IN BRIEF

Pigeons and a Pencil tells the story of little Pablo and how he became an artist. We hope this story has inspired your pupils, and this pack is filled with activities that will bring out their creative side and introduce them to the wonders of art.



1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- Reading stories is one of the best ways to build students' vocabularies. The **Storytime Glossary** is a helpful resource that allows children to look up words and phrases they don't recognise in this month's magazine. Ask them to use the new words they discover in a sentence!

- This month's **Class Discussion Sheet** poses questions about art – what it is, who makes it, and all the different forms it can take! Encourage pupils to mention their favourite images and sculptures and why they like them.

- On the **Reading Comprehension Sheet** is an extract from 'Pigeons and a Pencil' that includes *proper nouns* and an *idiom*. There is also an exercise that asks pupils to match other idioms with their meanings. Can your class come up with more cool idioms, too?

- The events in Pablo's tale have been mixed up on the **Story Sequencing Sheet**, and it's up to your pupils to sort them out by numbering them from 1-11 to show the order they *should* be read in! Because the story is quite long and complicated, students should refer back to it in the magazine to make sure they get things right.

- This month, our storyboard exercise is a bit different! Instead of asking pupils to write about what happened under artwork from the tale, the **Draw an Art Storyboard** sheet asks them to do their own versions of pictures that Pablo creates over the course of the tale. It will be fascinating to see the different interpretations that children create, based on the descriptions on the sheet and in the story. In a way, this activity encourages pupils to follow Pablo on his creative journey...

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1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS CONTINUED

- We hope that this pack will inspire students to seek out new art to enjoy! For the **My Favourite Art** activity, ask your pupils to look for interesting art in the school library or online. They should pick a piece that they particularly like to write about. They should answer the questions on the sheet, which will encourage them to think about *why* their chosen painting or sculpture appeals to them.

2. GEOGRAPHY LESSON IDEA

- The questions on the **Spanish Facts Quiz!** sheet will encourage your pupils to find out more about the wonderful country of Spain. They should look up the answers online or in the library. You could also ask them what they know about Spain. Have they visited it? How would they describe its towns, cities and landscapes?
  Note: One question asks which two countries border Spain. The two *main* ones are shown on the map (France and Portugal), but there are others. Spain also has borders with tiny Andorra (between France and Spain) and Gibraltar (a British overseas territory). Spain also has little bits of land in North Africa, which border with Morocco.

3. HISTORY LESSON IDEA

- Great artists like Pablo Picasso can change how we see the world. The **Amazing Artists** page has profiles of six celebrated painters who created amazing art. Show your class some of their paintings. Which ones do they like best? What do they notice about each artist's style and subject matter? Can they identify which painting is by which artist?

4. MATHS LESSON IDEA

- Recognising patterns is a fun challenge, and that's what your students will have to do on the **What Comes Next?** sheet. The puzzles feature things from Pablo's story, and they can be tricky – not all of the patterns repeat in the same way!

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5. ART LESSON IDEAS

- Art can take many different forms, and **The Many Kinds of Art!** page lists different subjects and materials that can be used. Can your pupils sort the things on the list into the boxes on the page. Ask your students which materials they like to use and what subjects they like to draw or paint.

- The **Elements of Art** sheet is about different aspects of creating art – lines, space, texture, shapes and colour. There are little exercises for pupils to do for each one. This will introduce them to these core concepts, which they can then use while creating their own art.

- Painting a 'still life' picture is an excellent exercise for artists, because it lets them practise skills like observation, shading and drawing lines. The **Still Life Challenge** activity tells children how to set up their own 'still life' subject and gives tips on how to create pictures of it...

- Picasso became famous for his abstract 'Cubist' paintings, in which different parts of the picture are shown from different angles. Pupils can make art of this style using the **Make a Cubist Portrait!** sheet, which has a blank face for them to add details to, as well as different face parts for them to cut out and attach to the picture if they like. Of course, they could also include their own eyes, mouths, noses and so on if they like. They shouldn't forget to colour their picture in, too! Picasso used colour in bold and original ways, and they could do the same.

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STORYTIME GLOSSARY

1 OF 2

Look up what words and phrases mean in this section...

