

3 Easy Art Lessons & Teacher Scripts

from Art History for Elementary 2

Joan Miro



welcome!

This is a collection of three simple art lessons to explore this artist's life and work. You will not need any background knowledge of the artist – there is a read-aloud script to guide your discussion. There are step by step photos to guide the art lesson, and several pages of literacy activities to integrate writing into your art lesson. Some examples include a directed drawing, a coloring page of famous artwork, a reflection writing sheet, a 6-page mini-booklet for literacy and understanding, and a word search for early finishers.

Each Artist Pack Includes:

- ✓ a read-aloud scripts for teachers
- ✓ embedded questions to guide your discussion
- ✓ step-by-step photo directions for Project 1
- ✓ Directed drawing activities relating to the artist
- ✓ Literacy activities: word searches, booklets, etc.
- ✓ suggested web image searches for visual

let's get started!



Teacher Script: Joan Miro

You may wish to show web search images for: Joan Miro Cat Encircled By Flight Of A Bird.

The artist we are going to learn about today is named Joan Miro. Joan was born in Spain in 1893. He was part of a group of painters called "*Surrealists*".

Do you know what "surreal" means? How about "real" or "realistic"? The Surrealist painters focused on things that were not realistic. Sometimes they would put unexpected things together in a painting to surprise people who saw it. Sometimes they painted things that didn't make sense, like in dreams.

Joan expressed his dreamy ideas with interesting symbols and shapes. His paintings have been called *abstract* and *whimsical*.

Do you know what these two words mean?
Can you think of some examples?

Joan had a good sense of humor and many of his drawings seemed light and happy. Some of his drawings seem more like "doodles" and some people think they look like cute aliens! What do you think?

Supply List: Joan Miro

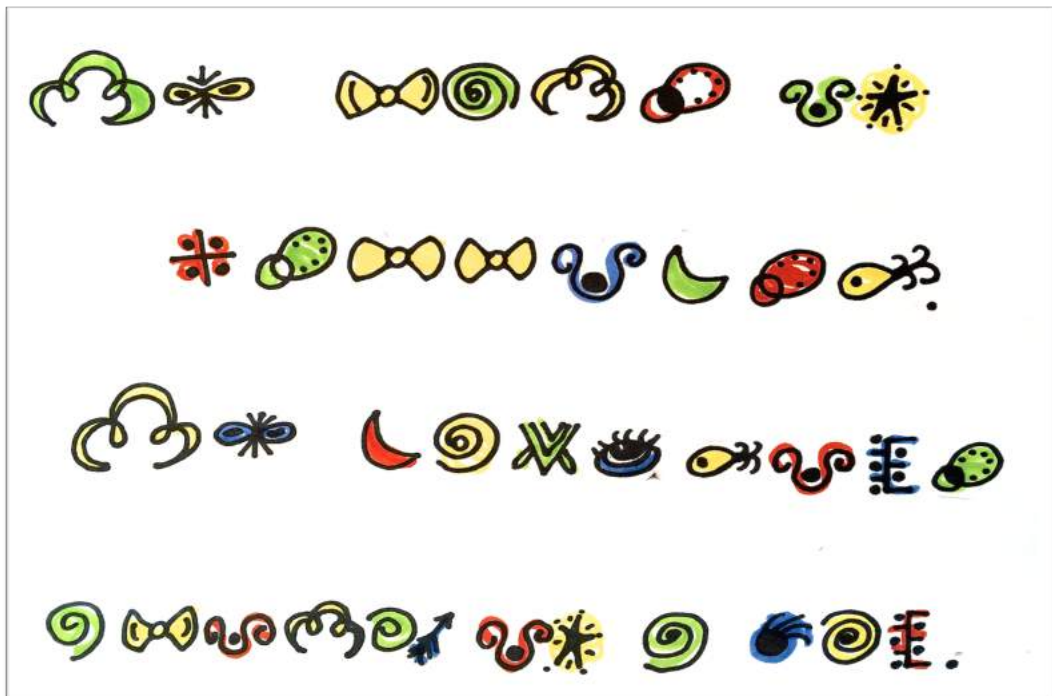
Miro Symbols - Secret Message

Overview

Students will create a secret message art piece using Miro-style symbols.

Materials Needed

- white 8x14" paper
- markers
- Miro Alphabet (see next page)
- colored paper to mount work (optional)



Miro Symbols - Secret Message

1 Discuss the Miro Alphabet and its symbols and give each student a copy. Show students the coded message in the example photo and decode the message together. Ask students to find the symbols for their own name.

A	☞	N	☉
B	☞	O	✱
C	☞	P	☞
D	☞	Q	☉
E	☞	R	☉
F	☞	S	☞
G	☞	T	☞
H	☞	U	☞
I	☞	V	☞
J	☞	W	☞
K	☞	X	☞
L	☞	Y	☞
M	☞	Z	☞

2 Using a pencil and white paper, students write a message very lightly on their page similar to the example. You may choose to use the same sentences for everyone, or ask each student to come up with their own.

Check each student's message:

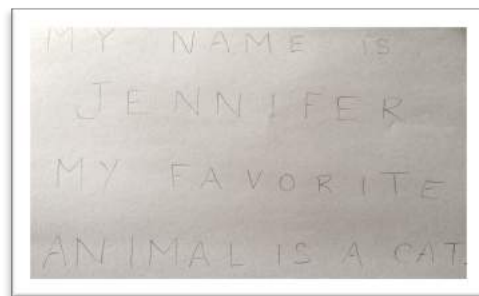
- ✓ fills most of the page
- ✓ leaves space between letters
- ✓ leave space under letters to draw

Some secret message suggestions:

My name is _____

My favorite animal is a _____

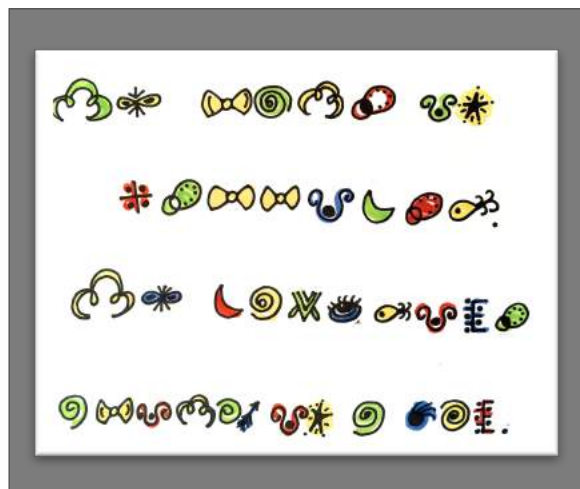
My favorite book is _____



3 Using a black marker, draw the symbol below each letter until the whole message is written. Then erase the letters to leave just the coded message. Younger students could draw with marker right over top of the pencil letters and then erase afterwards. (optional template included)



4 Color the symbols. When done, trade with a friend to see if they can decode the message. Or, post all of the pictures on the wall and let students try to read them all.



MiRO Alphabet

A 

B 

C 

D 

E 

F 

G 

H 

I 


J 

K 

L 

M 

N 

O 

P 

Q 

R 

S 

T 

U 

V 

W 

X 

Y 

Z 

Name: _____

My Secret Miro Message

Write a secret message.

My Secret Mirror Message

Write a secret message.

Name: _____

Imagination Station

Many of Miro's paintings are full of imaginative images. This project is about using ordinary materials in unexpected ways.

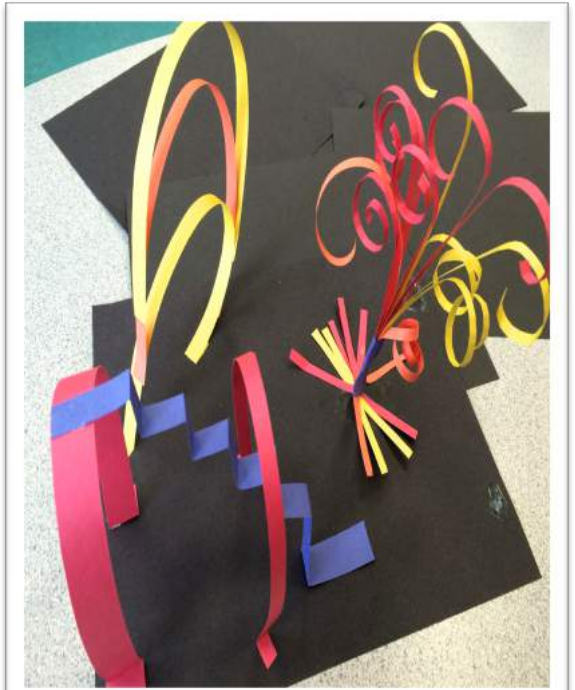
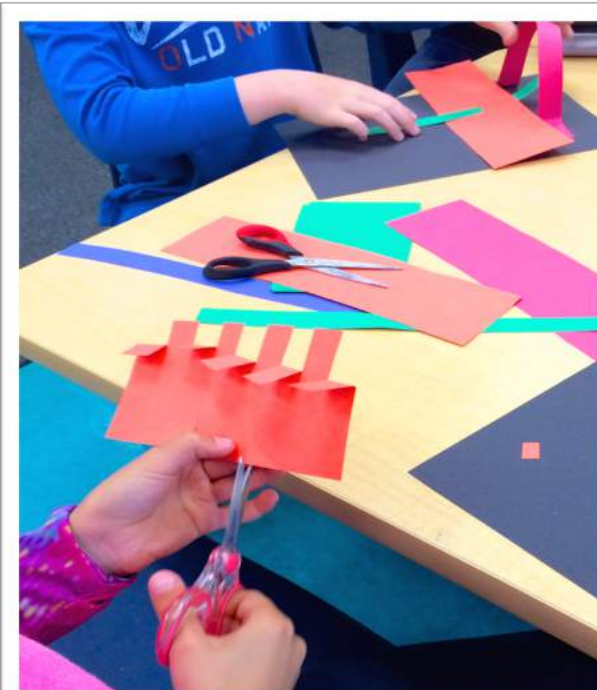
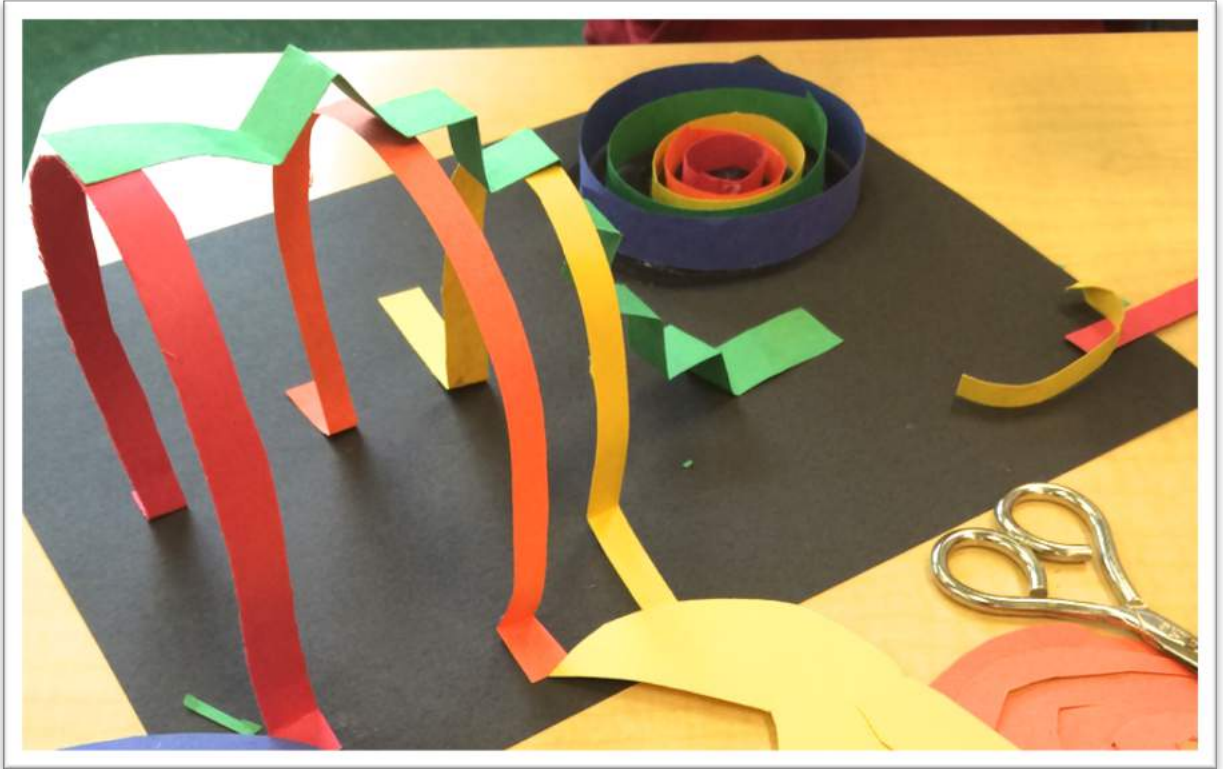
Students will need one paper as a base. They will also need lots of other colors of paper in various sizes to be cut up.

