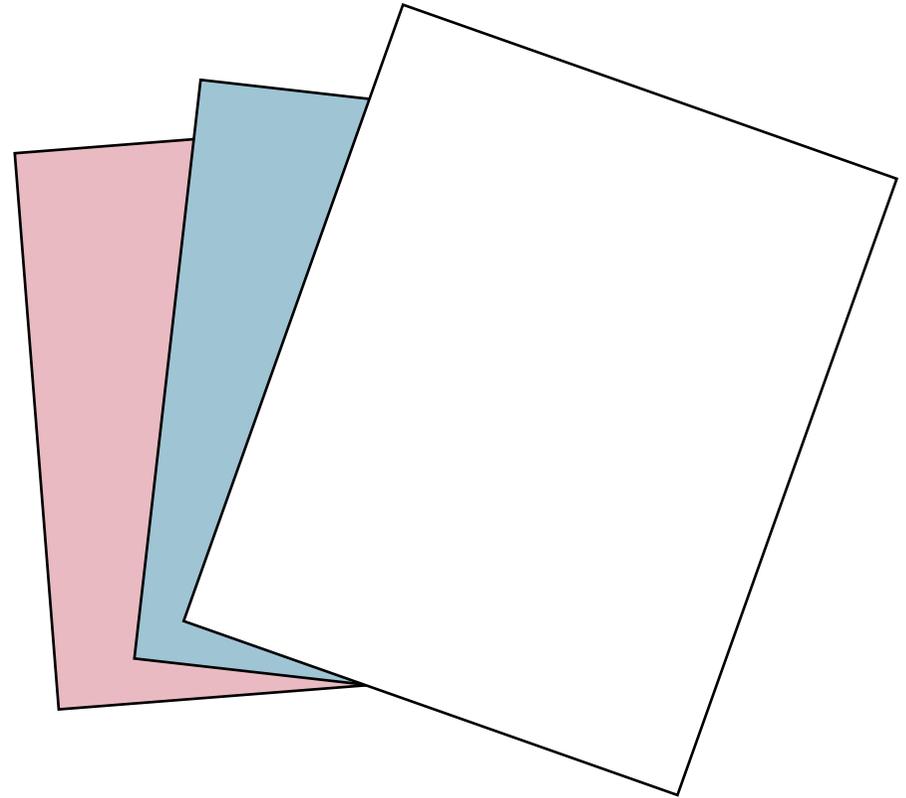
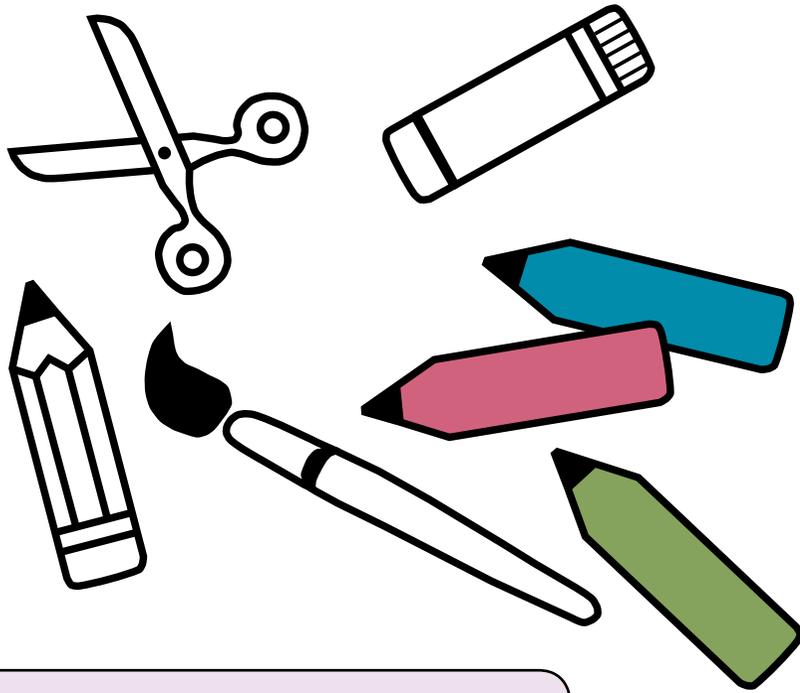




