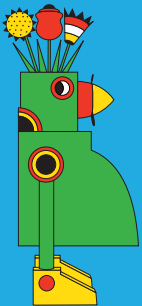




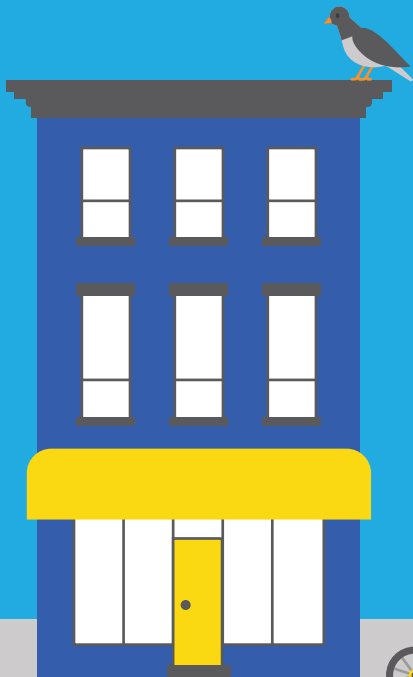
Brooklyn Children's Museum
Activity Kit

Brooklyn is Home

Designed for Children
Ages 4 and Up



**BROOKLYN
CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM**



Home means different things to different people. It can be tied to a place or a feeling. You may have special feelings about your home because of the people who live with you and the things you do together there.

If you call Brooklyn home, you are connected to generations of people from all over the world who have lived here before you and called our borough home. Try the activities in this guide, and tell your own Brooklyn story!

*SHARE YOUR CREATIONS
WITH US BY TAGGING @BCMKIDS
AND #BROOKLYNCHILDRENSMUSEUM
ON INSTAGRAM.*

ACTIVITY 1

What's Beneath Your Feet?

The ground beneath us can tell us a lot about the animals, people, and plants who came before us. If you dig down into the ground, you might find the remains of things left behind—fossils, bones, and other clues that tell the stories of long ago.



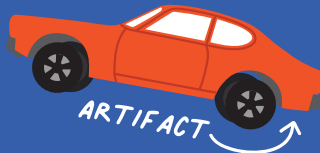
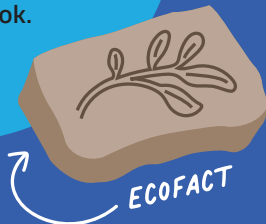
YOUR TURN

What do you think you'd find buried below the ground?

Draw a picture of each one.

The one furthest down would be the oldest. The one in the middle would be old and the one near the top would be the newest.

You might find ecofacts and artifacts. **Ecofacts** are objects made by nature, such as plants, rocks, and fossils. **Artifacts** are objects made by people, such as toys or a book.





ACTIVITY 2

Where's Your Brooklyn?



YOUR TURN

What makes Brooklyn your home?

Look at the map of Brooklyn and mark the places that are important to you with a star.

Those places could include your home, your school, your corner bodega, your local library, your favorite playground, or any other place that is important to you.

Draw some things you see every day.

★ SPECIAL PLACE #1

★ SPECIAL PLACE #2

★ SPECIAL PLACE #3



HUDSON RIVER

MANHATTAN

EAST RIVER

QUEENS

GREENPOINT

WILLIAMSBURG

BUSHWICK

CYPRESS HILLS

BEDFORD STUYVESANT

CROWN HEIGHTS

BROWNSVILLE

EAST NEW YORK

CANARSIE

BROOKLYN

EAST FLATBUSH

LEFFERTS GARDENS

BOERUM HILL

PARK SLOPE

GOUGHMAN

RED HOOK

CARROLL GARDENS

COBBLE HILL

DUMBO

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

INEGAR HILL

DOWNTOWN

NAVY YARD

FORT GREENE

CLINTON HILL

PROSPECT PARK

PROSPECT PARK SOUTH

WINDSOR TERRACE

GREEN-WOOD CEMETARY

SUNSET PARK

BAY RIDGE

FORT HAMILTON

DYKER HEIGHTS

BOROUGH PARK

BENSONHURST

BATH BEACH

GRAVESEND

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

BRIGHTON BEACH

MANHATTAN BEACH

SEA GATE

CONY ISLAND

CONY ISLAND

CONY ISLAND

UPPER NEW YORK BAY

LOWER NEW YORK BAY

STATEN ISLAND

JAMAICA BAY

GATEWAY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

ROCKAWAY BEACH

ACTIVITY 3

History Through Voices

How can we learn about the past? One way is to talk to people who are older than you about their lives. An *oral history* is a conversation that you write or record, and can later be read or listened to by you and others.