Students cut apart the paper into strips and shapes, and find new ways to glue it to the base paper.

For example, challenge students to make arches and spirals by bending and gluing ends to the base. Fold and cut in different ways to make the paper stand up. Show the examples in the gallery for inspiration if needed.



Student Gallery



Miro Mobile

Miro's drawings were sometimes compared to space creatures, or planets and stars. This art project is about creating a mobile using his stylized symbols.

Each student will need one piece of thick white paper (cut into nine equal pieces) three pieces of string (each 1 foot long), scissors, markers, tape and a drinking straw OR wooden skewer.

Cut each of the 9 pieces of paper into a circle. On each shape, draw a symbol or doodle that looks like Miro's. This could be an alien, planet, star, sun, moon or spaceship in the style and colors used by Miro (blue, red, yellow, green and black). Color with markers and trace with black afterwards. Draw on both sides of the cardboard.

When done, tape 3 of the shapes onto each string.

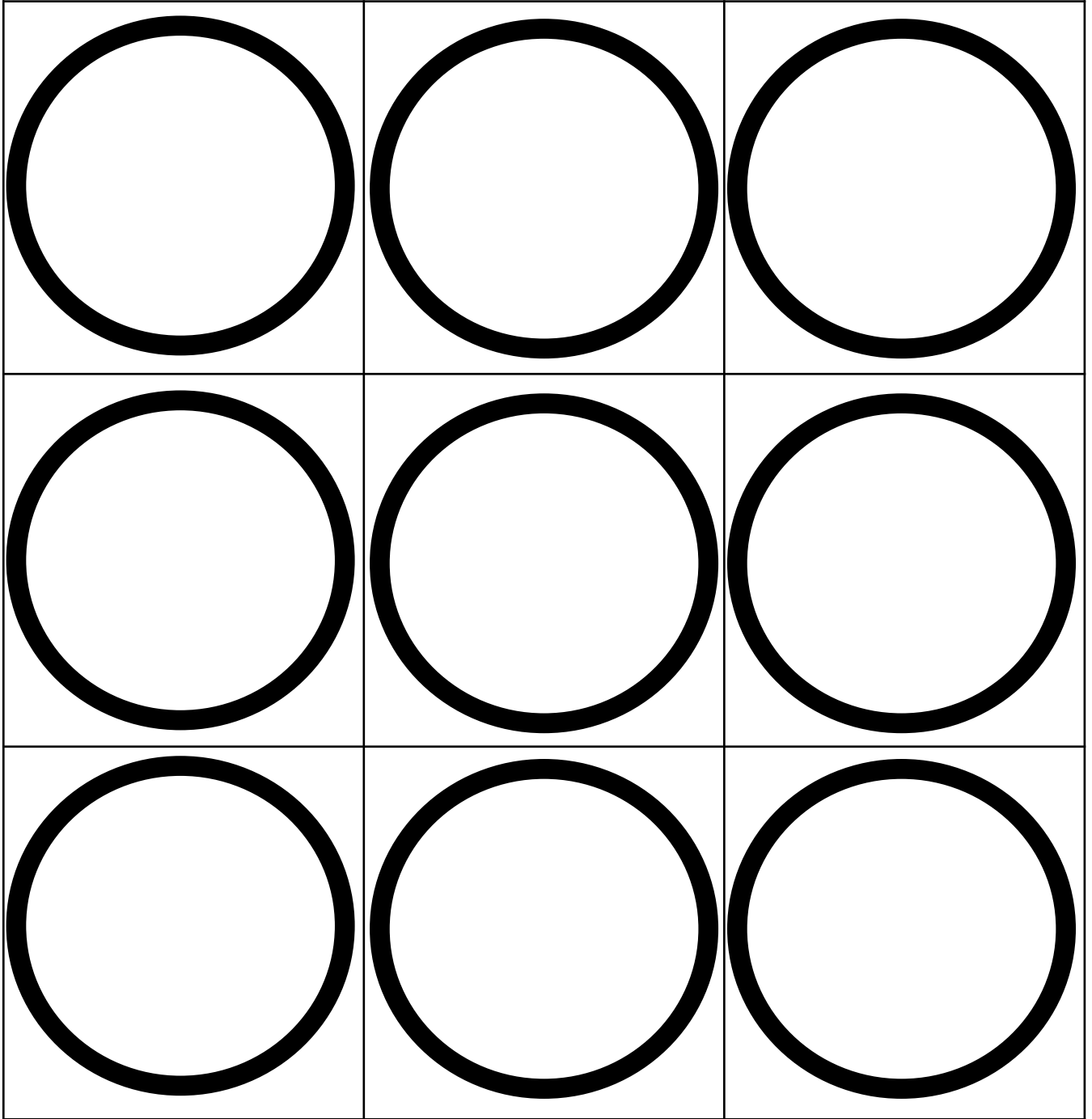
Attach the strings to the straw as shown.