**s e e   a n d   s k e t c h**   ages 8 - 13 yrs



**Collect your materials!**

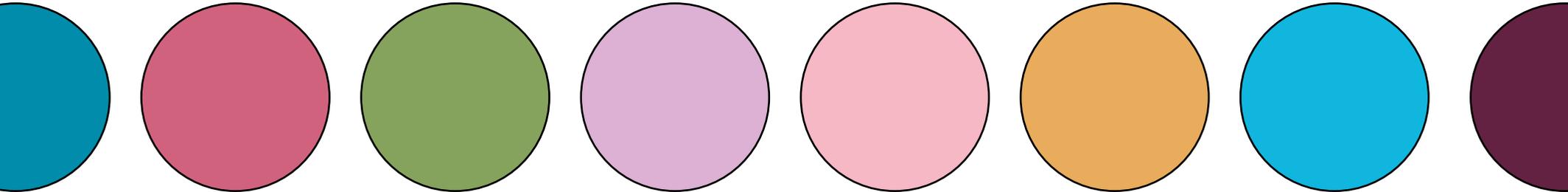
1. Begin by collecting your materials so they are ready to use. You may want to use a mixture of plain, coloured or even hand painted paper. Use any size paper, very small or very large, any will do.

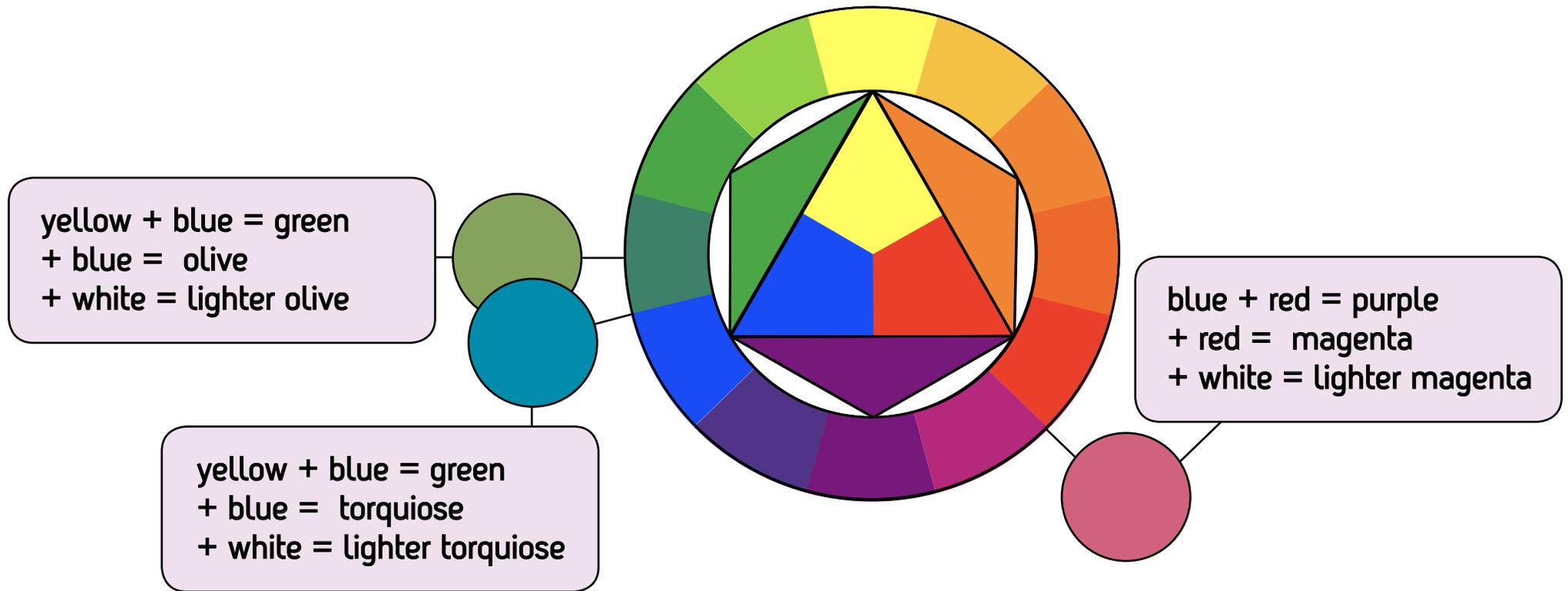
Pencils, pens, paintbrushes, paint, glue and scissors will also be handy for this activity.

Paint your own paper!

2. Painting your own paper allows you to create your own colour palette! You could also paint on some thin cardboard which may otherwise go in the recycling bin. Get inventive!