YOUR TURN

Ask a grownup to help you with the recording device on a phone, and try asking an elder questions like these:

- *Describe your first Brooklyn memory.*
- *What was your favorite toy when you were young?*
- *What games did you play as a child?*
- *What was your favorite subject in school?*
- *What is one thing you have in your life now that didn't exist when you were young?*

HELLO!

*HOW'S
IT GOING?*



*DOING WELL,
THANK YOU!*

ACTIVITY 4

How the Streets Got Their Names

Some of the names of Brooklyn's streets and neighborhoods come from the first inhabitants of the land, the Lenape people.

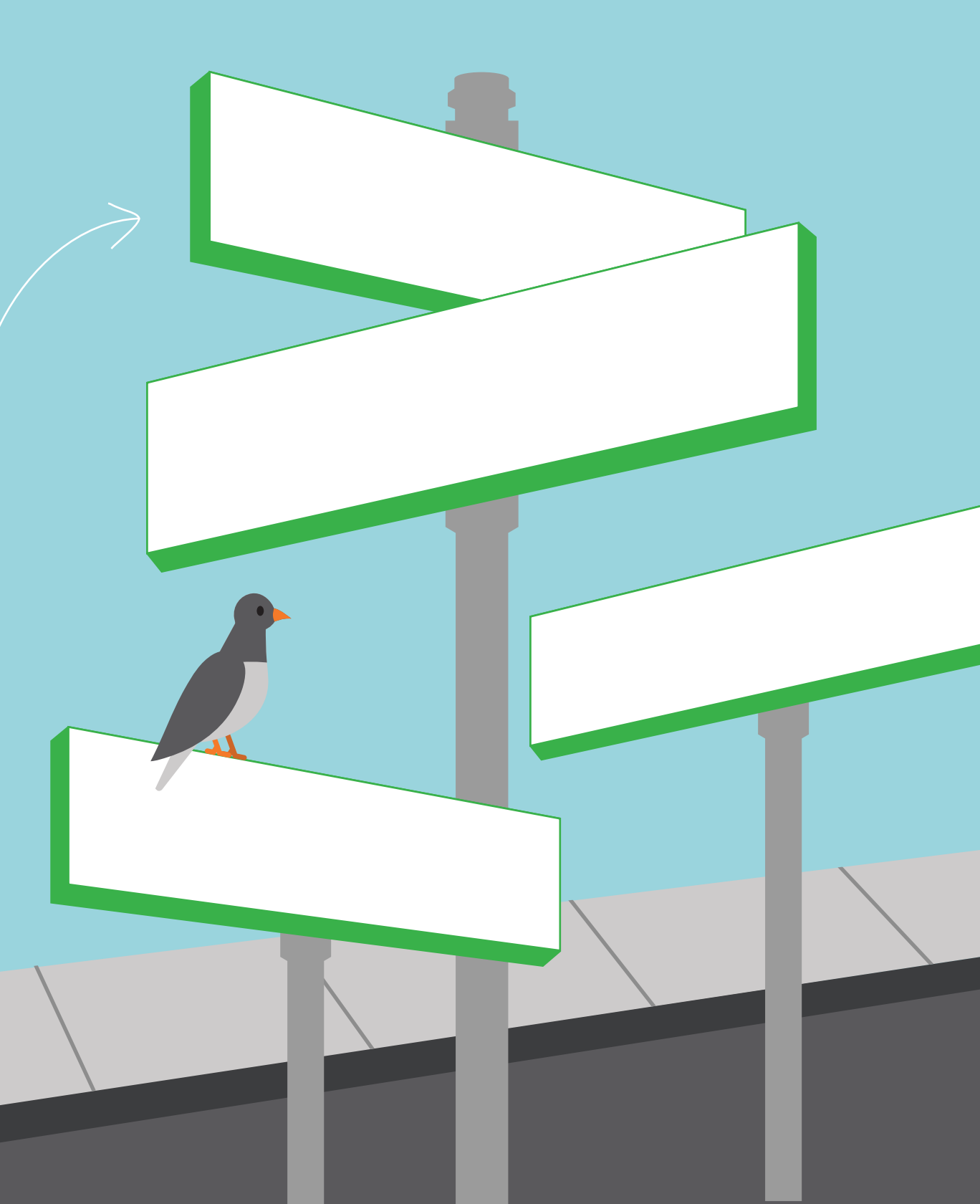
The Lenape people called our borough *Lenapehoking* or "in the land of the Lenape." For example, Gowanus comes from the Canarsee sachem, or chief, named Gouwane. Canarsie is an adapted word from the Lenape language, meaning "fenced land" or "fort." *Rockaway* comes from the word *leekuwahkuy*, meaning "sandy place."



