NYPL After School
Activity Guide
Kindergarten–3rd Grade

CREATE
In this packet you’ll find tips, books we love, and activities all about creating. Creating can mean many different things, from building things with your hands to sharing your ideas through words and art! Explore more at nypl.org/afterschool.

BOOKS WE LOVE
These books are some of our favorite titles that give us examples of creation and creativity. To check them out, place a hold online at nypl.org or call Ask NYPL (917-275-6975). If you are at a branch, ask a librarian how to place a hold. Books marked with a ☣️ are available as e-books.

- **Boxitects** by Kim Smith
- **What Do You Do with an Idea?** by Kobi Yamada, illus. by Mae Besom
- **Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat** by Javaka Steptoe
- **Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao** by Kat Zhang, illus. by Charlene Chua
- **My Rainy Day Rocket Ship** by Markette Sheppard, illus. by Charly Palmer
- **My Forest Is Green** by Darren Lebeuf, illus. by Ashley Barron
- **The Book of Mistakes** by Corinna Luyken
- **Not a Box** by Antoinette Portis
- **Construction People** by Lee Bennett Hopkins, illus. by Ellen Shi

QUICK TIPS
- Get creative with recyclable materials! Gather cereal boxes, toilet paper rolls, plastic jugs, and more then make a structure or create a tool with your materials.
- Make a mini book by folding a few pieces of paper in half and stapling them together. Then fill it up with stories, comics, and poems that you write yourself!
In the early 1900s, artists who believed that there are thoughts inside your head that you may not know are there created a new style of art called "surrealism."

**LET'S DRAW LIKE A SURREALIST!**

1. Using a pencil, fill the box with scribbled lines for two minutes. Don’t stop until the box is filled.

2. Look at your scribbles carefully. Can you find any scribbles that look like something else? Use a dark marker to outline them and color them in.
CREATE YOUR OWN DANCE!

Pick your favorite song and then practice the four dance routines below. In the boxes write the number of times you want to do the move. Try the dance combos to the song as you make your way to the dance party. Then teach someone else how to do your new dance!
CREATE BY USING A MAD LIBS IDEA GENERATOR

Mad Libs is a game where you tell a silly story by throwing in different types of words. Except instead of telling a story we're going to come up with creative ideas!

**NOUN** a person, place, or thing!

**VERB** an action word!

**ADJECTIVE** a word that tells you how things look, taste, feel, sound, or smell!

Write your words in the empty boxes:

2. **THINGS (NOUNS)**
   - [ ]
   - [ ]
   - [ ]

3. **VERBS**
   - [ ]
   - [ ]
   - [ ]

4. **ADJECTIVES**
   - [ ]
   - [ ]
   - [ ]

Hint: Include at least one color!

Now you're ready to start creating by filling in your words below! After you fill in your words, try creating the thing you came up with, even if it's silly.

**IDEA #1**

A [ ]

[ ] that can [ ]

[ ] and [ ]

[ ]

**IDEA #2**

Something [ ]

[ ]

[ ] and [ ]

[ ]

**IDEA #3**

A [ ]

[ ] that has [ ]

[ ] eyes, and likes to [ ]

[ ]

[ ]