

The Line Activity Pack



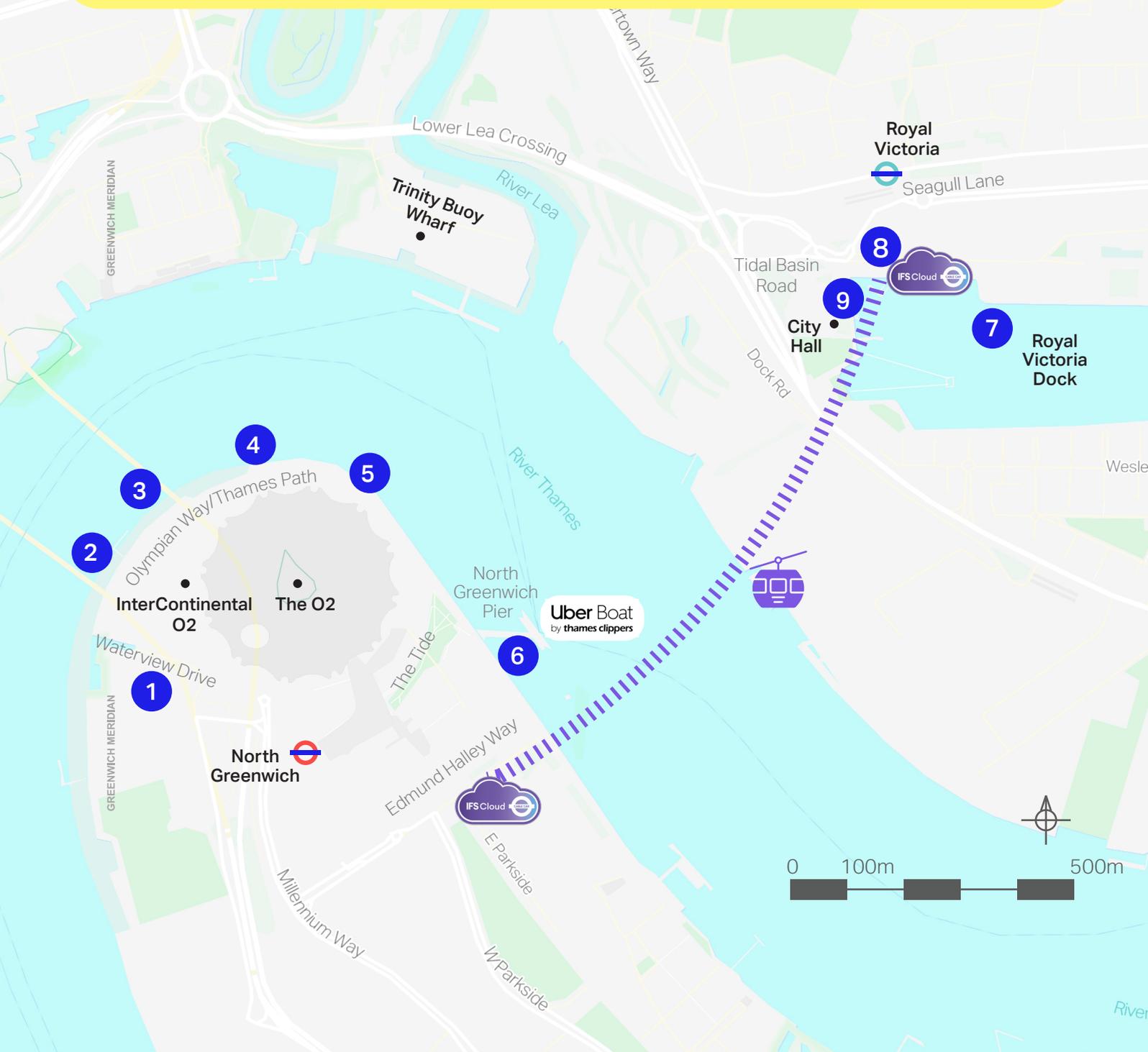
The Line runs between Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and The O2, following the waterways and the line of the Greenwich Meridian.

Its outdoor exhibition programme offers a journey through a dynamic urban landscape where everyone can explore art, nature and heritage for free.

How to use this activity pack:

Create your own art inspired by artworks along the route of The Line! Some of the activities were developed by The Line's artists themselves. The activities are designed to be done at home or school, and the discussion questions provide conversation prompts while out on the route of The Line.

This resource is for all ages. All the materials and equipment you need should be easily found at home or at school.