Hang the mobiles up to admire!



Project 3

Optional templates to use for Miro Mobile



literacy integration

Personal reflection writing

Drawing/coloring

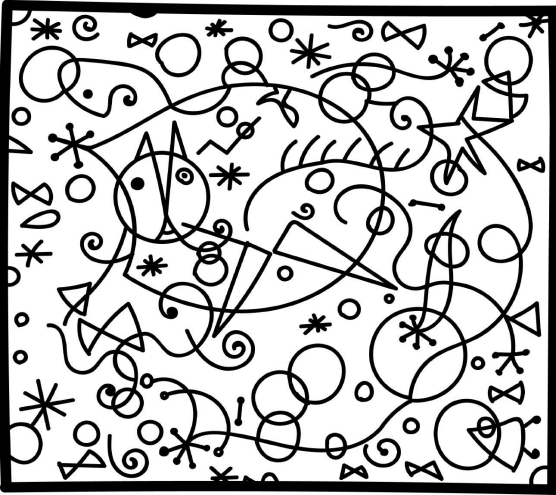
6 Page Mini-book

Directed Drawing

Word Search

Joan Miro

Look closely at the details of the picture. Finish the sentences in each box.



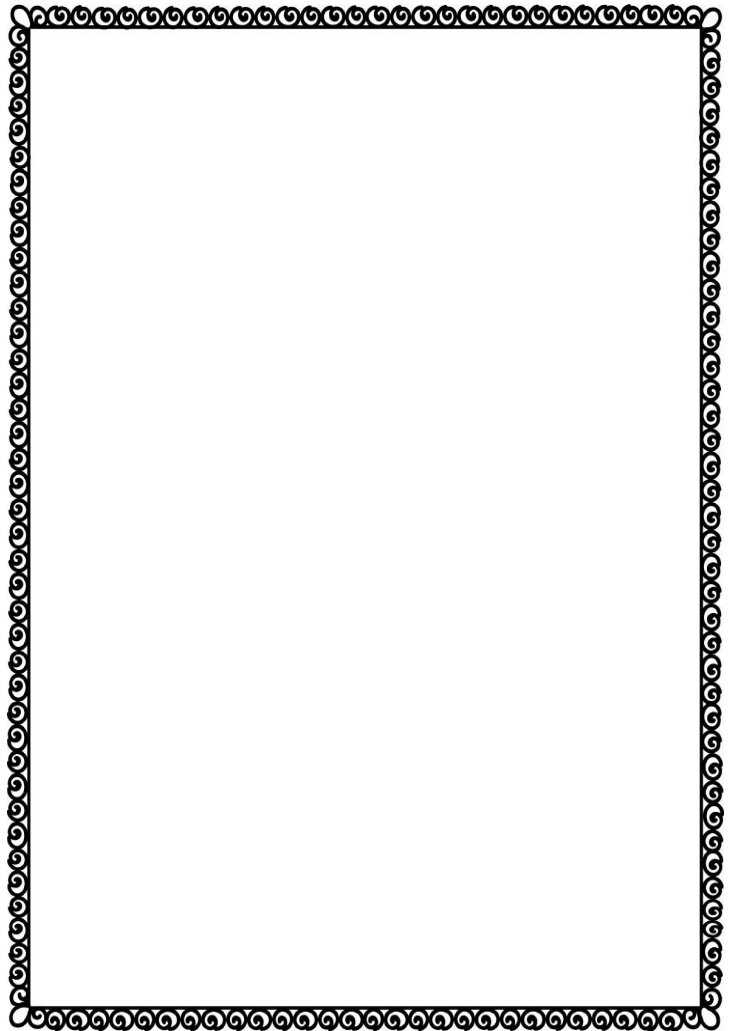
Name: _____

I can see

