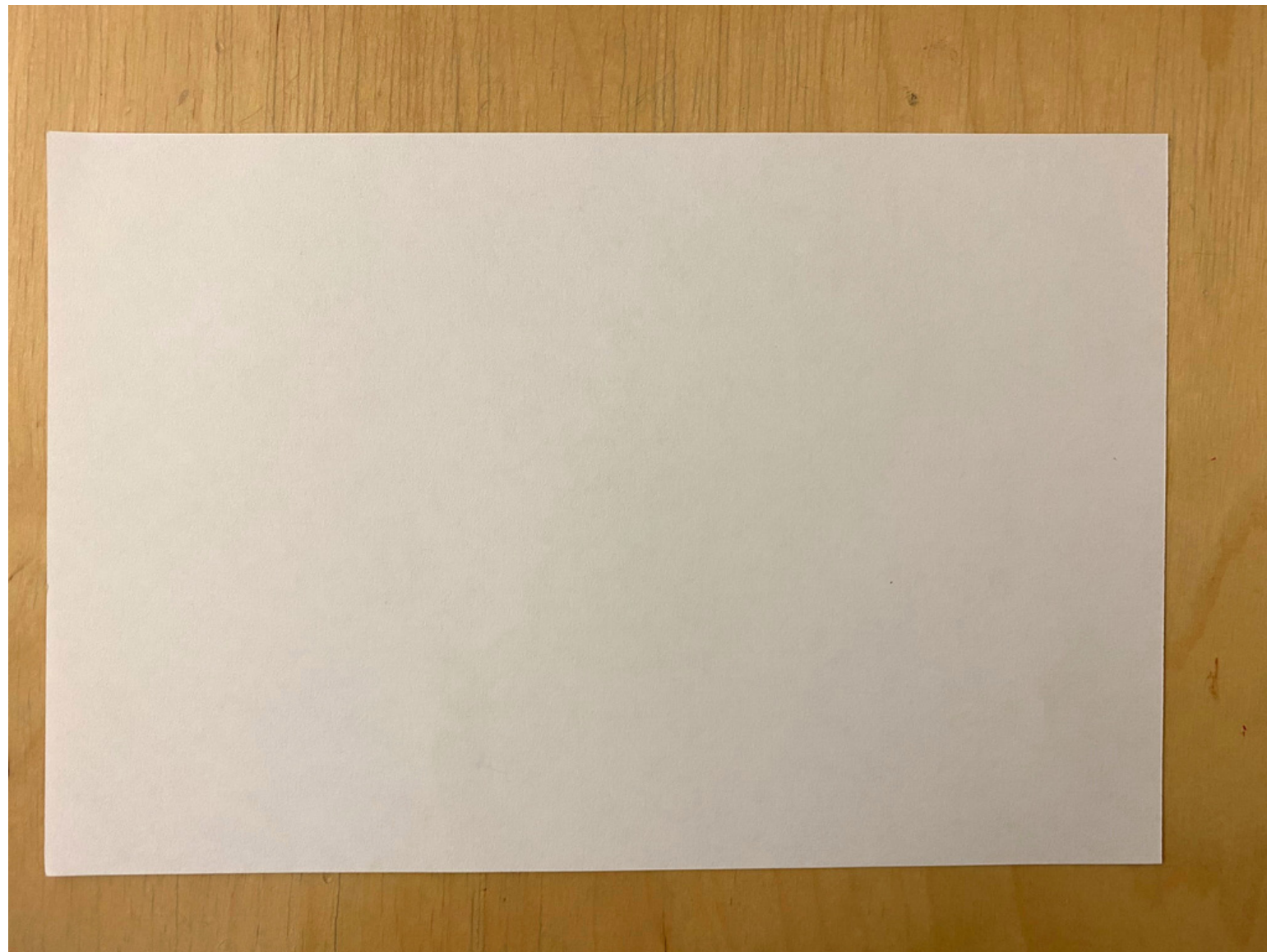
### Materials Needed

Paper  
Black Marker  
Colouring Tools  
(pencils, pastels,  
markers paint etc)  
Access to a  
window

1

# Fold A Blank Piece Of Paper In Half

Using any size of paper fold it in half either vertically or horizontally.