1

Alex Chinneck

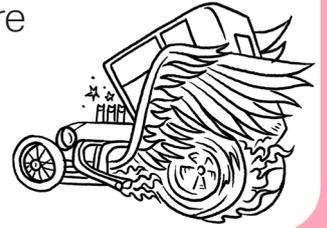
Extraordinary-ordinary
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Richard Wilson

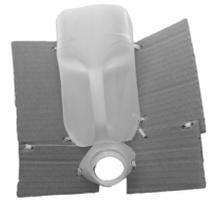
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Serge Attukwei Clottey

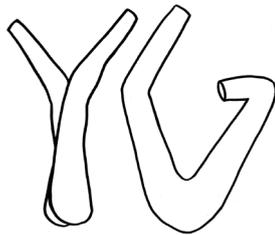
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1

Alex Chinneck

A Bullet from a Shooting Star

Greenwich Peninsula

Alex Chinneck's artworks aim to make the everyday world extraordinary. He is best known for creating outdoor artworks that respond to their setting. He takes familiar objects and materials and makes them behave in surprising ways. In this way, he introduces fantasy to reality and transforms ordinary objects into surreal artworks.

Discussion question

Look at the setting of this sculpture. What objects and man-made structures are around it? Do you think this artwork fits into the surrounding environment? Discuss why or why not.



Activity

Extraordinary-ordinary

Go outside or look through a window.
What can you see?

Activity 1

Choose one object and draw it as you see it.

Activity 2

Describe the object with words, without saying what it is. What is it made from? What are the properties of that material? What shape is it? What size is it? How heavy is it? These are the things that help to define your object.

Now think about what you could do to make your object behave in a surprising way. Examples include bending it, breaking it, twisting it, tying it in a knot, turning it upside down, melting it, making it hover. Alex Chinneck uses all these ways of changing the world to transform ordinary objects into extraordinary artworks.

Activity 3

Decide how you would like to change your object to make it extraordinary. Draw your object again showing this change. You could also cut, fold or change your drawing in any way that you can imagine to create your own surreal artwork.

What you will need

- Paper
- Pen / pencil
- Scissors (optional)



Alphabetti Spaghetti by Alex Chinneck

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2 Thomson & Craighead Here

Greenwich Peninsula

Jon Thomson and Alison Craighead's sculpture, *Here*, is a road sign that marks the 24,859-mile distance around the earth and back to Here. The route follows an imaginary line that passes through the North and South Poles. The sculpture is located on the Greenwich Meridian, an invisible line that can be found at Longitude Zero (0° 0' 0") on a map.

Discussion question

Road signs can be works of art. As you follow the route of The Line and come across a road or pedestrian sign, discuss how you would change what is on the sign to make it more relevant or interesting to you.