The Beast's Tale (Page 6)

- **Transformed:** changed into something else
- **Terrifying:** very scary
- **Mansion:** large and impressive house
- **Atlases:** books of maps
- **Encyclopedias:** large reference books full of facts in alphabetical order
- **Fascinating:** extremely interesting
- **Restless:** unable to rest or stay still
- **Concentrate:** focus attention on one thing
- **Servants:** people (or animals!) who work for someone else
- **Arranged:** placed in a planned way
- **Drifted off to sleep:** gently fallen asleep

The Big Cleanup (Page 8)

- **Goggles:** special glasses to protect eyes
- **SCUBA:** equipment that lets diver breathe underwater
- **Regulator:** device that controls the flow of air to diver with SCUBA equipment
- **Hermit crab:** kind of crab that uses shells from other creatures for protection
- **Pollute:** make land, air or water dirty or unsafe
- **Invent:** create something that has not been made before
- **Snagged:** caught or stuck
- **Prototype:** first model of something, made for testing
- **Barrier:** something that blocks or stops things from going past

A Fair Share (Page 14)

- **Scurrying:** moving quickly with small steps
- **Peek:** look quickly
- **Gurgled:** made a bubbling sound
- **Picnickers:** people who eat picnics
- **Wide-open:** large and open with no hiding places
- **Tingle:** feel a bit tickly
- **Interrupted:** stopped while they were doing or saying something
- **Assistance:** help or support
- **Sneaked:** moved quietly and secretly
- **Purred:** made a soft, happy rumbling sound
- **Nibbled:** took little bites
- **Wiser:** smarter and more sensible

Pigeons and a Pencil (Page 17)

- **Pigeons:** birds often found in cities
- **Fluttered:** flew with quick wing movements
- **Windowsills:** flat ledges under windows
- **Shooed:** sent away by waving hands
- **Talented:** good at doing something
- **Sculptures:** art made by shaping materials like wood, stone, clay or metal
- **Grasping:** holding firmly in his hand
- **Tantrums:** loud, angry outbursts
- **Convince him:** make him agree
- **Doodle:** small, unplanned drawing
- **Proportions:** how big things are compared to each other
- **Commission:** paid job to create art
- **Portraits:** pictures of people

Continued on page 2...

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STORYTIME GLOSSARY

2 OF 2

Sponsken and the Giant (Page 22)

- **Practical jokes:** tricks
- **Creature:** any living being
- **Complained:** said they were upset
- **Mischief:** trouble
- **Behave:** act in a good and sensible way
- **Companion:** friend who goes with him
- **Fearless:** not afraid of anything
- **Unbeknown to Sponsken:** without Sponsken knowing
- **Rumbled:** said in a deep voice
- **Boasted:** said in a proud way to show off
- **Despite:** even though
- **Lumbered:** moved slowly and heavily
- **Sprinted:** ran at top speed
- **Troupe:** group of performers

The Masked Axolotl (Page 29)

- **Axolotl:** kind of water-dwelling amphibian
- **Beady:** small, round and shiny
- **Lucha libre:** kind of wrestling from Mexico
- **Scattered:** spread out messily
- **Flashy:** bright and eye-catching
- **Leggings:** tight, stretchy trousers
- **Gills:** body parts that let creatures breathe underwater
- **Arena:** large building for performances
- **Signature:** special and identified with one person or creature
- **Nimbly:** lightly or quickly
- **Rematch:** repeat of a contest

The Merchant and the Saffron (Page 35)

- **Merchant:** person who buys and sells things
- **Saffron:** expensive spice made from 'threads' grown in a kind of flower
- **Customers:** people who buy things
- **Weighed down:** carrying so much it was hard to move
- **Turban:** cloth wrapped around the head
- **Valuable:** worth a lot
- **Cellars:** storage rooms under a building
- **Start afresh:** start again from the beginning
- **Accents:** ways people speak
- **Flock:** group of sheep
- **Weavers:** people who make cloth

The Thunder Child (Page 40)

- **Slavic:** group of peoples coming from Eastern Europe and surrounding areas
- **Goddess:** female god
- **Pike:** large freshwater fish
- **Creation:** making things
- **A bit of a handful:** a bit difficult to control
- **Beneath:** underneath
- **Serpent:** large snake
- **Kidnap:** take away by force
- **Potion:** magical drink
- **Impenetrable:** impossible to get through
- **Spell:** magic used to control something
- **Prophecy:** prediction about the future

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CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

LET'S TALK ABOUT...

Art! Pablo Picasso was most famous for creating paintings, but can art come in other forms? Pupils should think about what art really is, and who can create it.

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word 'art'?

2. Who do you think can be an artist?

3. Can art make you feel something inside?

4. How many different kinds of art can you think of?

IS IT ART?