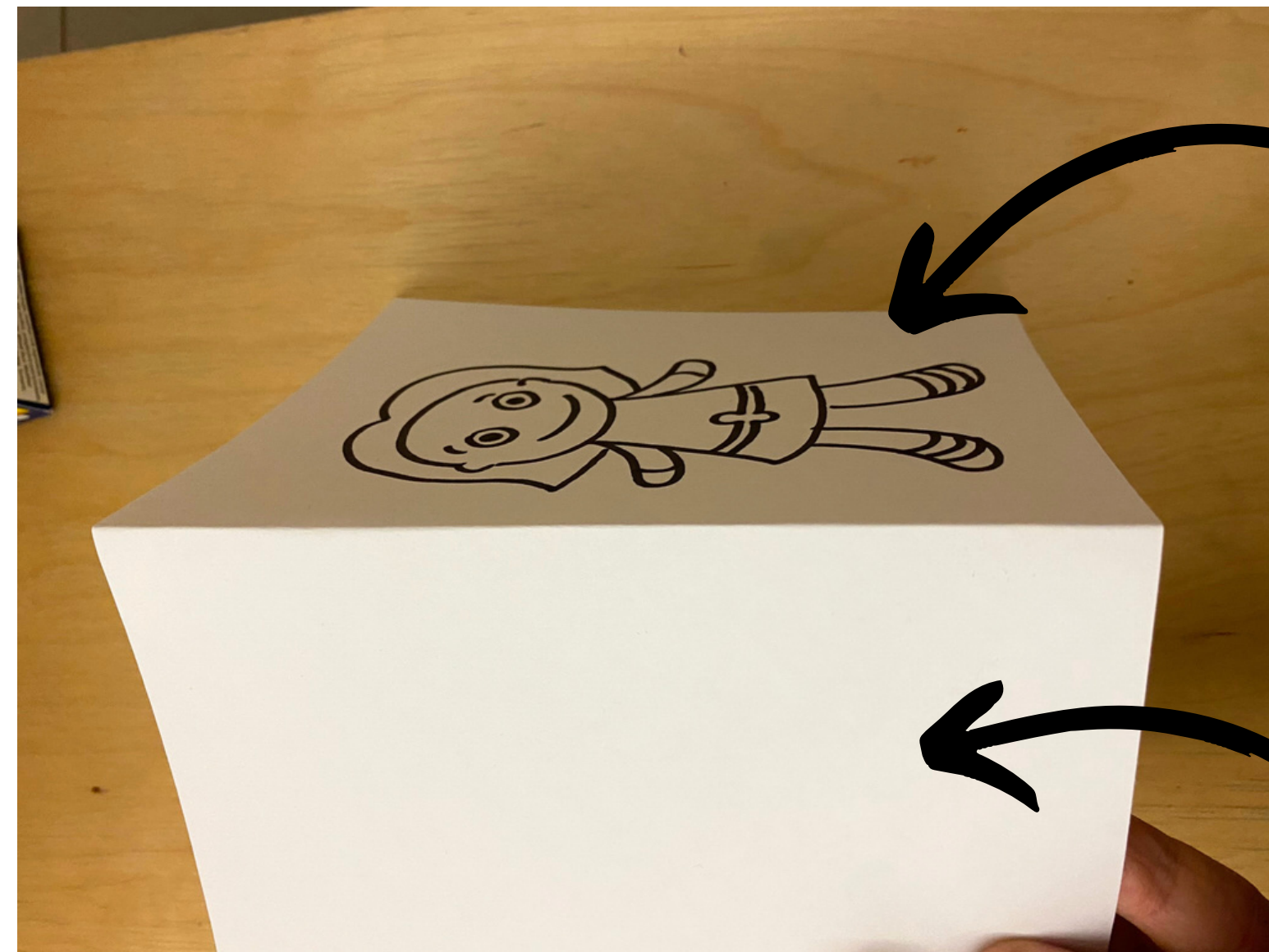




2

## Draw Any Image

Using black marker draw a picture of anything. You can also just draw something abstract or a fun scribble.



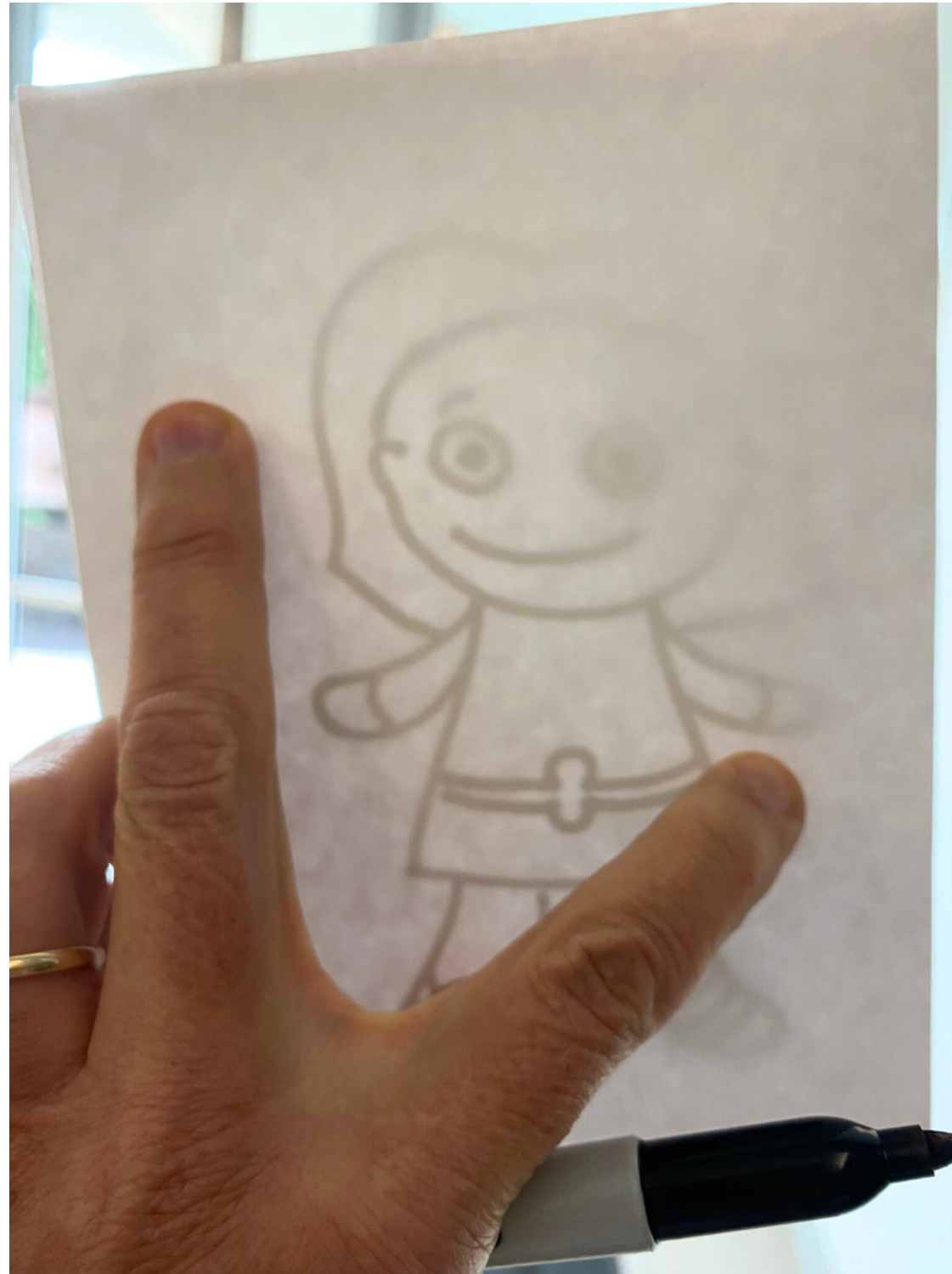
Draw your image on the front

Trace the image on the back (see next page)

# 3

## Trace Your Image

\* Use masking tape to hold paper in place while student traces.