Activity

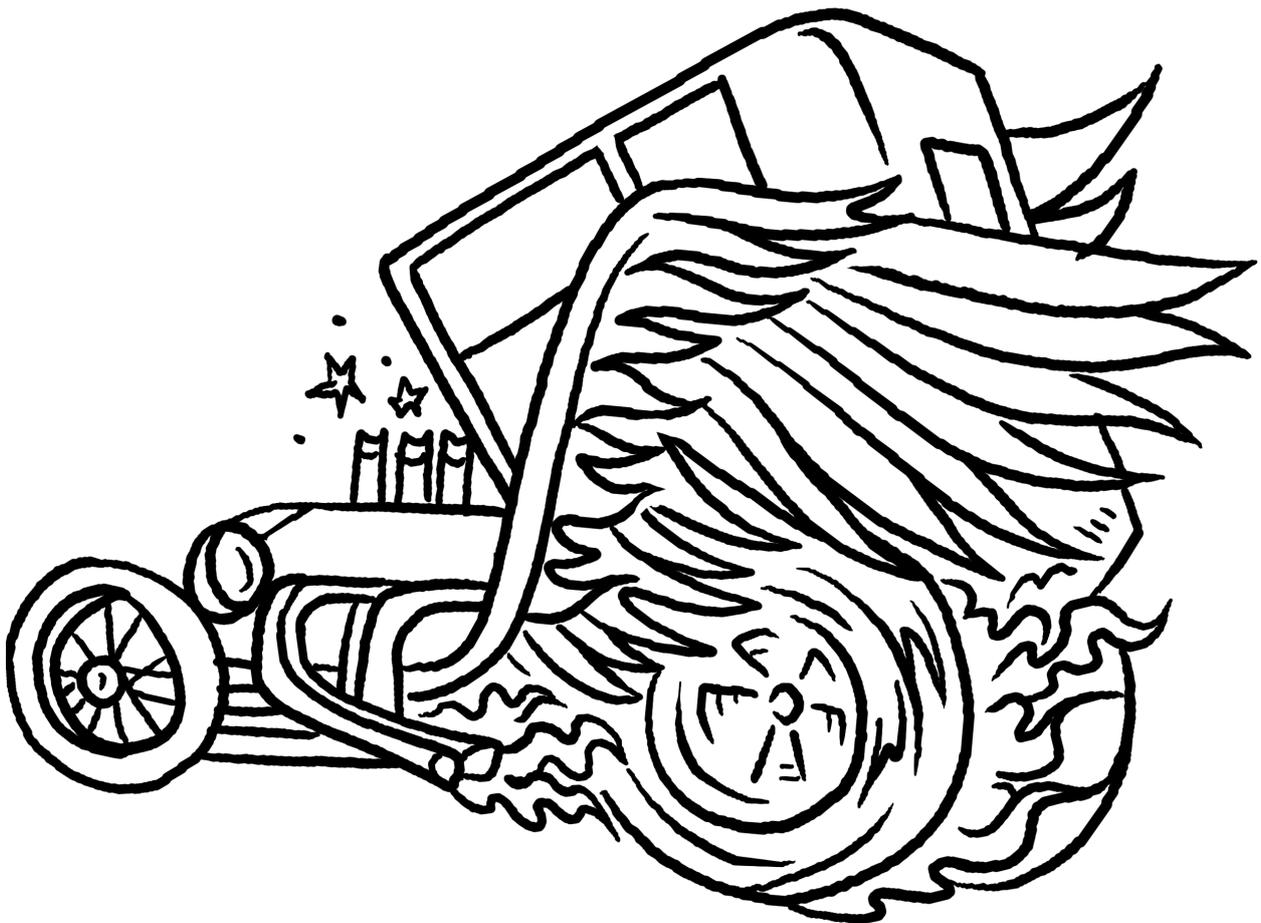
Here and There

Thomson & Craighead have helpfully provided us with the distance around the world to 'Here'. But how would you get there?

To follow the Greenwich Meridian around the world, you need to cross oceans and deserts, travel over mountains and through cities and forests. Design a vehicle or machine that could be used for this adventure. What does it look like? How is it powered? Use pens, pencil or paints to design your machine. Don't be afraid to let your imagination run away with you – maybe your machine has wings or flippers like an animal, maybe it has wheels or even skis, maybe it can drive on land and swim under the sea!

What you will need

- Paper / card
- Pens / pencils / paints
- Junk (boxes, loo rolls, containers, milk cartoons etc) if you want to have a go at modelling your vehicle



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3

Richard Wilson

A Slice of Reality

Greenwich Peninsula

Artist Richard Wilson has often worked with different objects (including aircrafts, buses, ships, London taxis and caravans) and by tampering with them in some way (including slicing and balancing), he makes us look at the world differently. In this sculpture, he has taken a 1/8 slice of a sand dredger ship – the insides of the ship are revealed at both ends, inviting us to look inside.

Discussion question

Look carefully at the different rooms within the ship and what they contain. What might you find a person doing in each room?

Activity

Inside Out

Create your own Slice of Reality. Print off the outline on the next page and think about who or what might be onboard your ship. Sailors, animals, pirates... or even aliens? What are they doing?

Think about the rooms and spaces inside the ship, as well as outside on deck.