YOUR TURN

How would you name a street?

- *After an important person in your life*
- *After an important landmark in your neighborhood*
- *After a natural feature in your neighborhood, like a tree or hill*
- *After people who lived in your neighborhood before you*



ACTIVITY 5

What's Cookin'?

What is a favorite meal at your house? Every family has its own recipes, food traditions, and ways to celebrate.

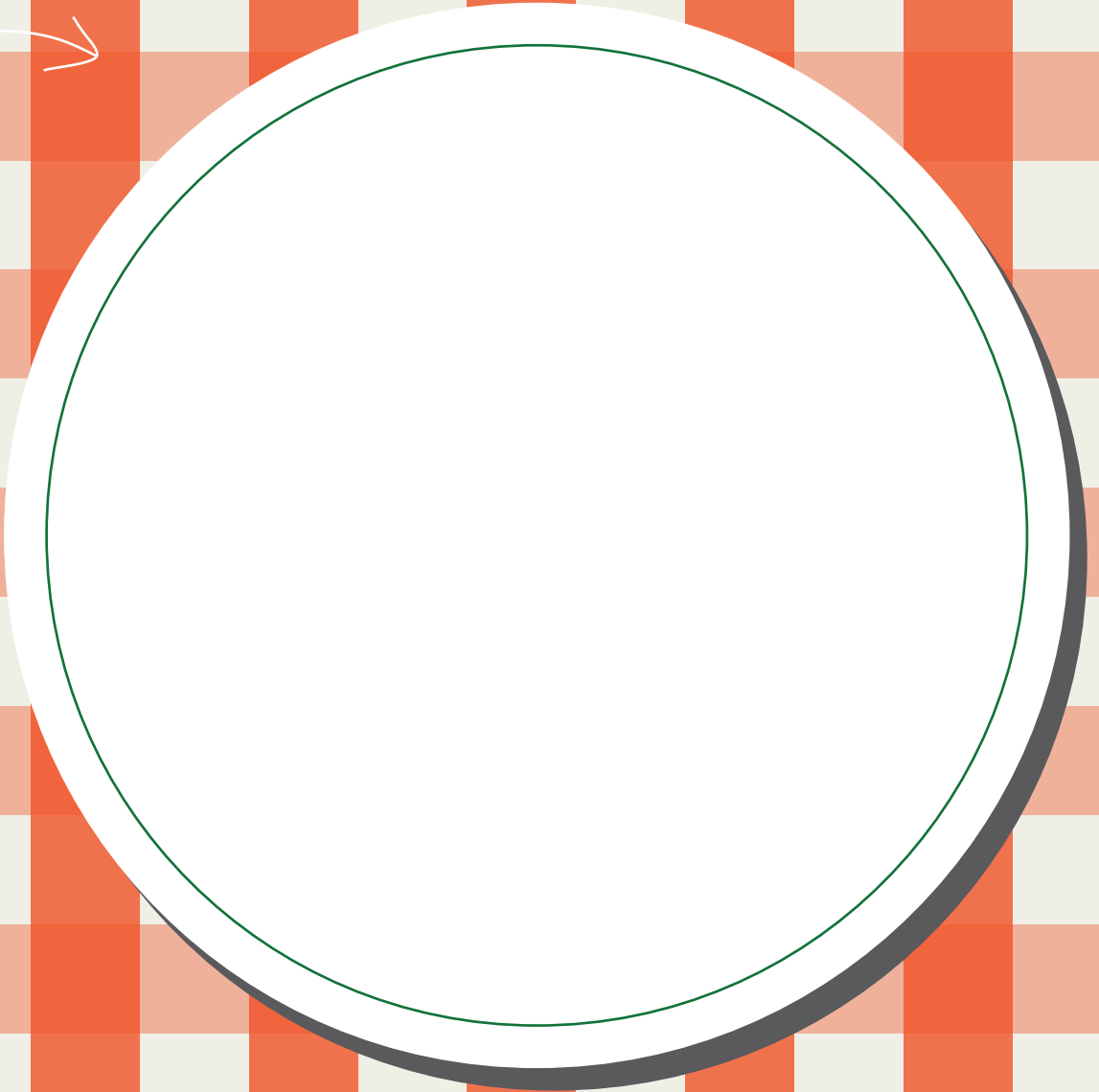
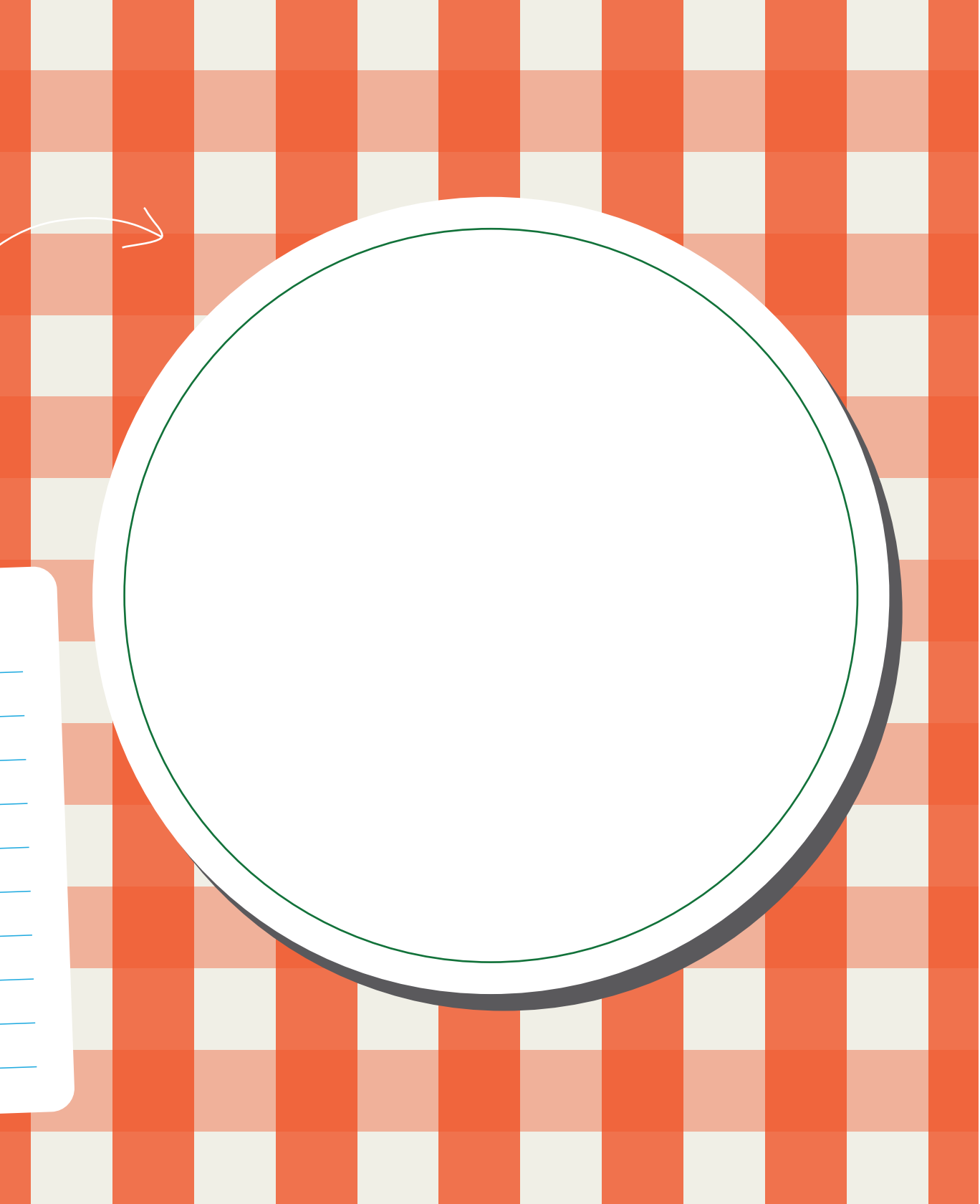