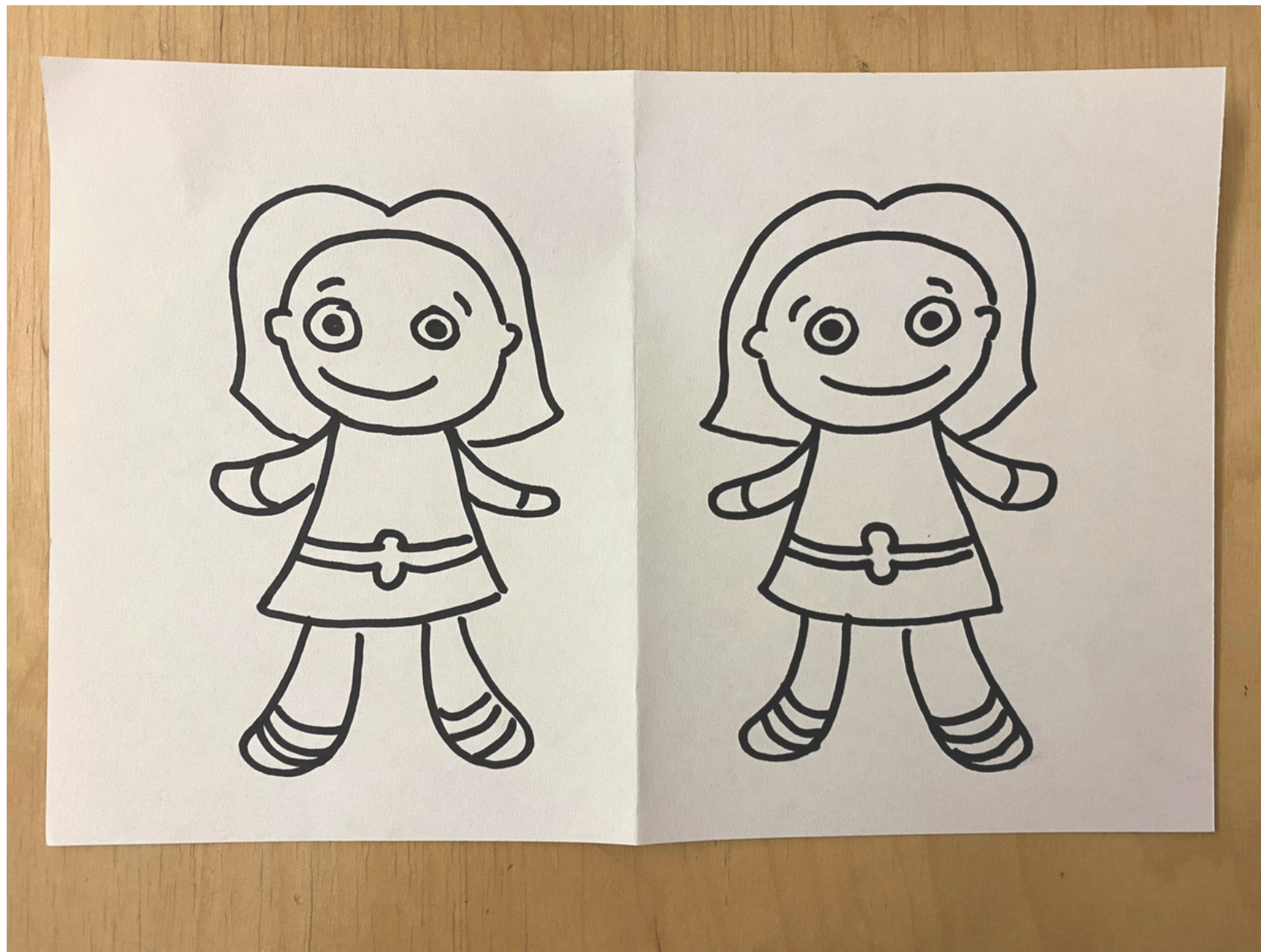
When you hold it up against the window or a light source you will see your first drawing through the paper.

Trace this image on the back side of the paper to create the mirror image.



4

## Open Your Paper

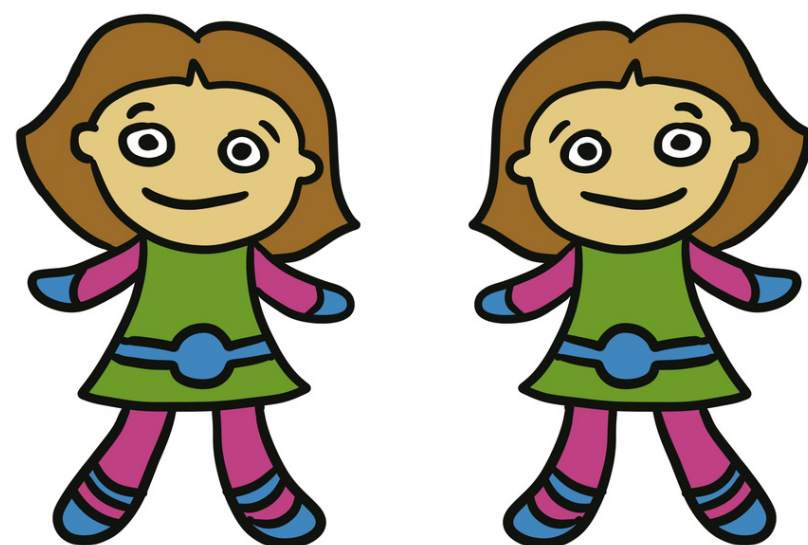


Open up your paper. You should original drawing on the right and the mirror image on the left.

- Can you see how it is symmetrical? It looks like a mirror image.