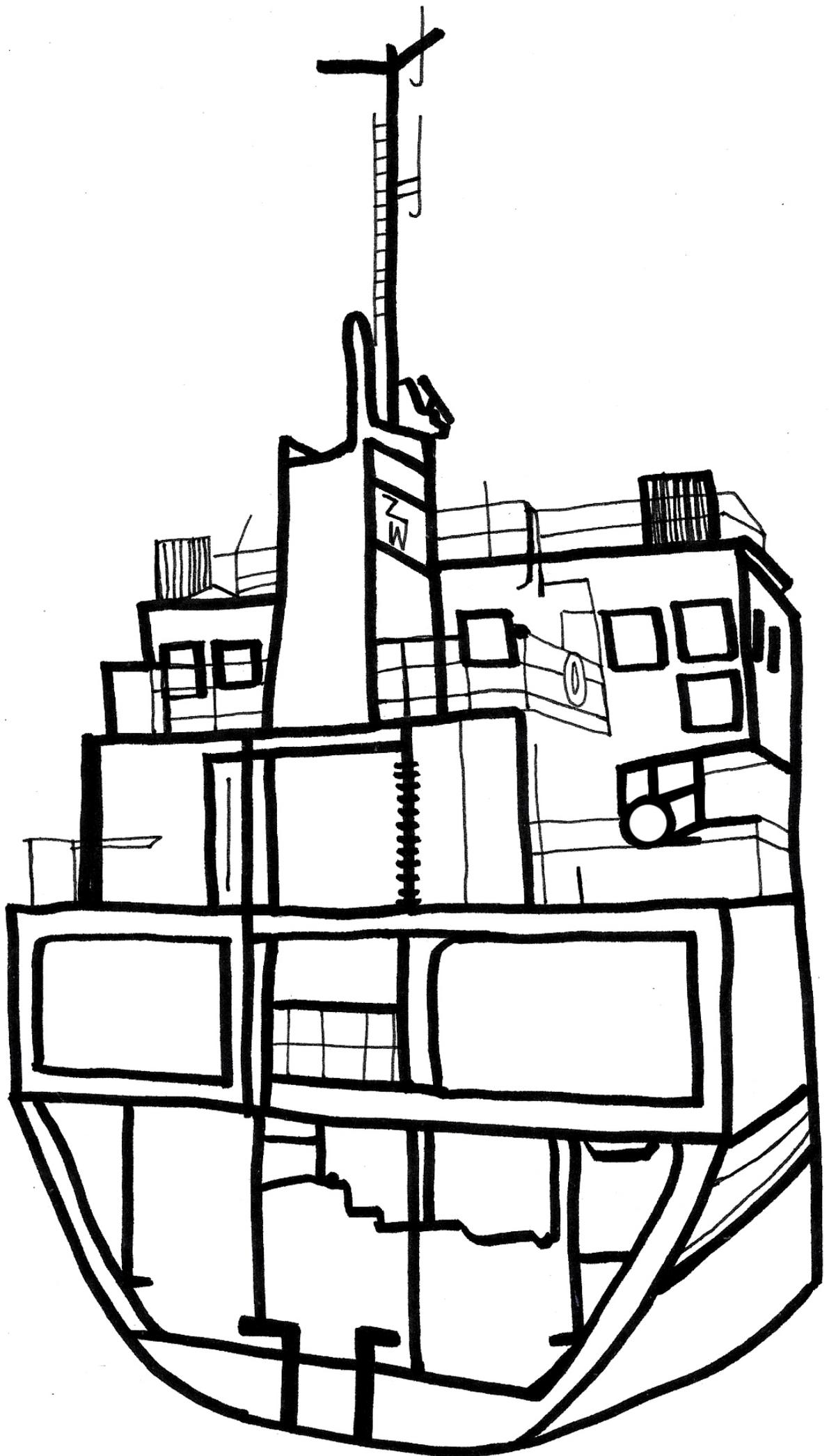
What you will need

- Print out of the next page
- Pencils / paint



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4

Serge Attukwei Clottey

Tribe and Tribulation

Tribe and Tribulation is over five metres tall and is made of reclaimed wood, including wood from fishing boats from Ghana. The sculpture includes sound, with recordings from former slave forts. The artist does this to honour the memories of slaves who were imprisoned there. The sound in *Tribe and Tribulation* is projected north, south, east and west, inviting you to consider how life at these historic sites has changed over the years, with the waters now used by local fishermen.

Discussion question

Plastic waste hurts wildlife. What wildlife might come into contact with plastic waste in your local river or park?



Activity

Mask of our Times

Step 1

Cut the base off an empty milk carton and take care of any sharp edges. Cut around the handle and lid, as shown in the diagram on the right, and cut a slit into the neck of the carton on either side of the handle.

Step 2

Remove the lid and hold the handle up-side-down so that the mouth of the carton is below the handle. This is the basic structure of your mask. Don't worry that it doesn't hold its shape on its own!

Step 3

Cut out four cardboard rectangles (a brightly coloured cereal box works well, but any junk cardboard will do) and position two on either side of the mask.

Step 4

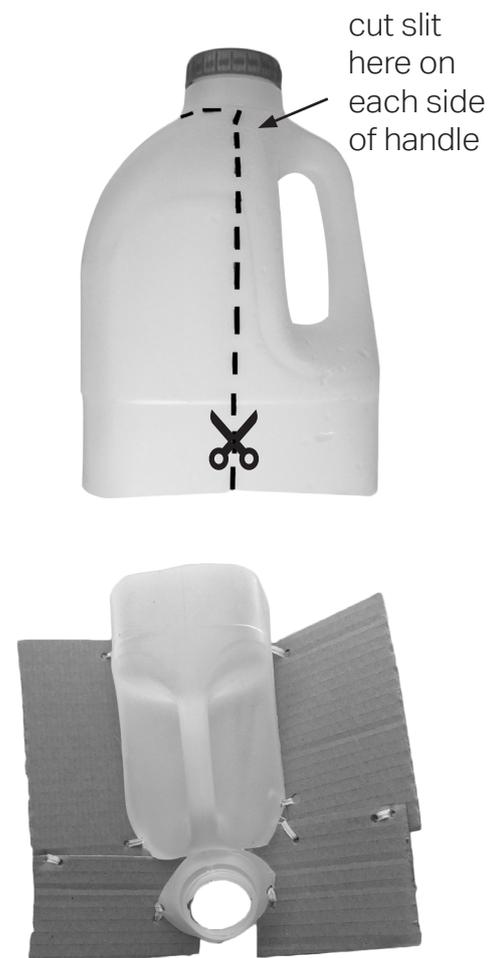
Use a hole punch to make holes along the long edges of your mask and the cardboard rectangles. The holes in the mask and the cardboard should line up so that you can join them together. Don't worry if you end up with more holes than you need!

Step 5

Thread food ties, wire or string through the holes to attach the cardboard to the mask. Remember to join the cardboard pieces together too, as this gives the mask its structure.