YOUR TURN

Draw or write down your favorite food memory. This might be a holiday, an annual celebration, or an unforgettable moment of making or eating food with others.

FAMILY RECIPE





ACTIVITY 6

Portraits of Your People

Who are the people you consider family? Create a portrait of the people you love and call your family. Do they have characteristics in common? Draw a time when you had fun together.




YOUR TURN

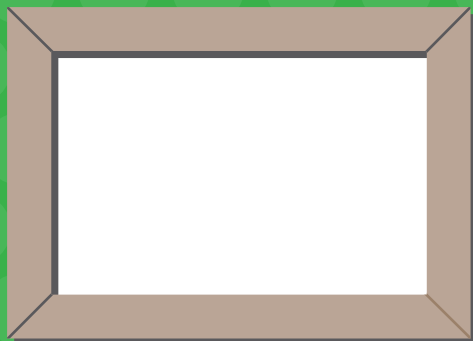
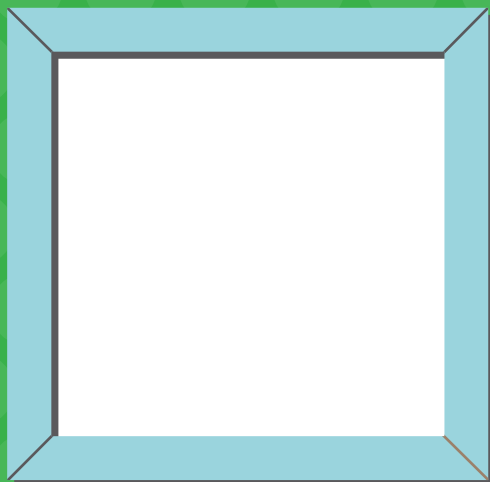
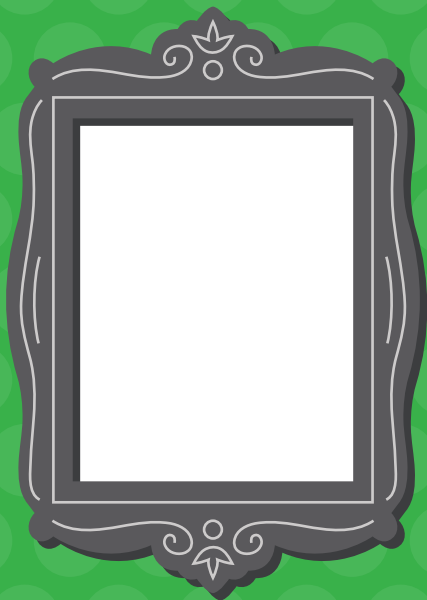
Who are the people you call family?

Create a portrait of the people you love and call your family.

Are there common characteristics that stand out?

Draw a memory of a time when you had fun together.





ACTIVITY 7

Listen Up!

When a community needs help, people rally around to fix the problem. You can add your voice to the discussion. The first step is figuring out what you want to say.



YOUR TURN

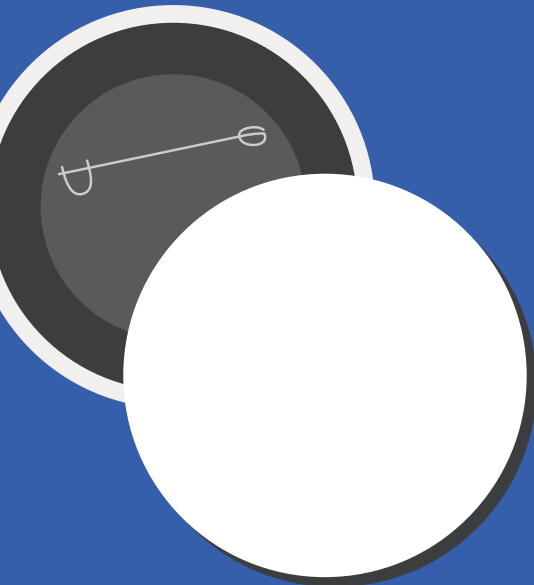
Think about something you believe in, and design a poster and a button to show everyone what matters to you. You can use words and pictures.