Art can be found everywhere you look! As you look at the pictures, identify the different kinds of art and talk about them together. Do you think each one is a kind of art? Why or why not?











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READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

Find al the *proper nouns* and work out what the *idiom* means!

"Going through the heavy front doors, Pablo found himself in a world of wonders! On the walls hung countless paintings showing amazing scenes from history and mythology. Kings, gods and monsters were captured in dramatic poses, and the brightness of the colours took the boy's breath away.

His father looked down at him and smiled. "This is the Prado Museum, where paintings by the greatest artists in Spanish history are kept. I think your pictures might be hung here one day!"

1. *Proper nouns* are used to name particular people, places or things. How many proper nouns are in this extract? (**Hint:** proper nouns start with capital letters...)

2. Which word in this extract means 'too many to be counted'?

3. The phrase 'took the boy's breath away' is an *idiom* – it doesn't mean exactly what the words say, but has another definition altogether. What do you think the *actual* meaning is?

IDIOM QUIZ!

Can you match these funny phrases to the meanings below?

A. "I'm all ears!"
B. "I'm under the weather!"
C. "It costs an arm and a leg!"

1. 'I feel a bit sick!'
2. 'It's very expensive!'
3. 'I'm listening!'

ANSWERS: 1. 2 (Pablo and the Prado Museum), 'Spanish' is an *adjective*, not a proper noun.
2. 'Countless'; 3. 'Amazed him so much that he couldn't speak'.
Idiom Quiz! A. 3, B. 1, C. 2.

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STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

The events of Pablo's story are listed below, but what order should they be read in? Number them from 1 to 11.

The apartment was filled with art! Pablo's first word was 'piz' (pencil). When his mother handed him one, he used it to draw a pastry. ☐

Pablo's father sighed and gave his brushes and paints to the boy. He admitted that his son was a greater artist than he would ever be! ☐

The boy didn't like school! He would throw tantrums if he had to go and only agreed to attend if he could use his father's paintbrushes. ☐

An important man called Don Ramón lived nearby. When he spotted Pablo's artwork, he paid the boy to do a painting of his son! ☐

One evening, Pablo came home and saw his father struggling to finish a painting. The boy took the brush and finished it for him! ☐

Pablo drew all kinds of things – like pigeons and sculptures. He also sketched people, bullfights and shadows on the street. ☐

Not long after that, the family moved again. When their train reached Madrid, the capital of Spain, Pablo's father took him for a walk. ☐

Pablo was born in Malaga, in an apartment where pigeons fluttered by the windows. His father, an art teacher, liked to paint them. ☐

He led the boy to the Prado Museum, which was full of great art. Pablo's father told him that his paintings might hang there one day. ☐

When Pablo was ten, his family moved to Corunna in northern Spain. The lad made new friends and went to art classes. ☐

His cousins asked him to draw animals for them, which they turned into little paper toys to play with. ☐

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DRAW AN ART STORYBOARD

You've read Picasso's story, and now you can try drawing the things he sketched in the tale!

1

The first thing that little Pablo drew was a swirly pastry that he wanted. Draw your favourite pastry above!

2

The boy also drew a picture of a donkey for his cousins. Draw a donkey in the frame!

3

Don Ramón liked Pablo's pictures so much, he paid him to paint a picture of his son. Draw a portrait of a friend at school or someone else you know here!

4

Pablo's father liked to draw pigeons. Once, Pablo took a paintbrush and helped him to finish his painting! Draw your own pigeon in this box.

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MY FAVOURITE ART

Find a piece of art you really like in a book or online.
Tell us all about it by answering the questions below!

What is the name of the piece of art you chose?

_____

Who was the artist who created it?

_____

What is it about? _____

_____

_____

How does the artwork make you feel? _____

_____

_____

Why do you think the artist chose those colours? _____

_____

What tools do you think the artist used? _____

_____

_____

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SPANISH FACTS QUIZ!

Spain is a beautiful country with a long and interesting history. Can you find out the answers to the questions below?