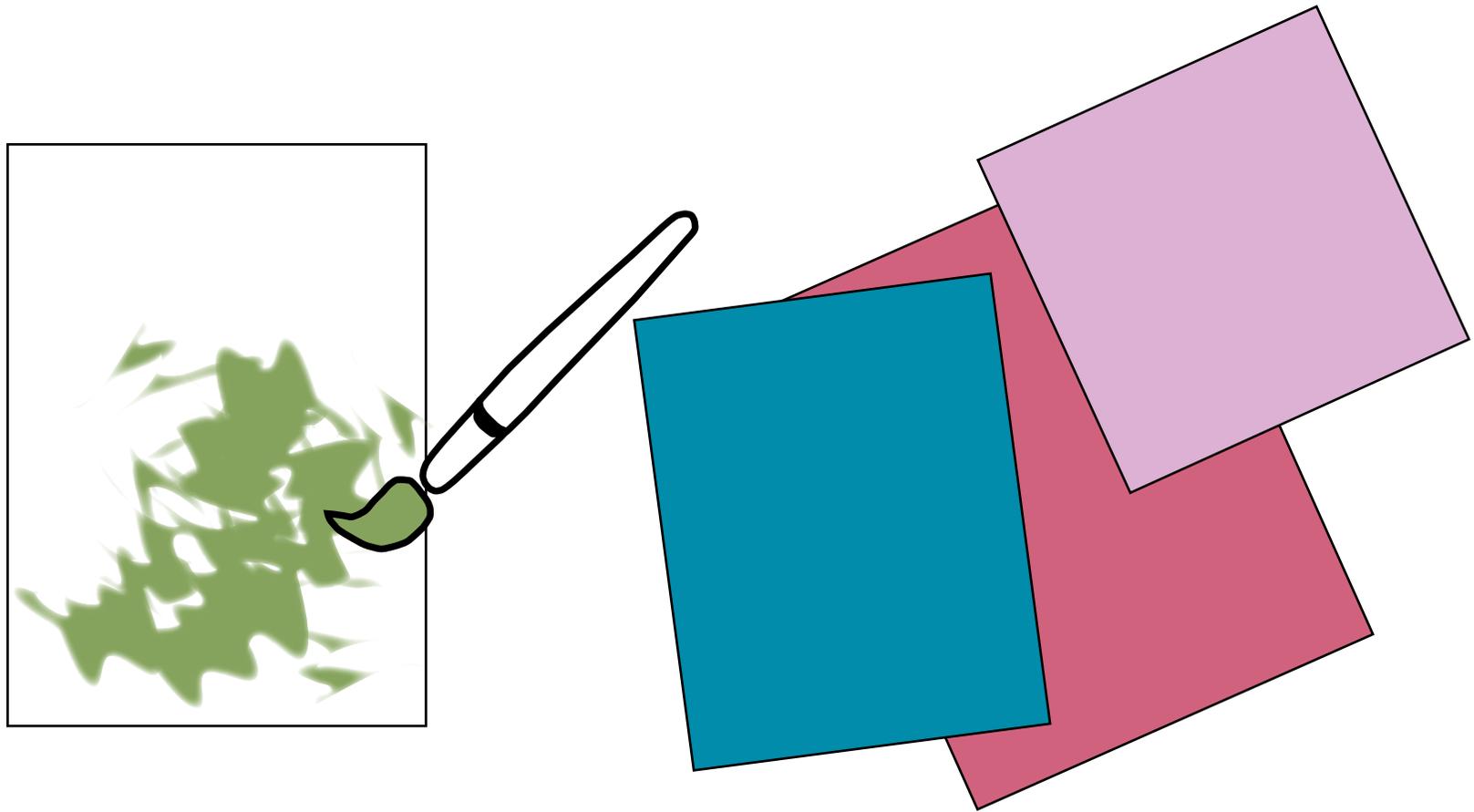
What colours would you possibly like to use in your artwork? Do you have any colours around your house that you really love? You could try and recreate these!