What you will need

- Empty milk carton (4 pint size works best)
- Cardboard e.g. old cereal box
- Food ties / garden wire / string
- Scissors
- Hole punch



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5

Gary Hume

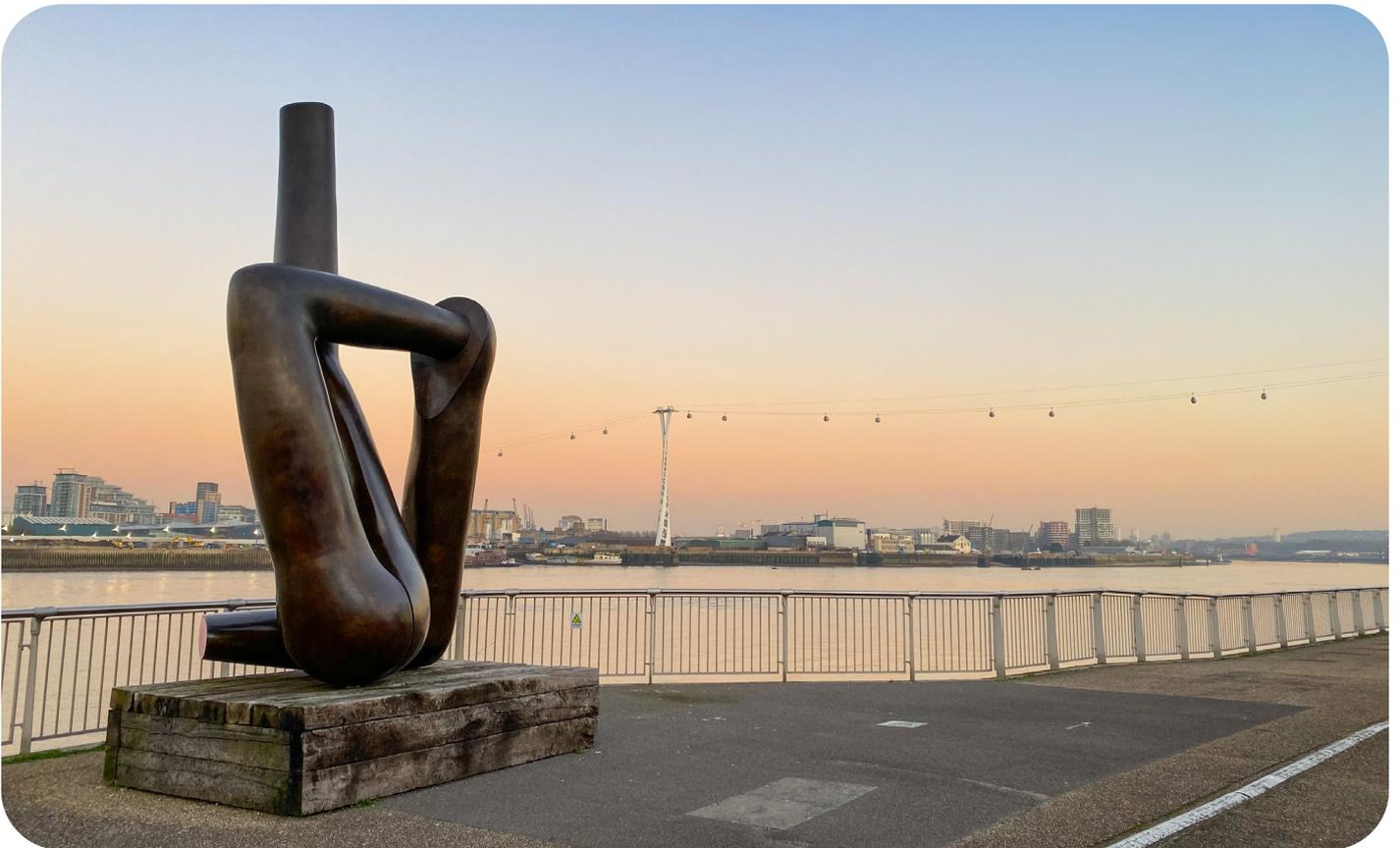
Liberty Grip

Greenwich Peninsula

Gary Hume created this sculpture in three separate sections, each one is based on the arm of a shop mannequin. The artwork looks like a human body but also like a mysterious shape.

Discussion question

Take a walk around this sculpture. What body parts are you seeing?