# 5

## Adding Colour



Symmetrical Colour



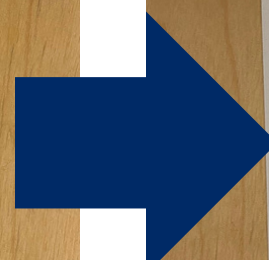
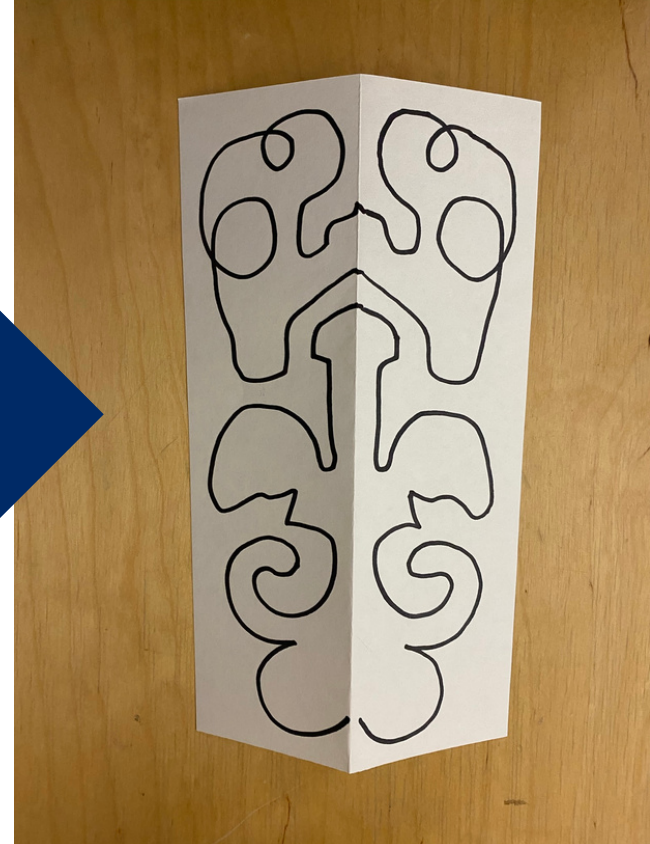
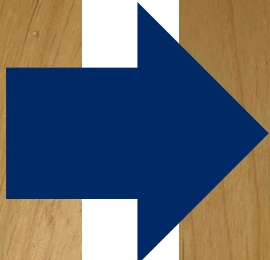
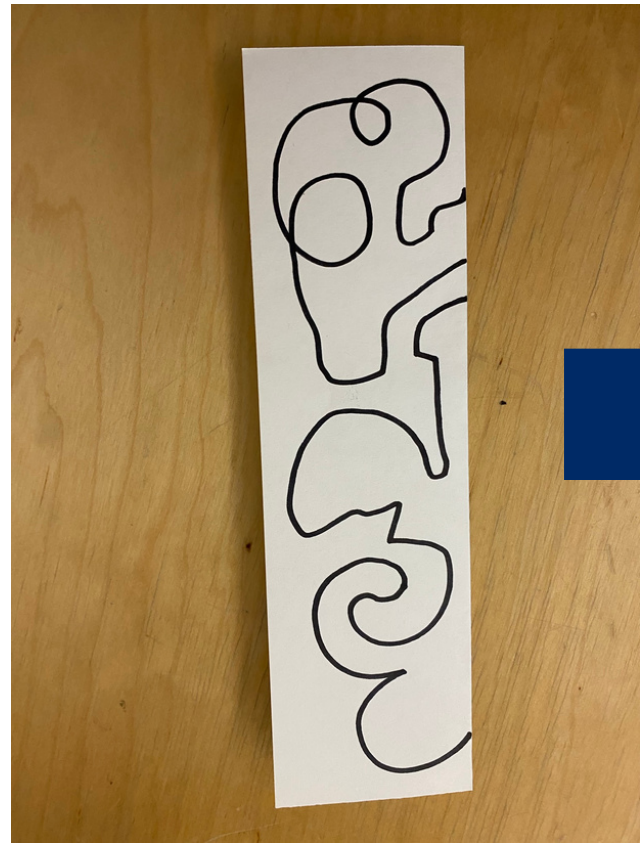
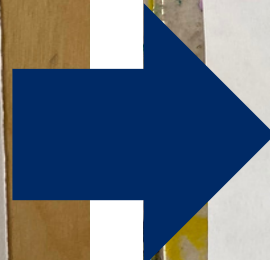
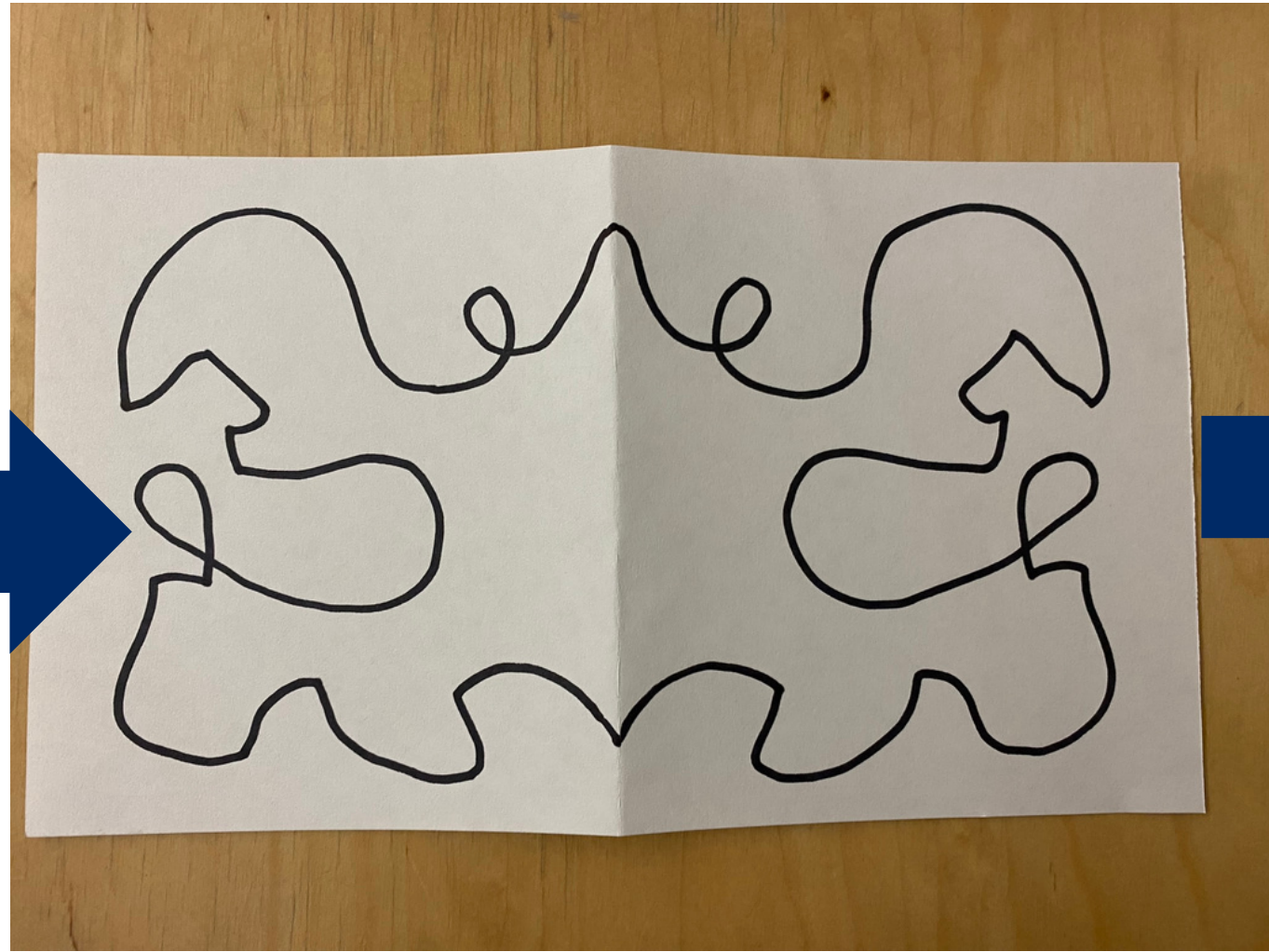
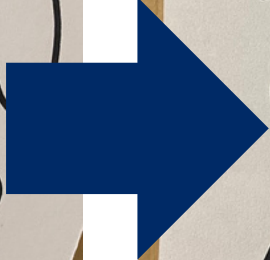
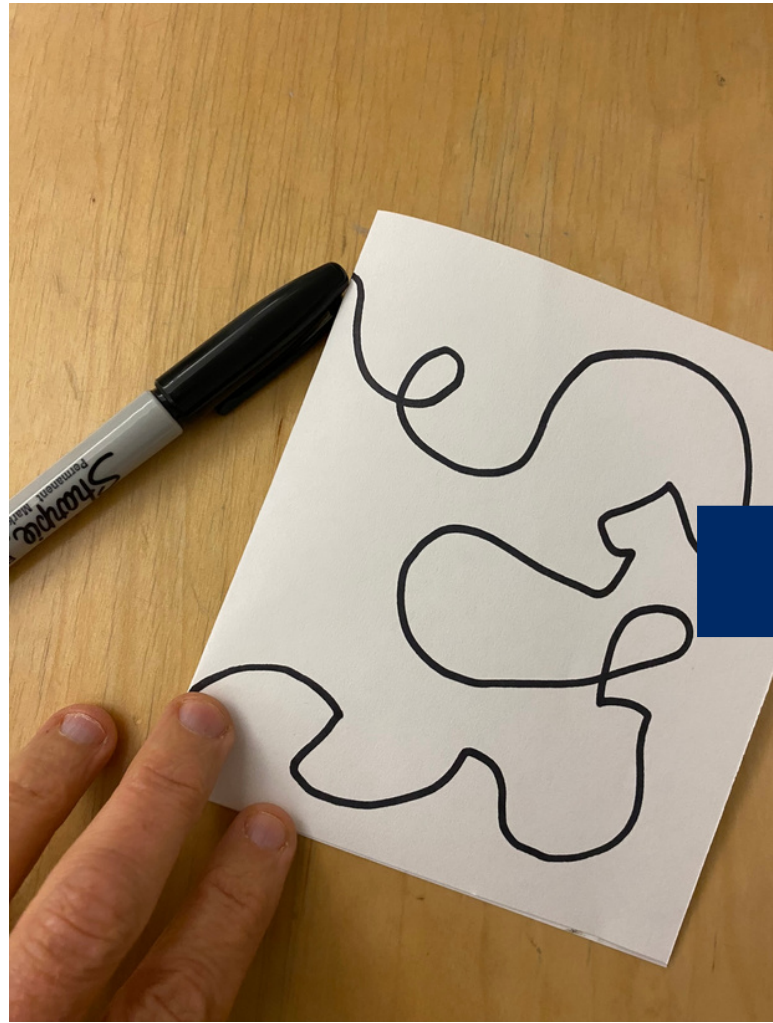
Complimentary Colours