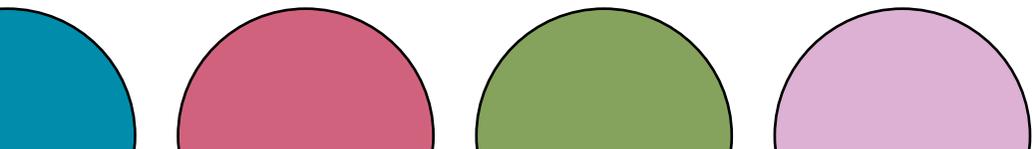


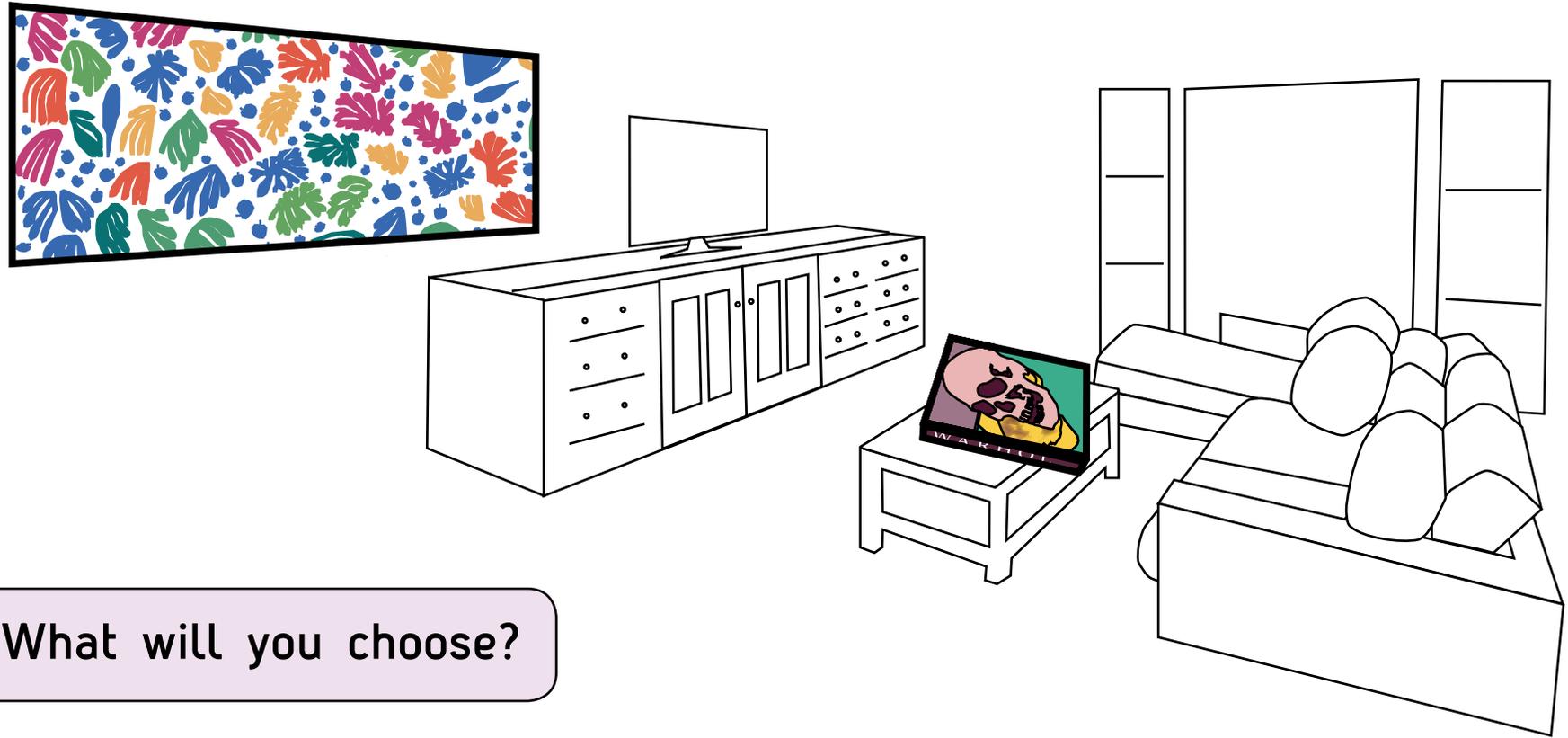
If you are making your own colours, start by using a very small amount of paint first, and slowly add colours to help build toward your desired palette. Look at the colour wheel above to help guide you, use colours that are side by side on the wheel to help slowly build each of your desired colours. You can also use some white or black paint to make colours lighter or darker.

Remember, using opposite colours on the colour wheel really make artworks 'pop' and helps create contrast.



Paint your paper in advance, so your materials will be dry for when you are ready to start. This is a great way of creating a nice variety of colour options for when you are ready to start **sketching** your shapes.





What will you choose?

3. Start by finding something to focus on in your home. This could be an artwork, painting, design or even an interesting book cover which has multiple elements on it.