Activity

Limbering Up

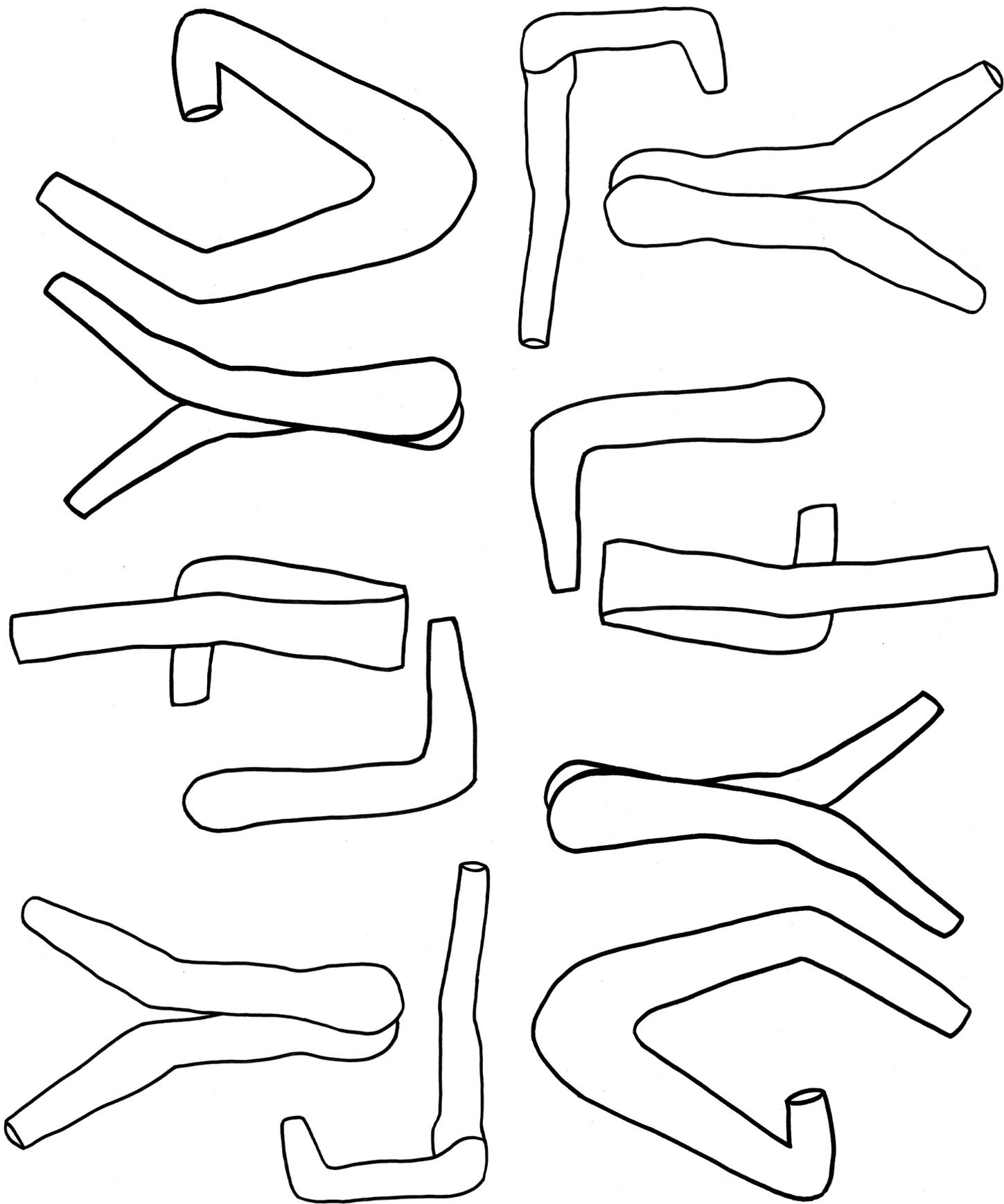
Can you make your own knotted figure with these shapes? Cut them out and rearrange them to create your own twisted figure. How many variations can you make? Gary Hume likes to use bright colours in his work – can you paint or colour the shapes to make a colourful collage?

What you will need

- Print out of the next page
- Scissors
- Glue / Sellotape
- Paints / pens (if you like)

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6

Antony Gormley Quantum Cloud

Greenwich Peninsula

This giant sculpture by artist Antony Gormley is made from thousands of steel rods which have been welded together. The artist is exploring ideas around our relationship with science and energy. The void (empty space) in the centre of the sculpture is in the shape of a human figure – it can be easy or difficult to spot, depending on where you are viewing it from. This sculpture highlights that the way we look at things can change the thing we're looking at.

Discussion question

Why do you think this piece is called "Quantum Cloud"?

Clue: we are now in the Quantum Age because our improved understanding of very, very small particles has transformed everyday life. Every electronic device we use has been developed using quantum physics, from superconductors to smartphones.



Activity

Stick Challenge

Activity 1

Grab your wooden sticks and throw them up in the air or – if you're in a smaller space – drop them onto a flat surface. How and where have the sticks landed? What shapes have they made? Take a photograph and share it with us!