Warm and Cool Colours

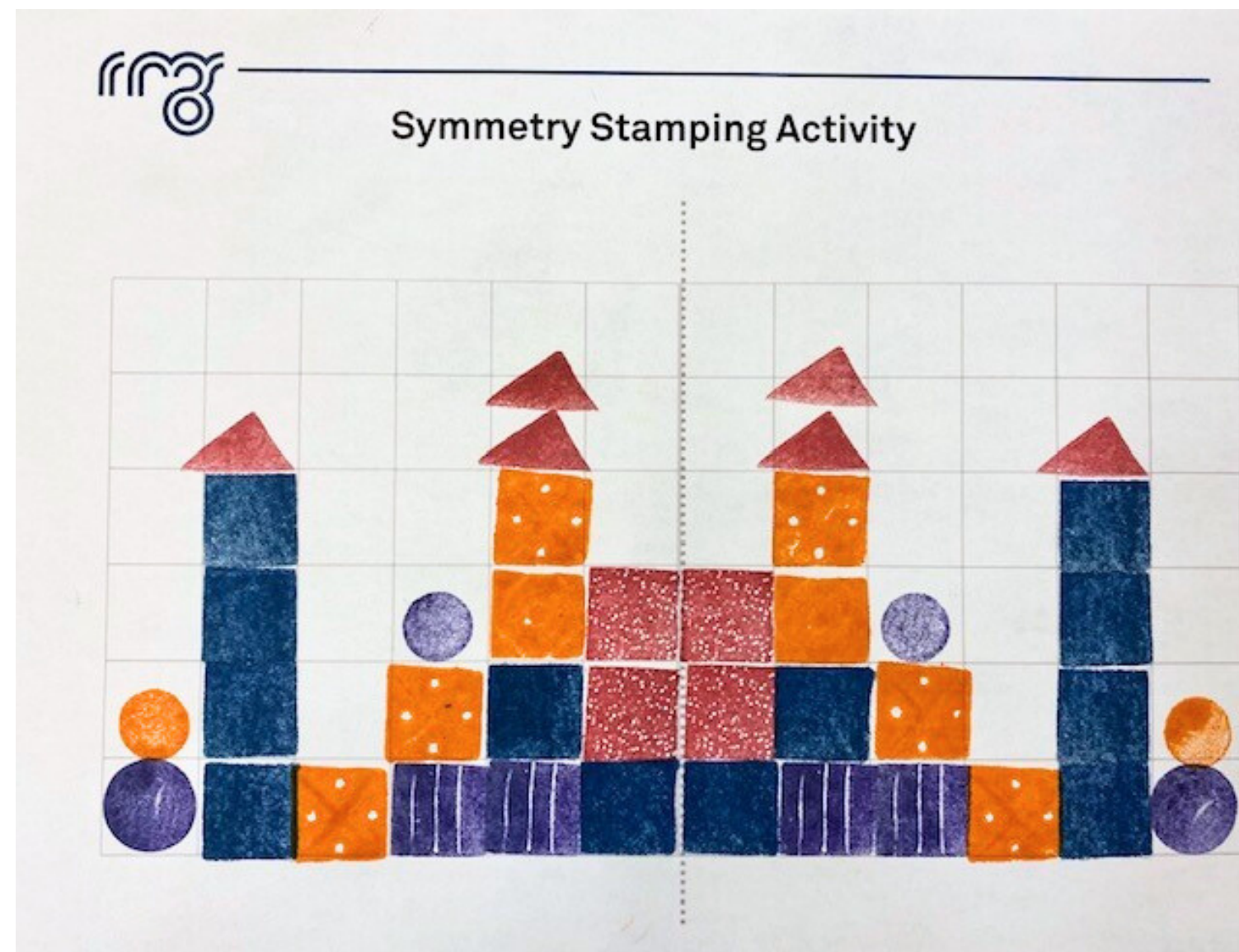
Here are some ideas to prompt students with during their art projects:

- Experiment with asymmetrical coloring
- Try out symmetrical coloring using complementary colors
- Consider using warm/cool colors to create contrast