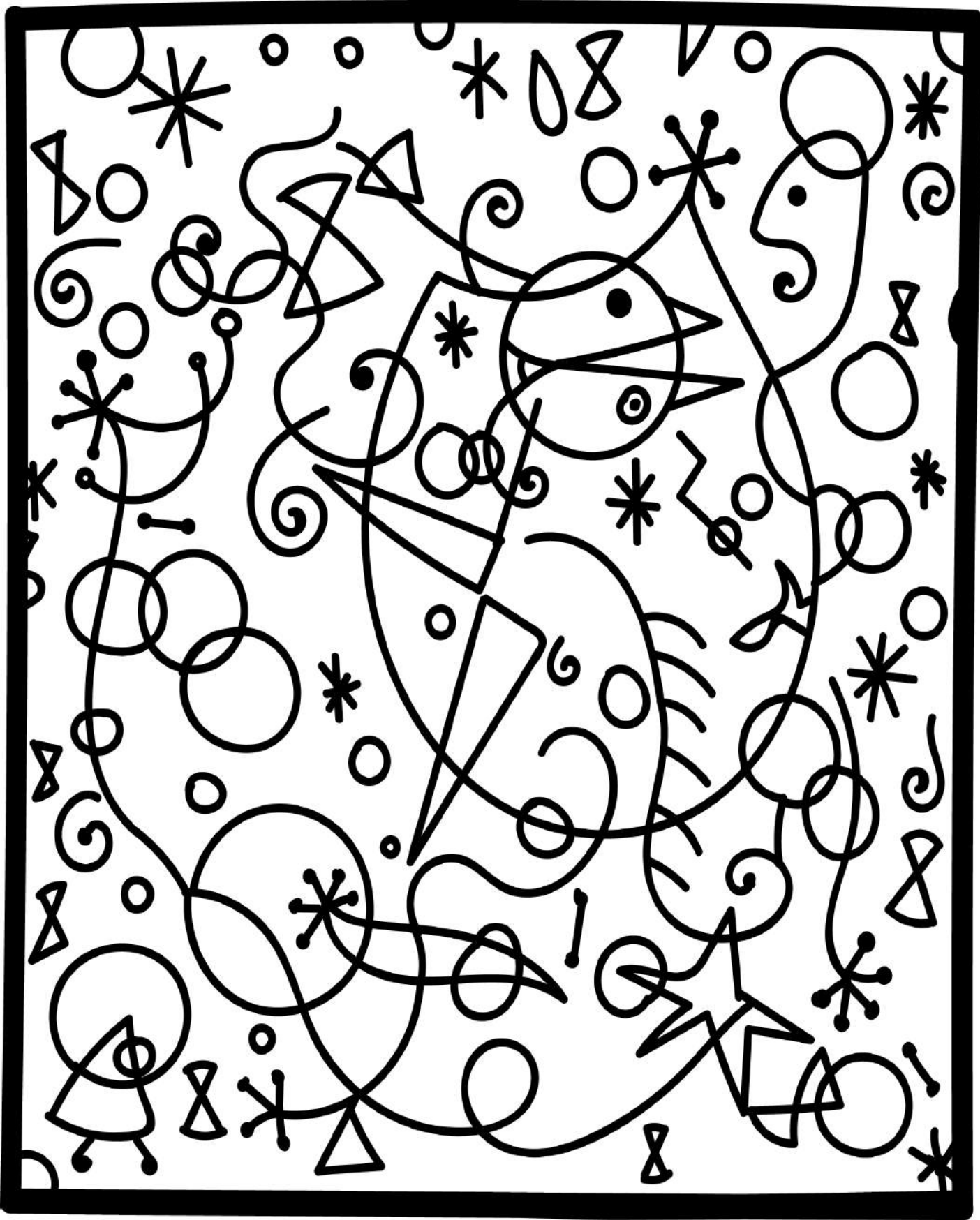
It makes me think about

I wonder

Draw your own version, or draw your favorite part of the picture.



Joan Miro Cat Encircled by Flight of a Bird



Directed Drawing ☆ Joan Miro



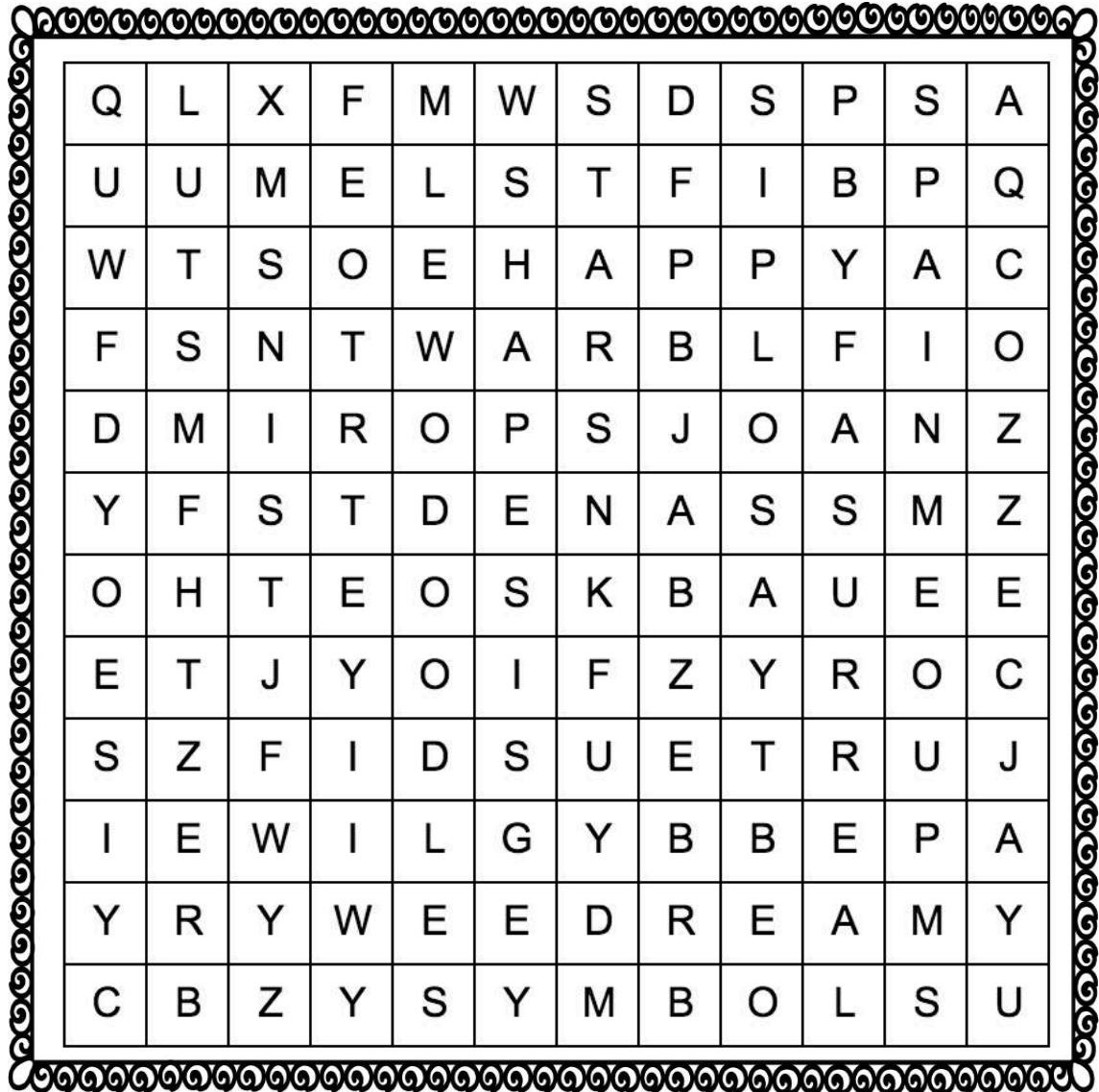
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Name: _____

JOAN MIRO

Word Search

Name: _____



Find and circle the words below.