A. Which country is Spain on this map? Write in its name and the names of the two countries that border it!



B. Which of these flags is the Spanish flag?

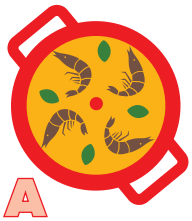
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2. 
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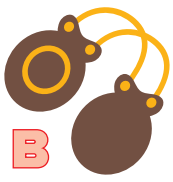
C. What is the capital of Spain? _____

D. The currency used in Spain is the _____

E. The national language of Spain is _____

F. Match the words to the pictures:







1. CASTANETS
2. FLAMENCO DANCER
3. PAELLA



G. What does 'Hola' mean in English? Write it below!

_____

ANSWERS: A. Spain is the large country in the southwest of the map, and it is bordered by France and Portugal. B. 3. C. Madrid. D. Euro. E. Spanish. F. A. 3, B. 1, C. 2. G. *Hello*.

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AMAZING ARTISTS

Artists can change the way we look at the world! Here are six creative people that inspired us with their ideas...

J M W TURNER (1775-1851)

From: London, England
Famous work: *Rain, Steam and Speed – The Great Western Railway* (1844)
Turner is often considered the first 'modern' artist and is best known for his paintings of landscapes and sea scenes. He got attention for the way he painted light, mist and cloud. He was one of the first to paint things like trains and steamships.

CLAUDE MONET (1840-1926)

From: Giverny, France
Famous work: *Waterlilies* series (1897-1926)
Monet came up with the idea of using short brushstrokes to capture how he saw scenes. He tried to represent changing light and colour. He started the Impressionist art movement based on these ideas.

VINCENT VAN GOGH (1853-1890)

From: Zundert, Netherlands
Famous work: *The Starry Night* (1889)
Van Gogh's unique painting style used heavy brush strokes and bold colours. He only sold one of his paintings during his life, but he is now considered one of the greatest artists of all time.
Read his story in Storytime issue 111!

PABLO PICASSO (1881-1973)

From: Malaga, Spain
Famous work: *Guernica (*1937)
This is a huge painting in black, white and grey about the bombing of the town of Guernica in the Spanish Civil War. Picasso is one of the most important modern artists. He used many styles and helped to create the 'Cubist' movement.

SALVADOR DALI (1904-1989)

From: Figueres, Spain
Famous work: *The Persistence of Memory* (1931)
Dali was a 'Surrealist' artist who created pictures of many strange and impossible things. He experimented with films as well and attracted attention by walking around with his very long moustache and a pet ocelot (a kind of tropical cat).

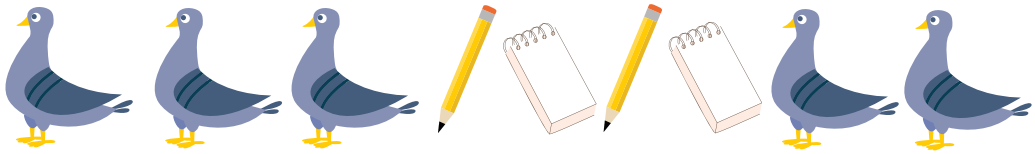
FRIDA KAHLO (1907-1954)

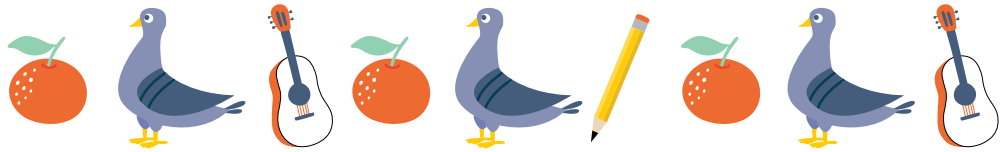
From: Coyoacan, Mexico
Famous work: *The Dream (The Bed)* (1940)
Frida's art combined self-portraits with images from Mexican culture to create unique and vibrant paintings. Frida had health problems for a long time, so she made much of her art in bed!
Find out more in Storytime issue 79!

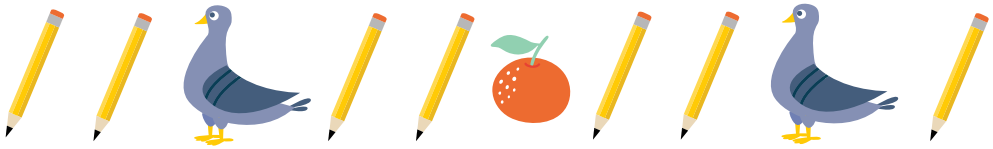
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WHAT COMES NEXT?

Little Pablo is creating patterns using the things around him, but do you know what should come next in each of these examples? Here is an extra challenge: draw the object that should come next in the frame!