# Art Activity : JK/SK

## Symmetry Castle Stamping

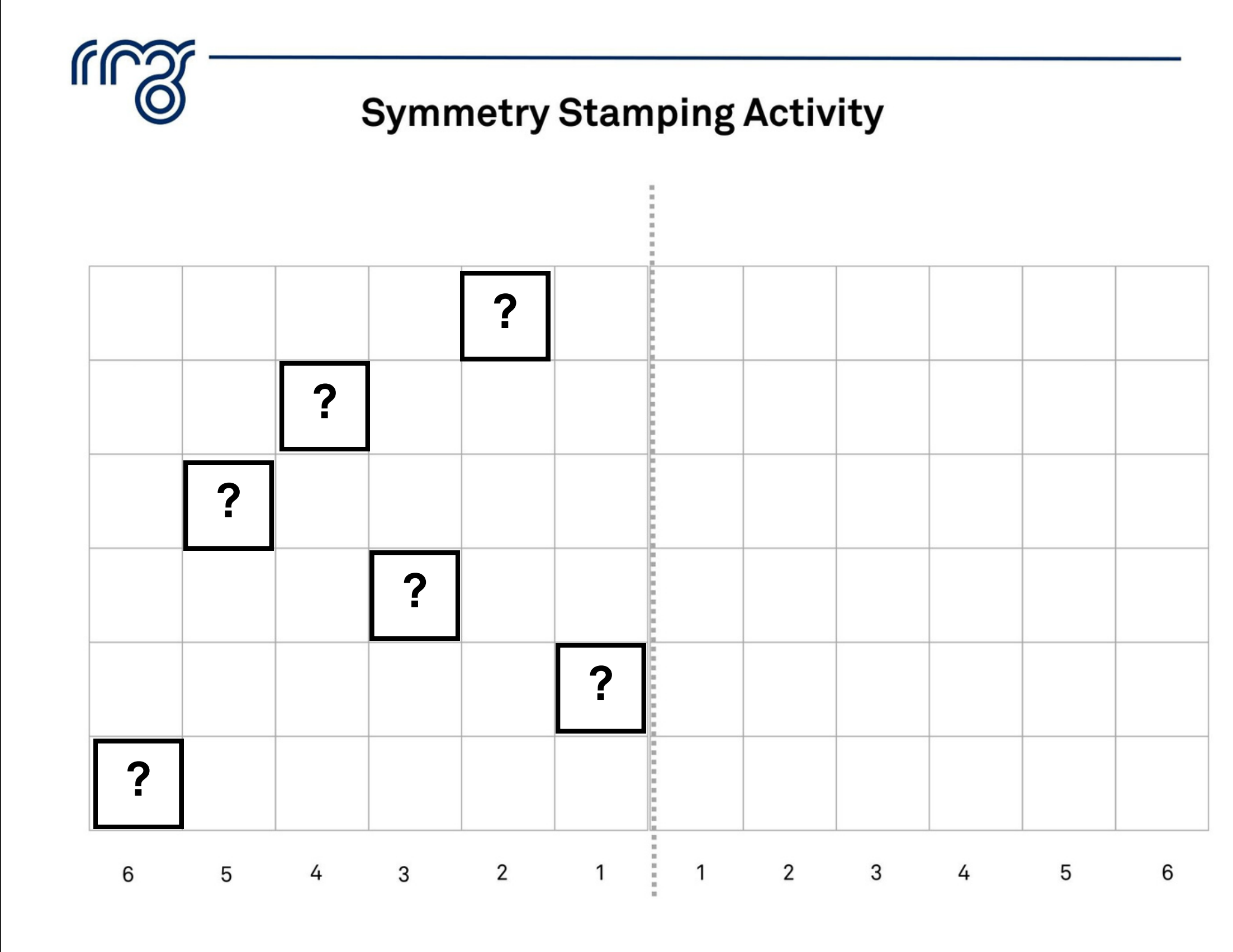


### Materials Needed

Foam cubes  
Foam triangles  
(cubes cut in half diagonally)  
Stamp Pads  
Printable  
Symmetry Sheet

# Practice Guessing The Correct Matching Square

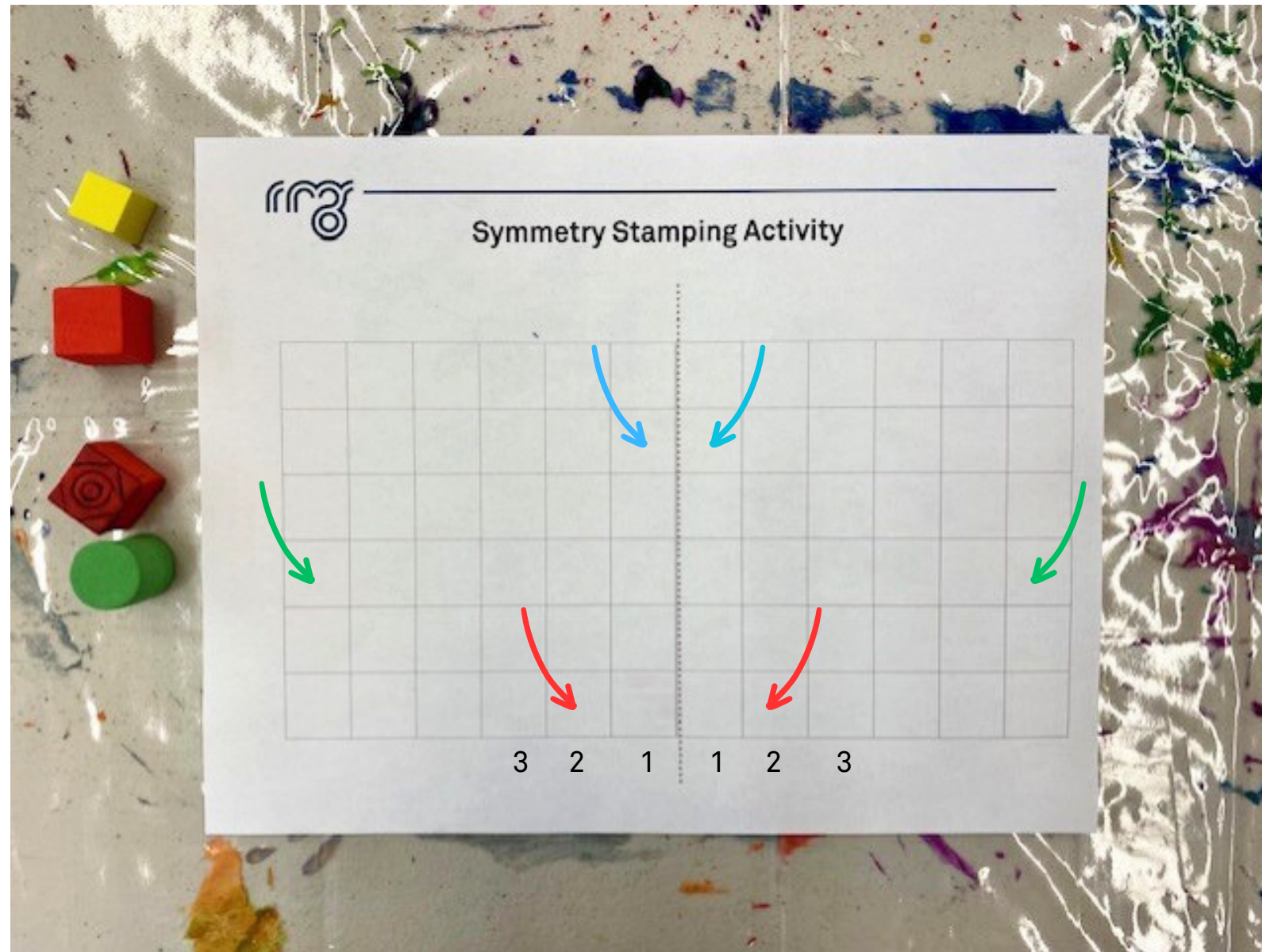
Where does each question mark fit on the right side of the dotted line to make the image symmetrical?