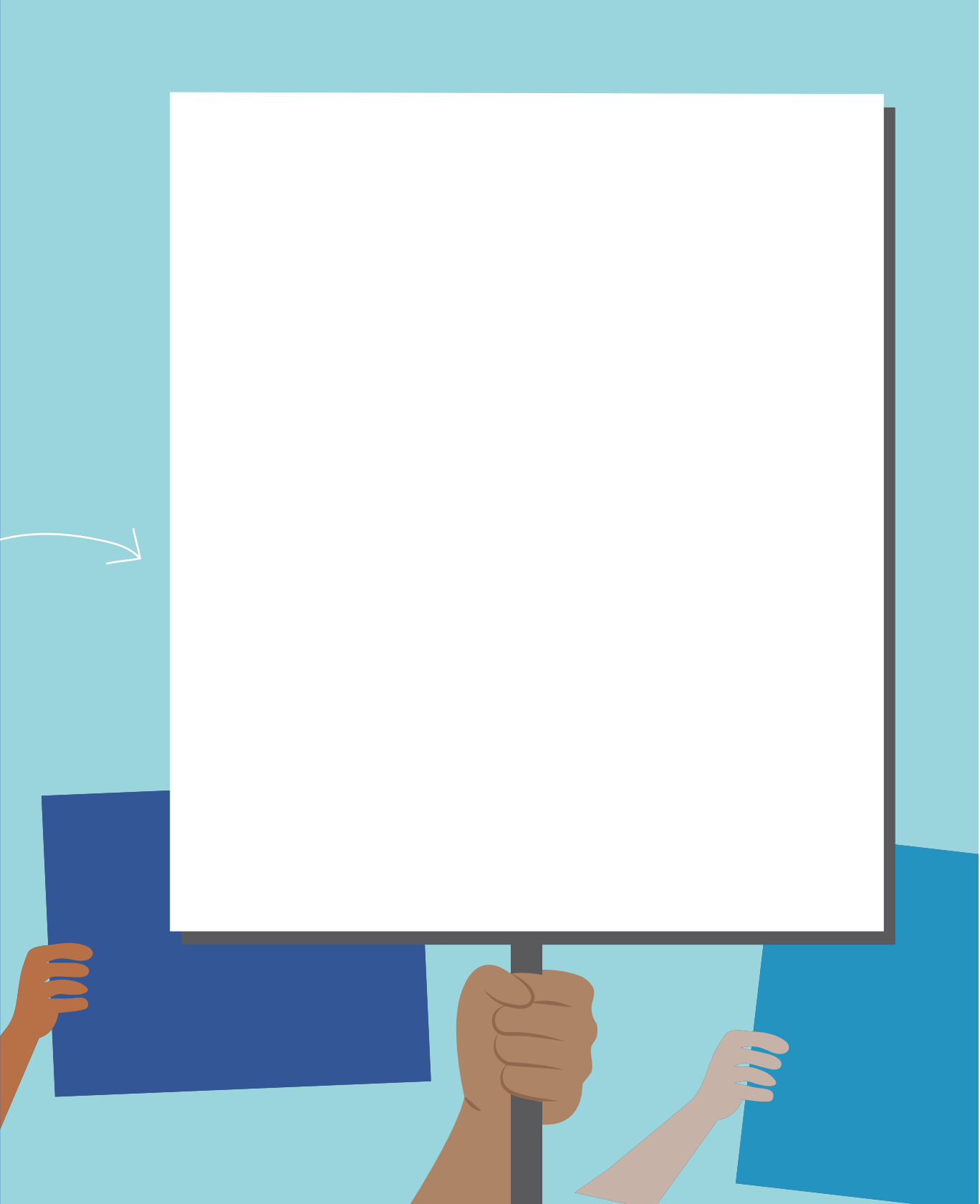
Where would you hang your poster?