Get comfortable!

4. Find somewhere you can sit comfortably for at least 10 minutes. You want to be able to sit, look and **see** your object clearly and thoroughly.



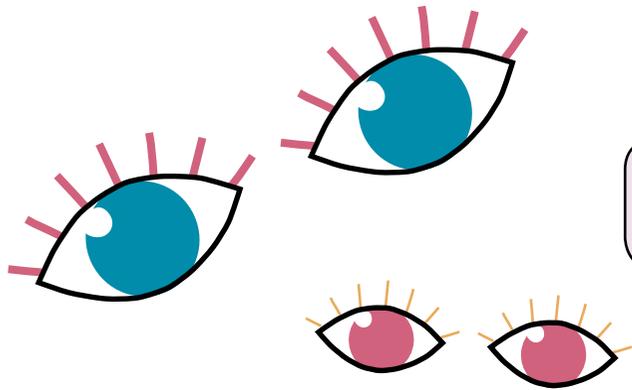
5. Once you are comfortable, slowly look over your object, begin to notice the different shapes, colours and materials which make up its composition.

Gently close your eyes and take a few deep breaths in and then out again. Sit with your eyes closed for a few more moments, and when you are ready slowly open them again.

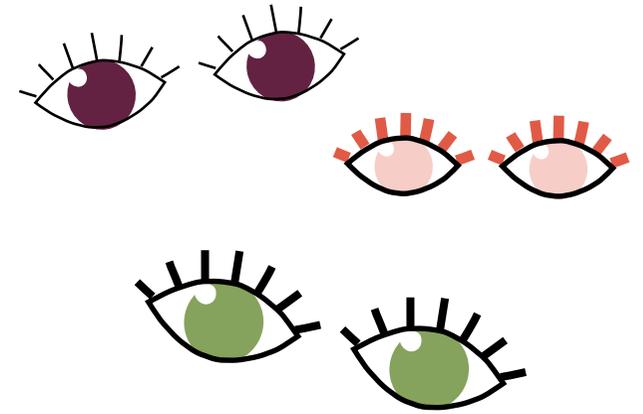
Begin to look at your object with fresh eyes.



**Be mindful...**



What can you see?



**6. You could ask yourself some of these questions to form a deeper understanding of your object:**

How are the elements which make up your object arranged? Does there seem to be any order? Are the elements arranged by colour, shape or size?

Why do you think these particular elements were chosen in this arrangement? Do you think these elements tell a story? If so, what do you think the story would be, and how would you retell that story?



What things stand out in your chosen object? What do you find interesting about what you **see**? How would you turn what you **see** into your own simple forms and shapes?

All these things may be obvious or they may be a little trickier to notice!

## Tips from the artist!

Brisbane based artist Simon Degroot likes to look closely at the world around him. Many of his artworks are based around the very process explained in this activity. He has been influenced greatly by artists such as Henri Matisse and Andy Warhol who have also experimented with similar techniques.

He has come up with a couple of ideas to share with you to help guide you along the way.