The image shows a grid for a symmetry activity. At the top left is a logo consisting of three blue curved lines. To its right is the title "Symmetry Stamping Activity". Below the title is a grid with a vertical dotted line in the center, acting as a line of symmetry. The grid is 6 units wide on each side of the line, for a total width of 13 units. The columns are numbered 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 from left to right on the left side, and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 from left to right on the right side. On the left side, there are five question marks in boxes at the following coordinates (row, column): (1, 6), (2, 5), (3, 4), (4, 3), and (5, 2). The right side of the grid is empty.

1

# Print Out One Guide Sheet For Each Student



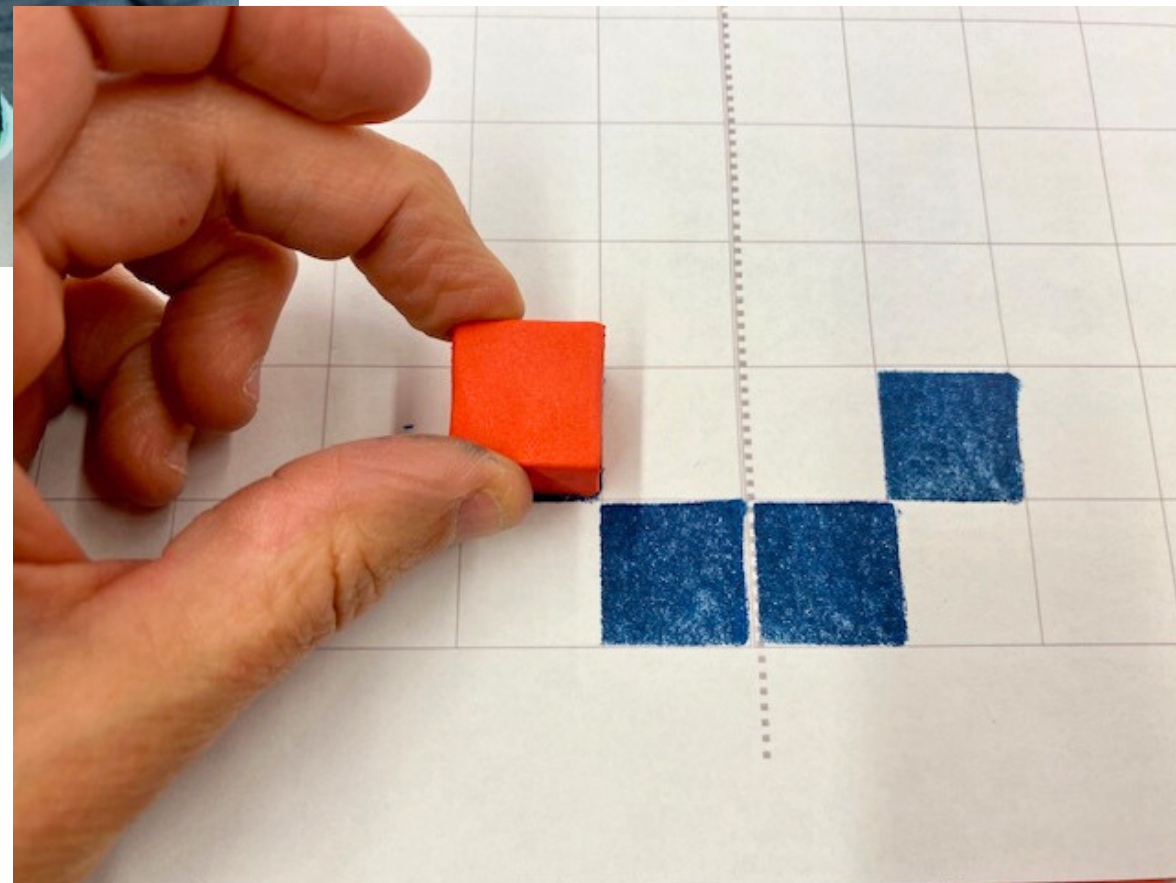
Explain how the left and right side works and how for ever stamp they do the right side they must match it on the left side.

Each square on the grid is for one stamped shape. This way it is easy to count out the squares from the central line.