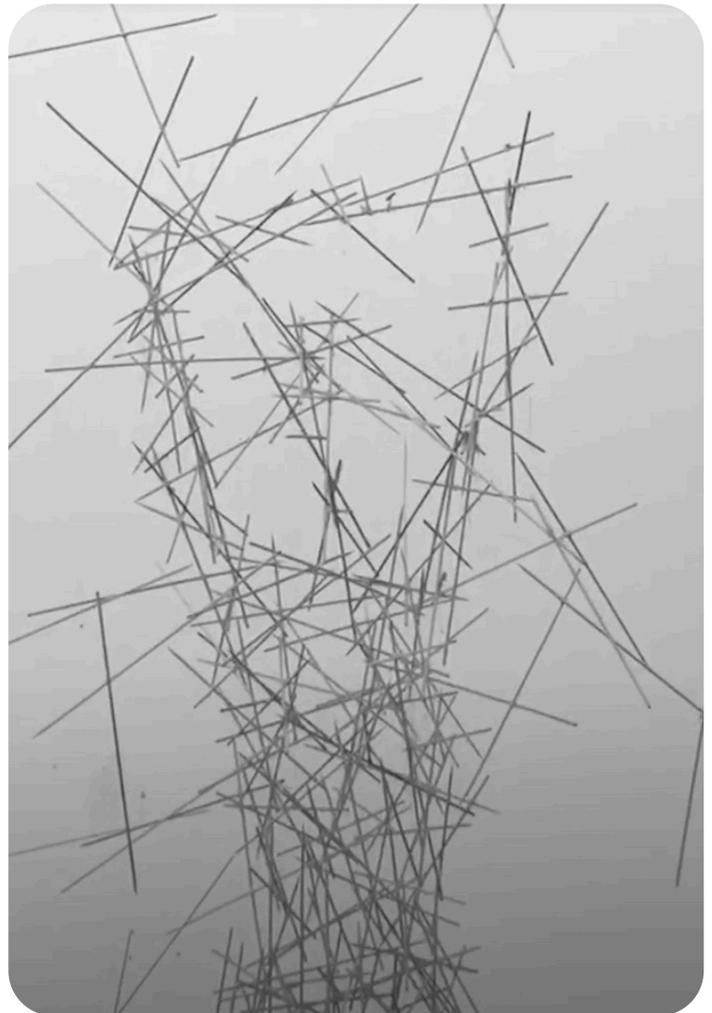
Activity 2

Create your own version of Quantum Cloud by gluing the wooden sticks together using a glue gun. Can you make a human figure with them, or maybe something else? How big can you make this?

Check out our website to watch films prepared by Antony Gormley to accompany these activities:
www.the-line.org/learning/for-families/

What you will need

- Wooden satay sticks, match sticks, lollipop sticks or toothpicks (you can buy any of these at the supermarket)
- Camera / smartphone
- Glue gun (older children only)



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7

Larry Achiampong

What I Hear I Keep

Royal Victoria Dock

What I Hear I Keep is a flag created by British-Ghanaian artist Larry Achiampong. It is part of a series of flags that the artist has created to celebrate African identities. Achiampong uses green, black, and red to reflect the land, the people and their struggles, and yellow to represent a new beginning. The formation of 54 stars represents each of the countries on the African continent, while the arrow shapes represent sending and receiving messages.

Discussion question

If you were to create a new flag that represents the colours of your heritage, what colours would you pick and why?



Activity

A Flag to Represent Me

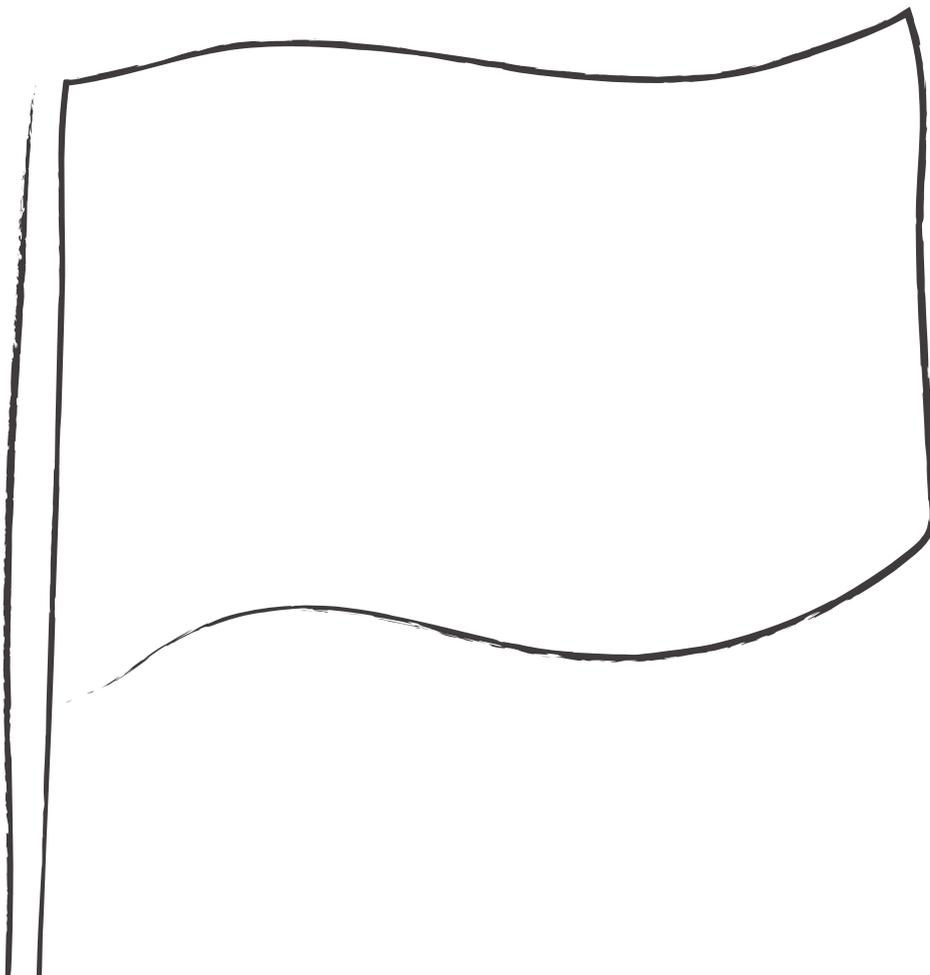
Achiampong believes that flags are not just about countries. He believes that flags can communicate emotions and visually express who you are.