Check each box when you find the word.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> JOAN | <input type="checkbox"/> SURREAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DOODLES | <input type="checkbox"/> SYMBOLS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DREAMY | <input type="checkbox"/> STARS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHAPES | <input type="checkbox"/> SPAIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MIRO | <input type="checkbox"/> HAPPY |

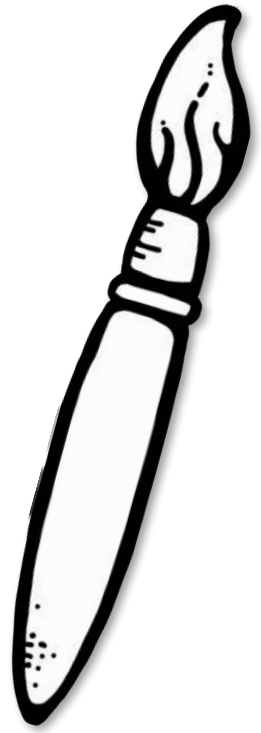
JOAN MIRO

Answer Key

Q	L	X	F	M	W	S	D	S	P	S	A
U	U	M	E	L	S	T	F	I	B	P	Q
W	T	S	O	E	H	A	P	P	Y	A	C
F	S	N	T	W	A	R	B	L	F	I	O
D	M	I	R	O	P	S	J	O	A	N	Z
Y	F	S	T	D	E	N	A	S	S	M	Z
O	H	T	E	O	S	K	B	A	U	E	E
E	T	J	Y	O	I	F	Z	Y	R	O	C
S	Z	F	I	D	S	U	E	T	R	U	J
I	E	W	I	L	G	Y	B	B	E	P	A
Y	R	Y	W	E	E	D	R	E	A	M	Y
C	B	Z	Y	S	Y	M	B	O	L	S	U

Let's Learn About

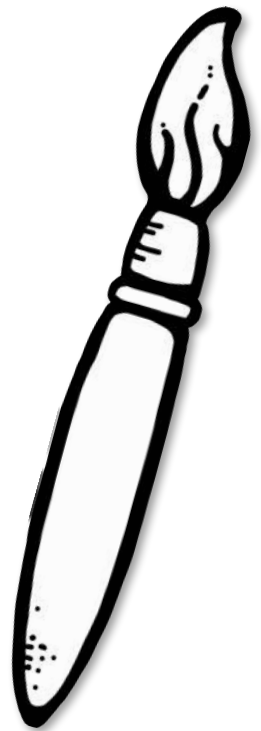
Joan
Miro



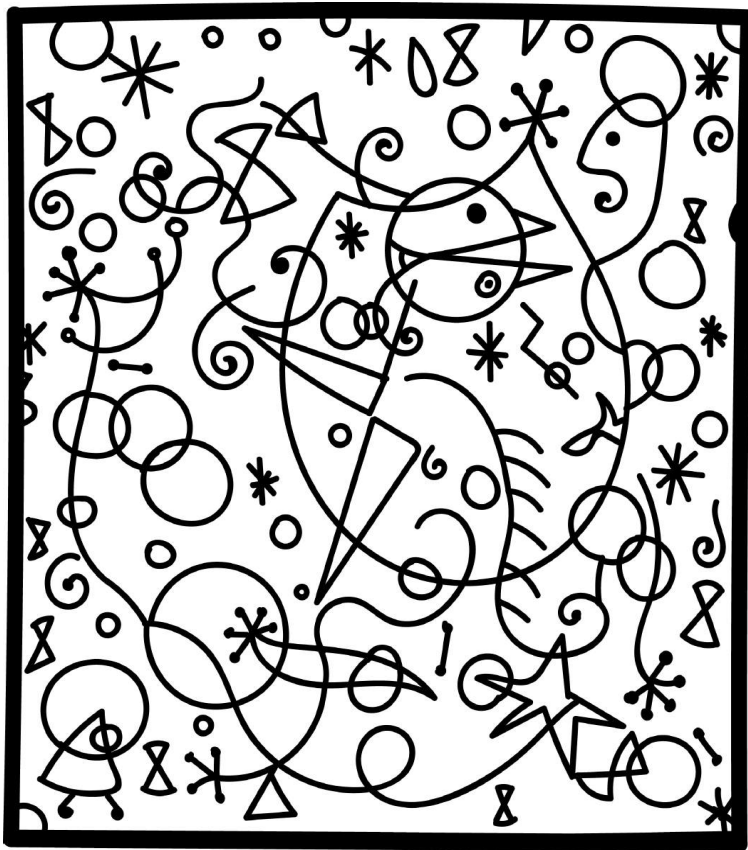
Name: _____

Let's Learn About

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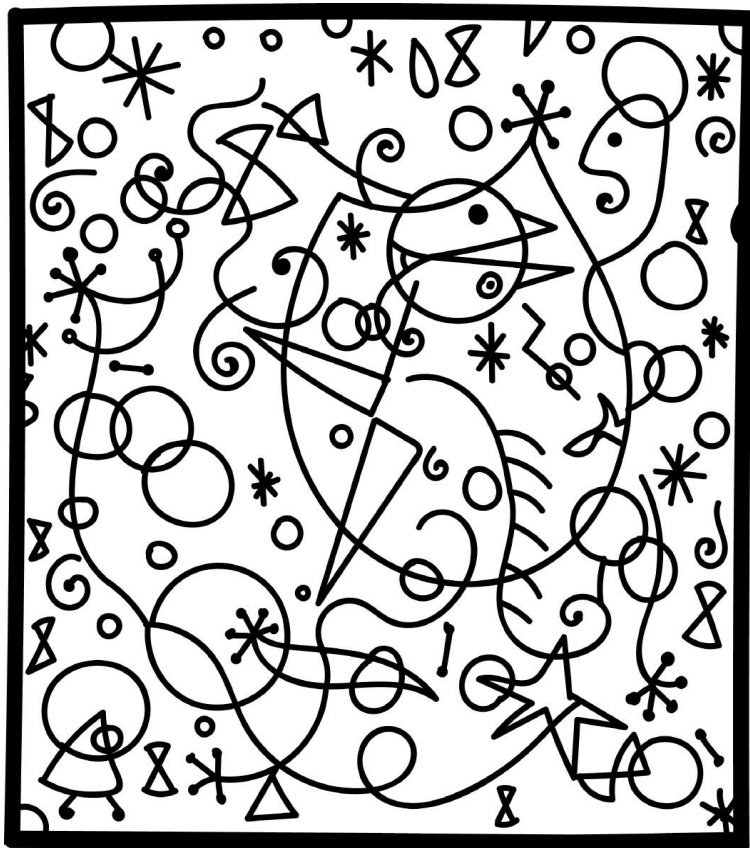
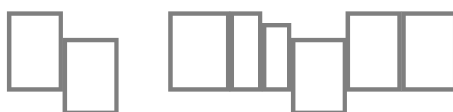


