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# Activity Idea

## COLLABORATIVE DRAWING GAMES

Silly Art Activities the Whole Family Can Play Together

*Recommended for Ages 8+*

**You will need the following materials:**

- Paper
- Writing utensils (pens, pencils, markers, colored pencils)

**Contour Line Portraits**

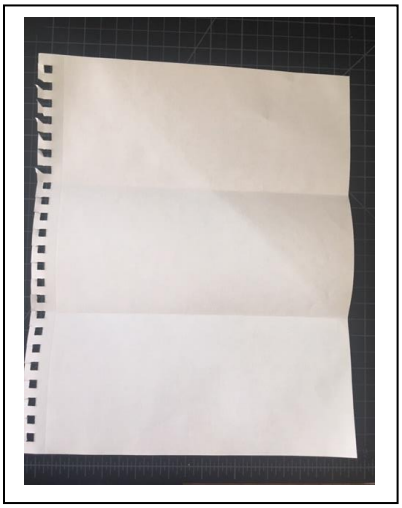
This drawing activity can be done by yourself, but it is much more fun with a family member!

For this exercise, you will be drawing the portrait of a friend or family member (or pet!) without lifting your pen from the paper, and the trickiest part is not looking at your drawing until you are finished! Start with a point of the face and connect it to other features, eventually forming a portrait. It will probably look very silly, but it is so much fun!

**Monster Mash**

This game is most fun with 3 – 4 players, and will result in several collaborative pieces of art. The objective is to create the body of a monster or creature made up of everyone's eclectic styles!

Instructions:



- Start with as many blank pieces of paper as there are participants
- Divide each sheet of paper evenly into strips based on the number of people playing (so, if 3 people are playing, the paper will be folded into 3 strips)
- Distribute the folded paper and a pen, marker, or pencil to each player
- Set a timer for 1 minute (the time limit is optional and can be adjusted)
- Without looking at each other's work, each artist will begin drawing the head of the body in the top section of the paper, remaining in the folded area.
- Add small dash marks to extend the lines of your drawing onto the fold (usually this would be the bottom of the neck). This will provide guidelines for the next artist to continue the drawing into the next section.
- Fold your drawing back (so the next player only sees the dashes on the fold)
- Pass your papers clockwise and repeat, this time with chest and/or abdominal region.
- Continue this until you arrive at the last strip (usually this would be the legs and feet)
- After all sections are complete, unfold and prepare to laugh out loud!

**Charades with Pictures**

Have you ever played the game Pictionary? This is very similar and can be done with simple supplies and a random collection of words that will be used as drawing prompts. This game is great for learning new vocabulary, practicing communicating, and bonding with friends and family. Best played with 4 – 8 players.

Instructions

- Generate a list of words or prompts. You can come up with these topics on your own, do a simple internet search for "word generator", or even use a book (flip through the pages and select a word by randomly pointing to a place on the page).
- Start with a small stack of paper (blank, scrap, notebook) and something to draw with.
- Divide players into teams of 2 – 3 in each.
- Set a timer for 2 minutes (this time is just a suggestion).
- The first team will start with 1 player who will draw the selected word, and their partner(s) will guess what the word is based on the drawing. 1 point if the team guesses within the allotted time.
- Rules: Artists may not use words, letters, or numbers in their pictures, and cannot speak, make sounds, or gesture while it is their turn.

Photo credit: G. Poole