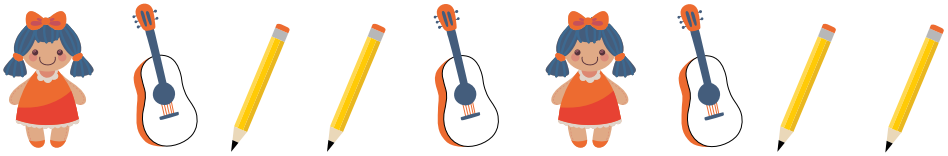
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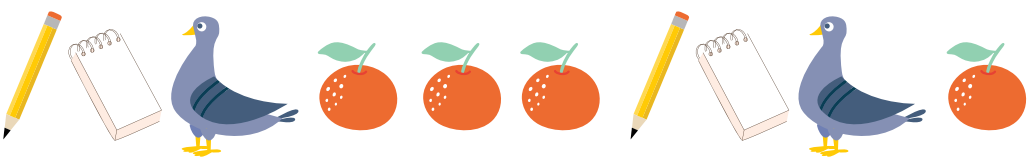
2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

ANSWERS: 1. pigeon, 2. orange, 3. pencil, 4. doll, 5. notepad, 6. guitar, 7. orange.

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THE MANY KINDS OF ART!

Art can be made in many different ways and show many different things! Can you sort the items on the list below into these two boxes?

HOW ARTISTS CREATE ART:

KINDS OF ART:

ART CHALLENGE! Choose one way of making art and one kind of picture, then combine them to create something amazing!

1. **DRAWING** Creating images with pencils, crayons or charcoal.
2. **PORTRAIT** A picture with a person as the main focus.
3. **PAINTING** Making art by applying colourful paint to a piece of paper, canvas or other material.
4. **LANDSCAPE** A picture of outdoor scenes like mountains, fields, the sea or the countryside.
5. **COLLAGE** Creating art by sticking different materials together, like paper, fabric or photos.
6. **SELF-PORTRAIT** A picture an artist makes of themselves.
7. **SCULPTING** Creating art that is solid and three-dimensional, made from metal, stone or other material.
8. **STILL LIFE** A picture of objects together, like fruit, flowers, toys or everyday items.

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ELEMENTS OF ART

When you create your own pictures, think about these six things and how you can use them in creative ways!

LINES

Lines are used to create shapes and are important in drawings. There are many different kinds of lines. They can be continuous, broken, wavy or zigzag!

Draw a cool line below!

SHAPES

Lines join together to make shapes! There are different kinds, like squares, triangles, circles and ovals. Some have straight lines, but others are curvy and uneven. These are called *organic* shapes.

Draw a shape!

SPACE

In art, *positive space* is the part of an image with something in it. *Negative space* is the part of an image with nothing in it! Leaving some areas empty helps to draw attention to the important parts.

Draw inside the square space only!

COLOUR

Colour brings your artwork to life! You can use many colours or just a few. Some colours feel warm (like red or yellow), while others feel cool (like blue or green). Colours help to create a mood or show how something feels.

Add your favourite colour!

TEXTURE

Texture is about how something feels (or how it *looks* like it feels!) Is it rough or smooth? Bumpy or silky? Artists can create textures by using different materials, shading, or drawing lines and patterns.

Create a pattern with shapes, space and colour!

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STILL LIFE CHALLENGE!

A 'still life' is a picture of one or more objects. In this activity, you should create your own still life scene and try to draw it!

1. **Choose three objects!** They can be toys, fruit, rocks or anything else! Pick things with different sizes, shapes and colours.
2. **Compose your scene!** Place your objects in a way that looks interesting. There's no wrong way to do it!
3. **Look carefully at your scene!** Observe all the shapes, shadows and textures.
4. **Now it's time to get drawing!** Try to capture the scene as best you can.

TOP TIP: Try using all of the different 'elements of art' on the previous page!