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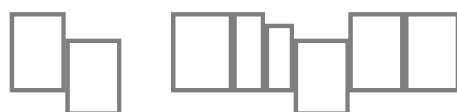
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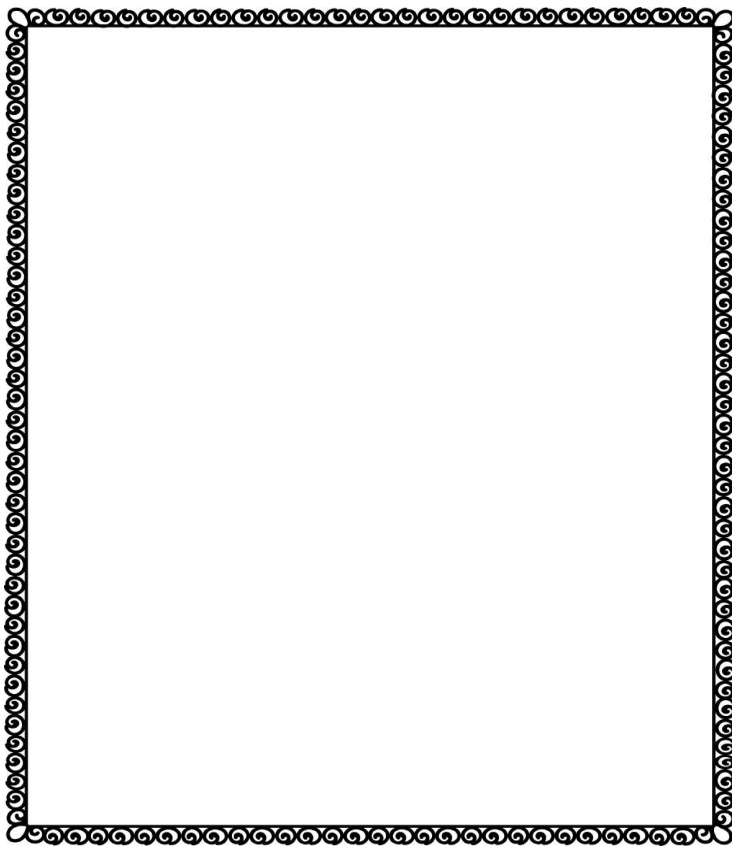
This painting
is called



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This painting
is called

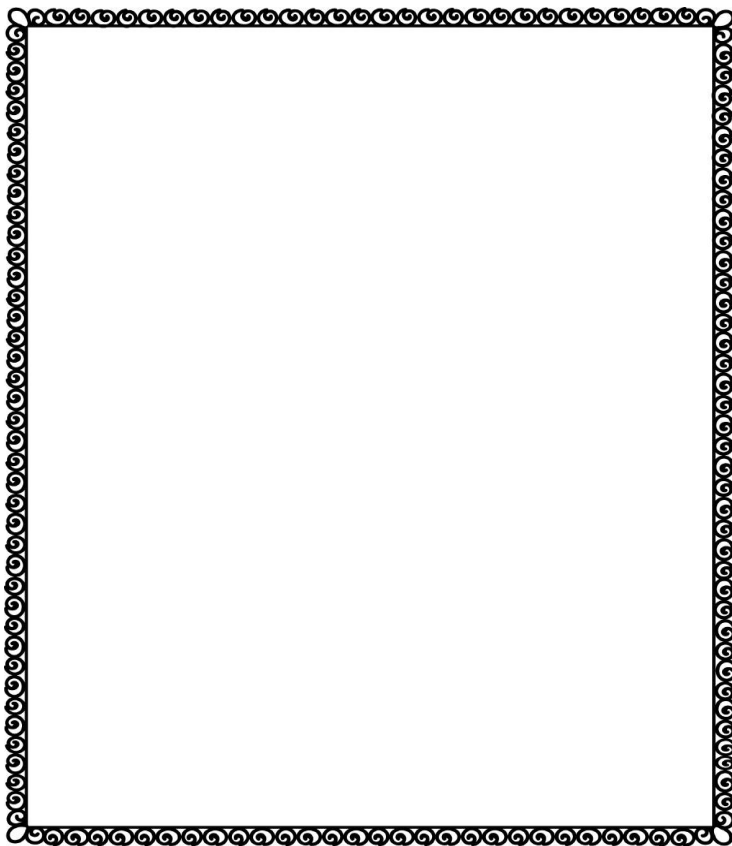




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Draw your own version or detail.







My favorite
part of this
picture is _____



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Draw your own version or detail.

My favorite
part of this
picture is _____

Joan  was born in  in 1893. He was
part of a group of artists called
"". The Surrealist painters put
 things together in artwork to
 people who saw it. They painted
things that might be in .