# 2

## Start Stamping

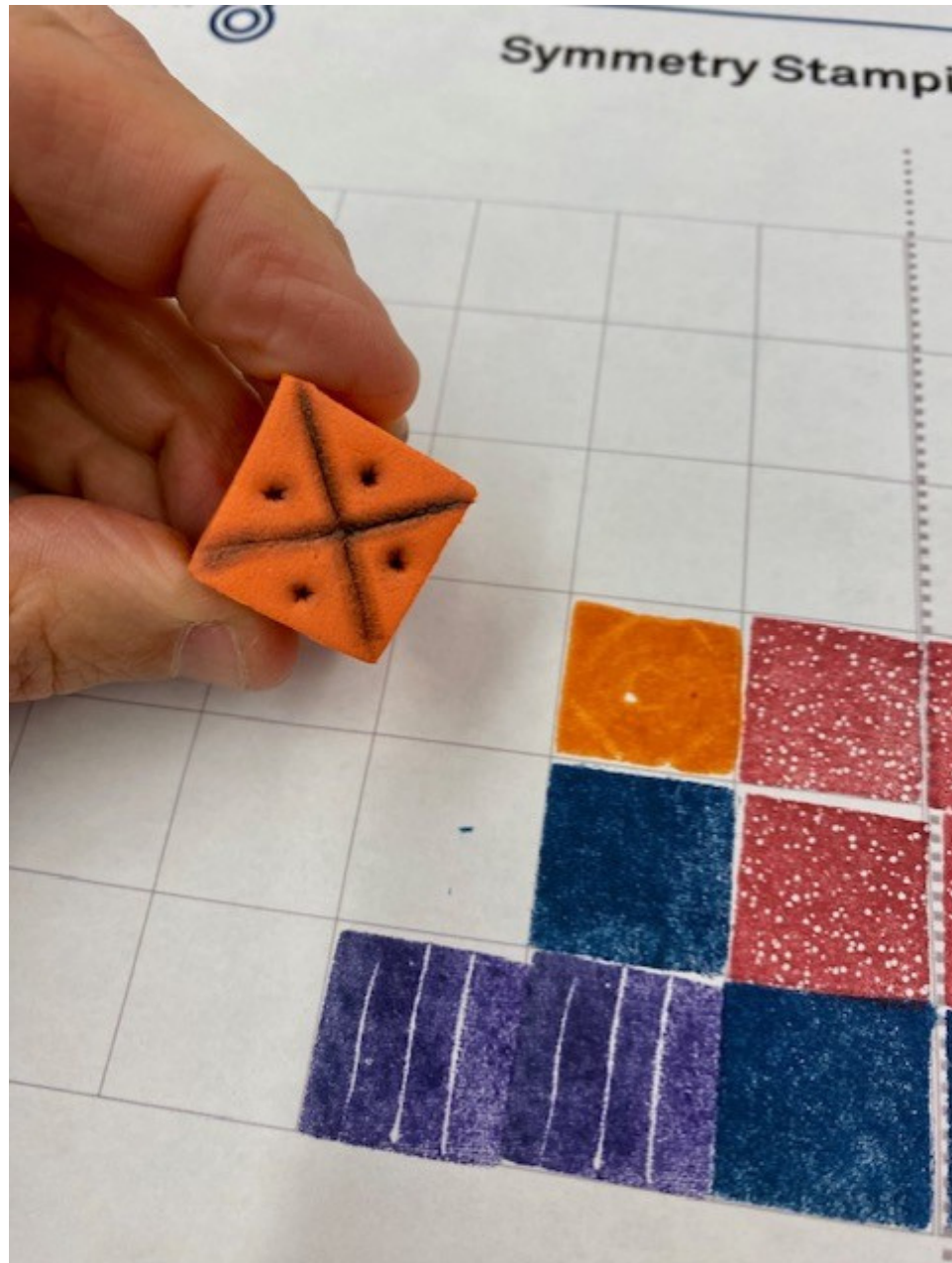


Using foam cubes, practice stamping one square at a time, making sure to follow the rules of symmetry.

Make sure to use the stamp pad each time you stamp on the paper.

# 3

## Choose Different Colours Or Shapes

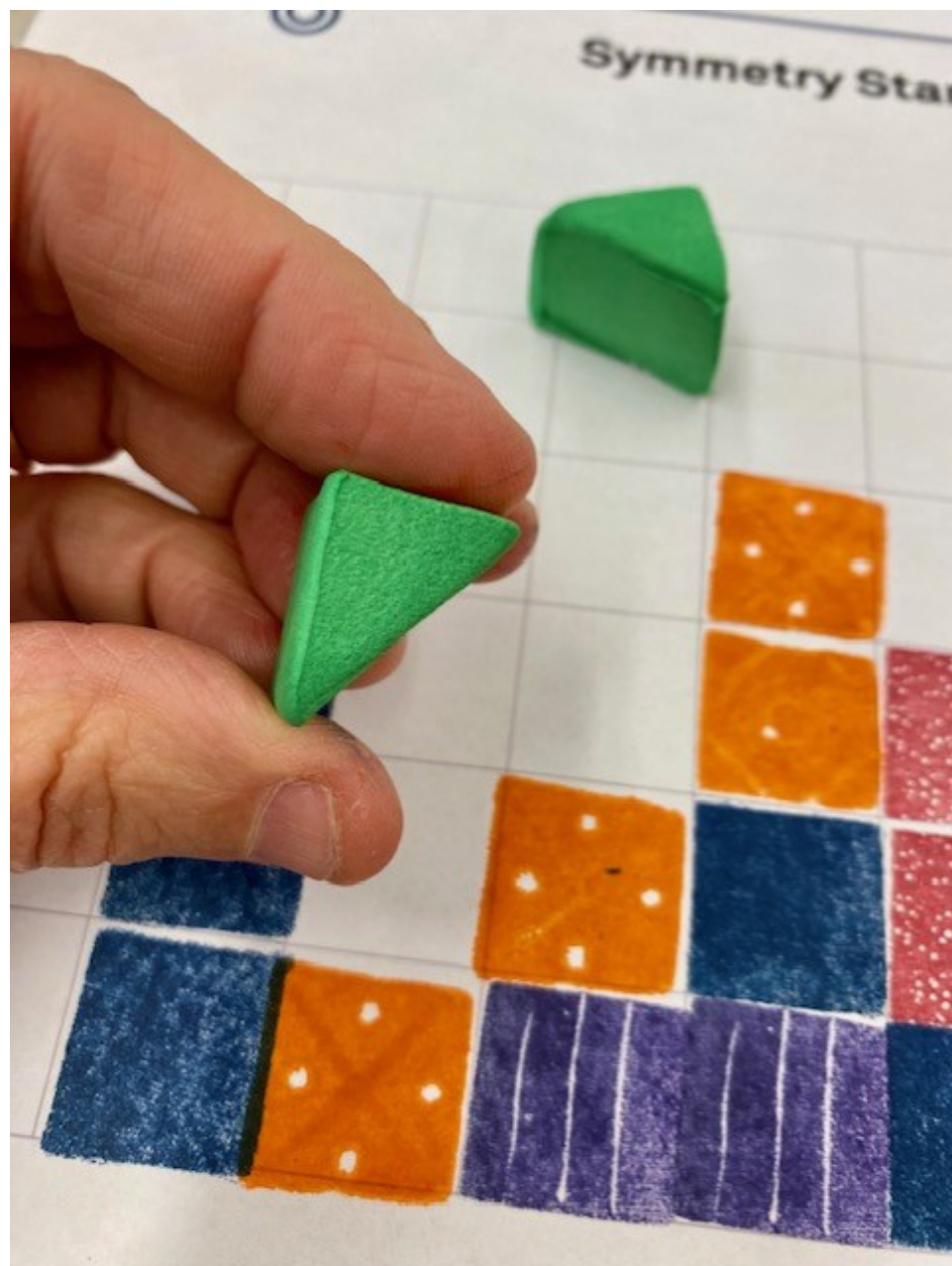


Tips for Cube Stamping:

- Consider etching patterns into the cubes before stamping, as they will appear on the paper
- Utilize the stamp pad each time you stamp to ensure consistency
- Be sure to maintain symmetry throughout the process.

# 4

## Add In Triangles or Circles



Here are some helpful tips for your design project:

- If you have triangle shapes or circle stamps, use them to enhance your design.
- Remember to use the stamp pad each time you stamp on the paper.
- Don't forget to adhere to the rules of symmetry to achieve a cohesive look.

5

# You're Done!



Keep adding to your design until you are happy with the castle you have built.

# Bibliography

<https://www.artsmartmanila.com/blog/5-practical-ways-to-use-symmetry-in-art>

<https://vilhenafineart.ca/?p=866>

<https://filmlifestyle.com/what-is-symmetrical-balance-in-art/>