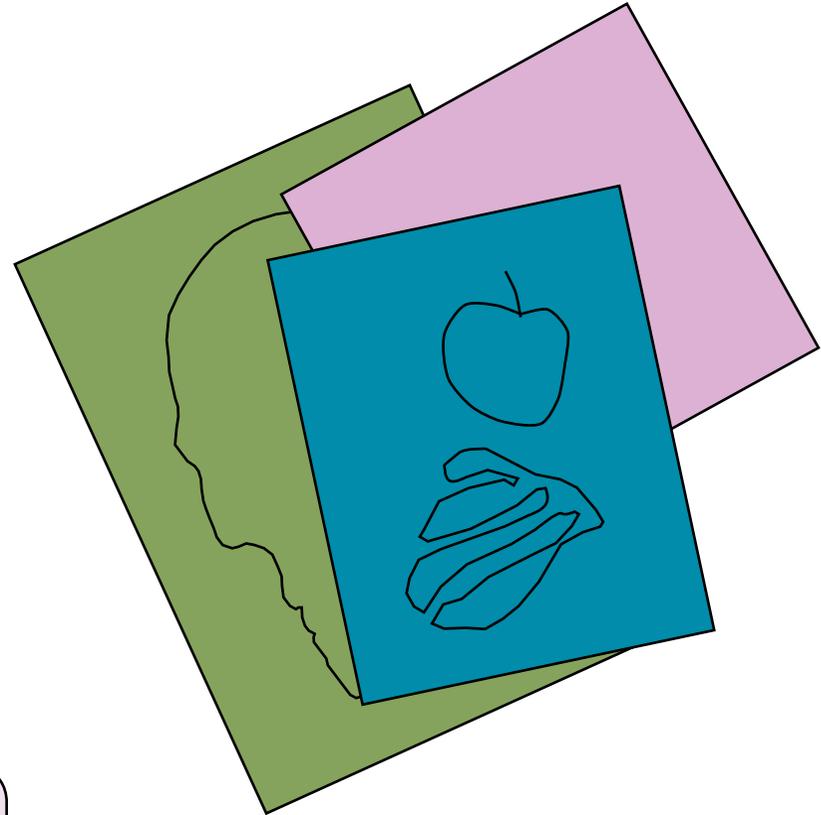
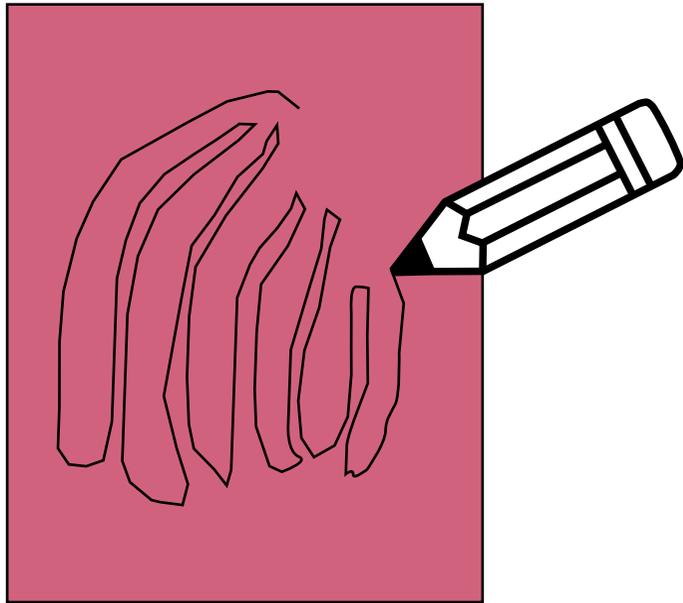
**“Look at objects with fresh eyes. Everything is strange when you really focus...”**

**“Like saying the same word over and over until it loses all meaning and becomes a sound, objects too can lose their meaning when you look again and again.”**

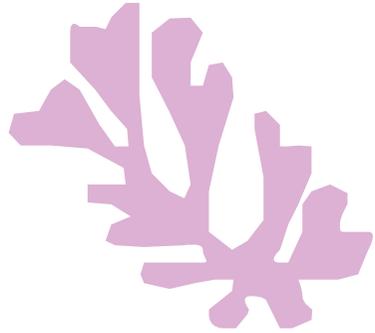


**“When you separate the object from its usefulness, you can remake them in new ways.”**

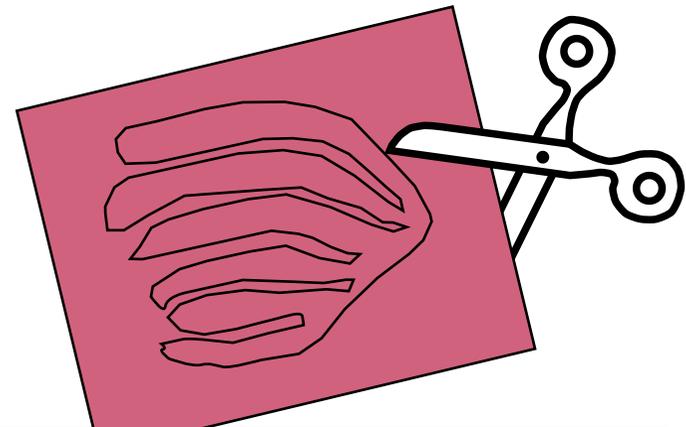
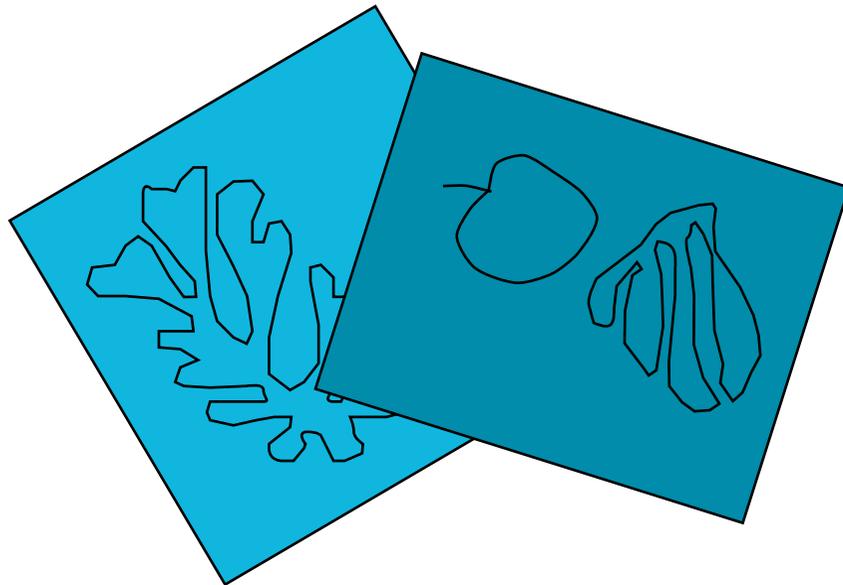
7. Begin to **sketch** some of the simple shapes you can observe in your object. You could **sketch** straight onto your coloured paper, cardboard, scrap material or whatever other materials you have decided to use.