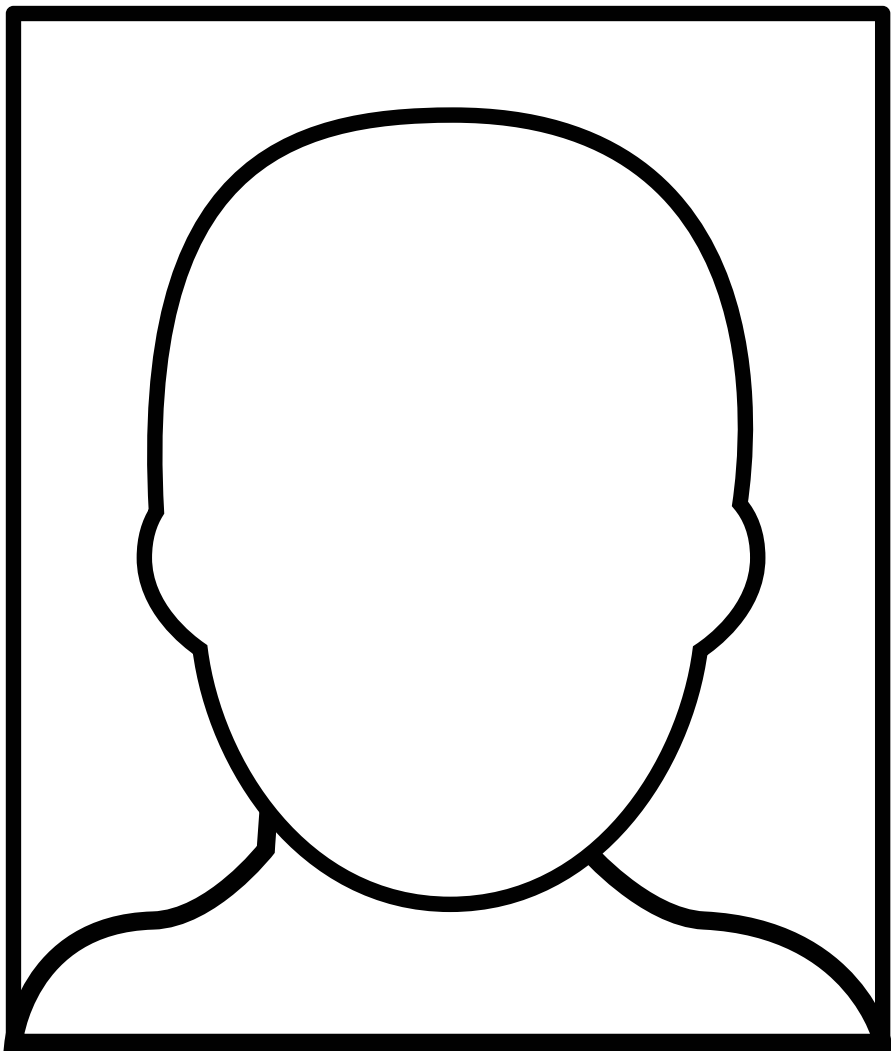
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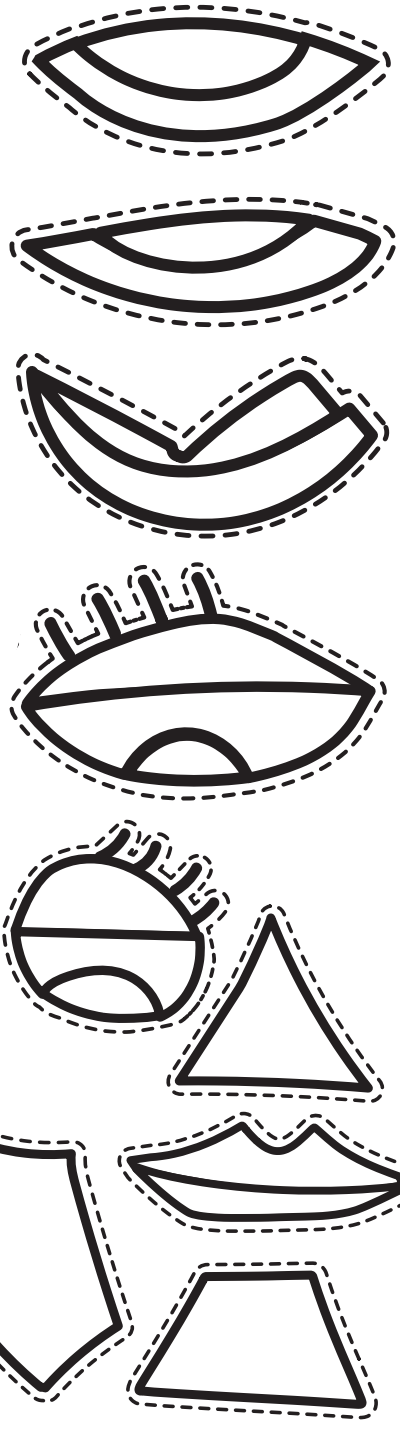
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MAKE A CUBIST PORTRAIT!



Cut out the parts of the face below and arrange them to make a cool Cubist picture, like one of Picasso's paintings!





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