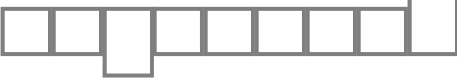
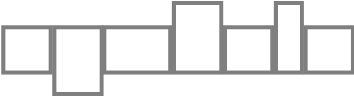




unexpected Miro Surrealists Spain surprise dreams

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, abstract, dreamy, doodles and
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expressed







alien

whimsical

about

symbols

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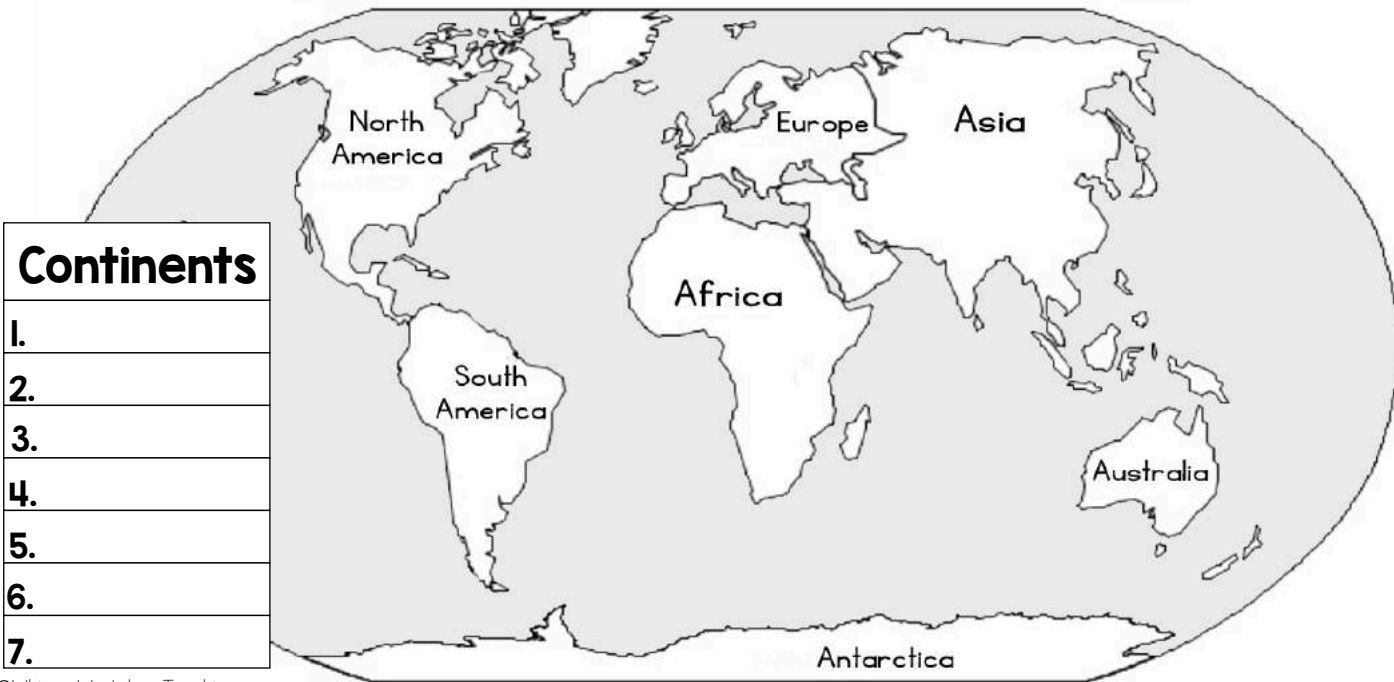
symbols

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World Map

Color your continent RED. OUTLINE Joan Miro's continent BLUE.

Can you name the continents?

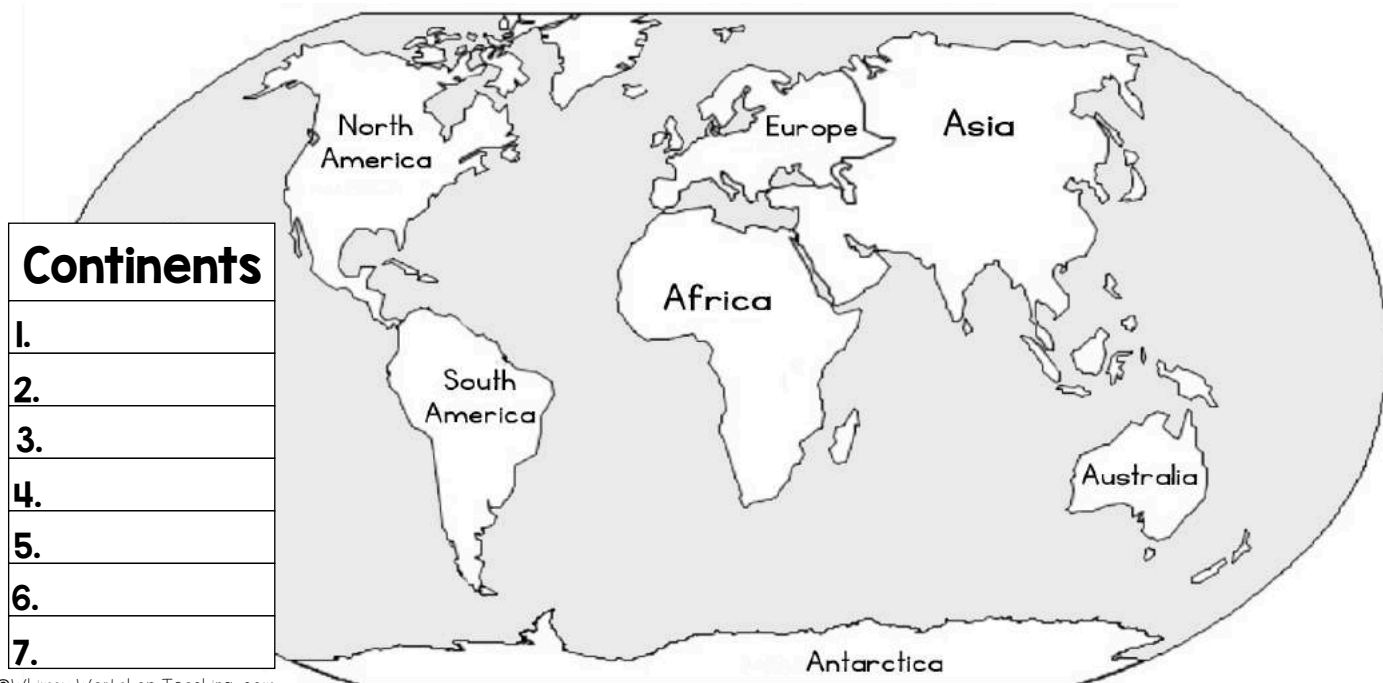


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