What shapes will you sketch?



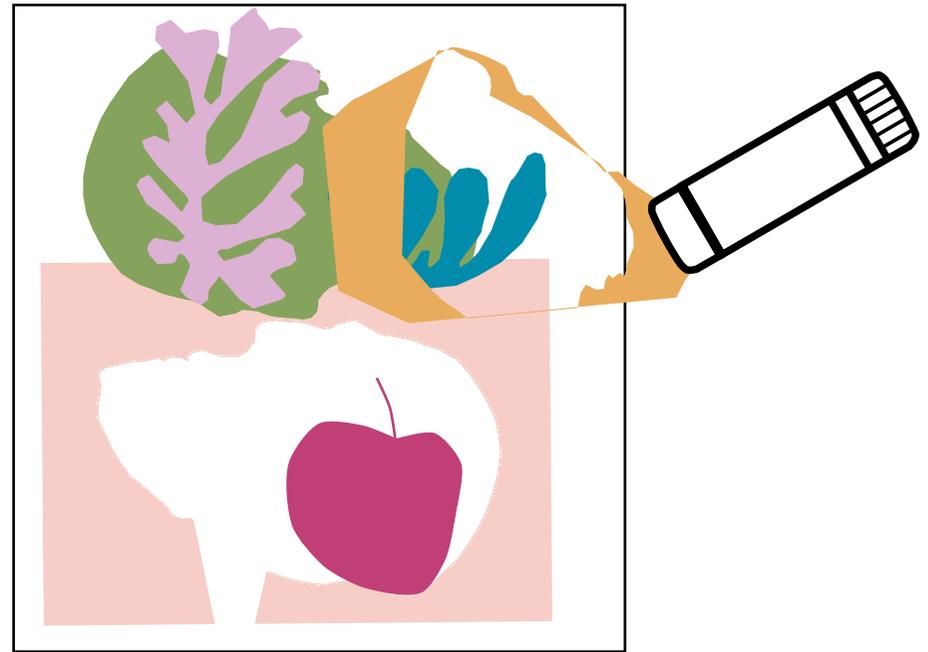
8. Once you have **sketched** a nice variety of shapes, begin to cut them out. Whilst you are cutting out your shapes, you may notice that the scraps are just as interesting as the shapes themselves.



Can you use any scrap pieces?