Where will you wear your button?

How will you take action?

Would you participate in a march, write a letter to a council member or the mayor, or volunteer to support a cause that is important to you?





ACTIVITY 8

Spread the Word

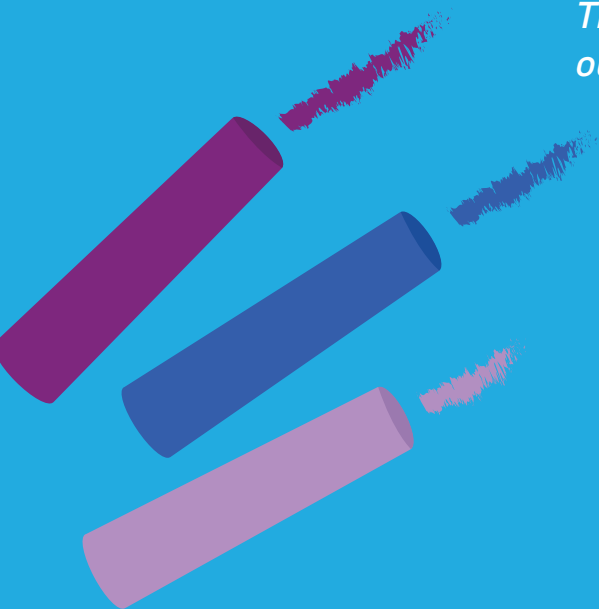
What would you like to say to people in your community?

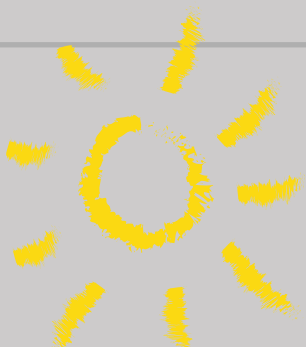
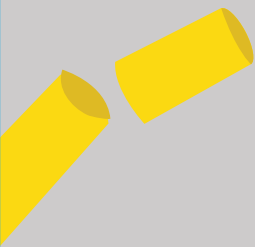


YOUR TURN

*Write or draw a message or question
on the sidewalk for your neighbors.*

*Then try doing this with actual chalk
outside.*





ACTIVITY 9


Poetry for Your People

For a block party, a street is closed off to cars, and neighbors gather to celebrate. Have you ever been to a block party?



YOUR TURN

Draw your own block party.

- *What does your celebration look like?*
 - *How would you decorate for your own block party?*
 - *What activities would you include?*
- 



ACTIVITY 10

Beautiful You!

What object do you love? Everyone has things that are special to them, such as a favorite doll, toy, book, or piece of clothing.



YOUR TURN

*Draw a picture of one of your favorite things.
What does this object say about you?*





A white rectangular box with rounded corners, containing five horizontal blue lines for writing.

ACTIVITY II

Sounds Like Home

Each home has its own sounds, which reflect the interests of the people who live there.




YOUR TURN

Close your eyes and listen to the sounds in your home or on your street.

What do you hear?

Do you hear people talking? A TV? Music? Are there sounds from the outside that you hear? Whose voices do you hear?

Write down five sound words that you hear.



A large white rectangular box with rounded corners, containing five horizontal blue lines for writing.



VRRROOM



TWEET
TWEET

Thank You

Bloomberg



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



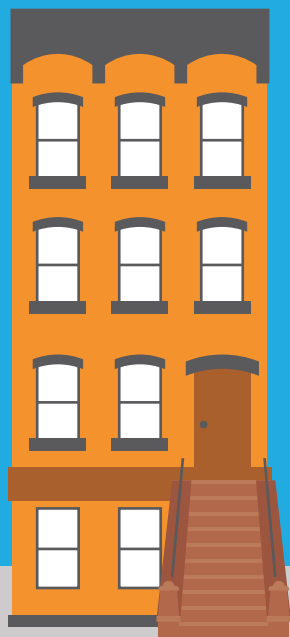
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NEW YORK
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Council on
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 @bcmkids

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