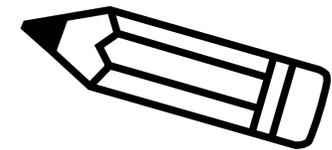
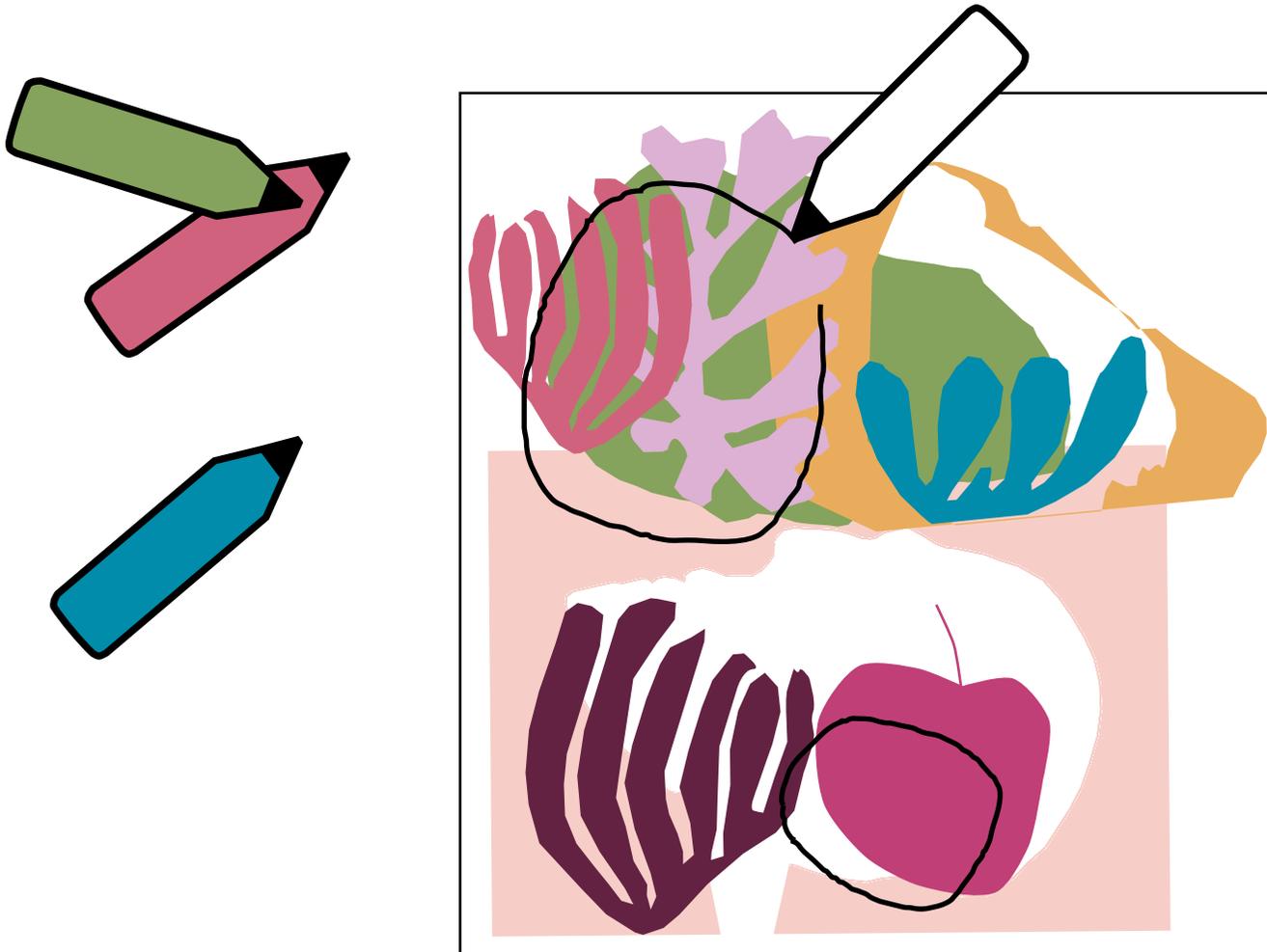
Arrange and then glue!



9. Using your shapes, begin to arrange your pieces. This is a great time to **see** where you would like things to sit on your page before you glue them down. Remember this doesn't have to be perfect, it's just so you can get a rough idea of where you would like your pieces to sit.

What coloured pieces would you like toward the back, and which ones would you like closer to the front of your artwork?

10. Now, you're almost there! You could add some final touches with your pens or pencils if you like. Are there any shapes you would like to overlay before you finish?



Final touches!

## Naming your artwork!



11. After all that hard work and thought this is a wonderful way to finalise your artwork.

What does your artwork mean to you? Do you remember thinking of anything in particular whilst you made your artwork? What is your artwork about?

These could all be great questions to ask yourself, to help you come up with a title! Your title could be as simple or as quirky as you like!

Write your title on the back of your work or in nice simple writing on the front so you can remember for later on down the track.



Share!

12. Now you are finished making, you could take a look at your artwork and your original object side by side.

Can you recognise the elements of your artwork that were inspired by your original object?

You may like to share how you made your artwork with a family member or even give a little artwork talk to your whole family!

This resource was created in consultation with artist Simon Degroot to accompany the exhibition *Simon Degroot: Constructive* held at Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Feb - May 2020.

Photo courtesy of the artist Simon Degroot

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