Imagine that you are going to create a flag to symbolise you – your values, beliefs, interests and hobbies.

- What would you want people to understand about you?
- What would it look like?
- How would it show your personality, individuality and uniqueness?
- What symbols would best represent who you are?
- What colours would best represent your identity?

What you will need

- Paper / card
- Pens / pencils / paints
- A stick and sellotape if you want to make your flag move



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8

Madge Gill

Nature in Mind

Royal Victoria Dock

Madge Gill was an artist who lived and worked in Newham from 1920 to 1961. She created detailed small and large-scale works. Twenty of her works have been reproduced at five locations on The Line, one of which is in the Royal Docks, close to where the IFS Cloud Cable Car lands. Gill faced a lot of challenges throughout her life which led to her turn to spirituality and art.

Discussion question

Why might Madge Gill have been inspired by the plants around her in her work?

Activity

Inside Out

Madge Gill used a lot of repetition in her work, in fact sometimes there was hardly a space that hadn't been filled in.

Using this style of working, draw boxes on a blank page, or print the next page, and fill in the postcards. Draw flowers, plants, trees and simple shapes to fill the page. Can you fill all the gaps with patterns?

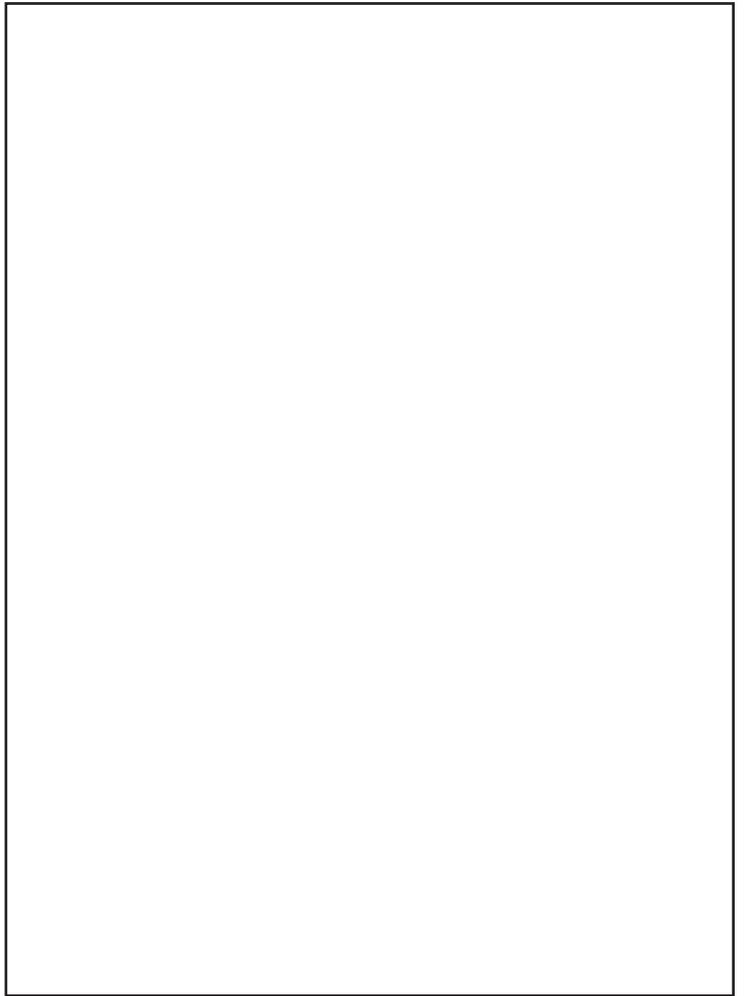
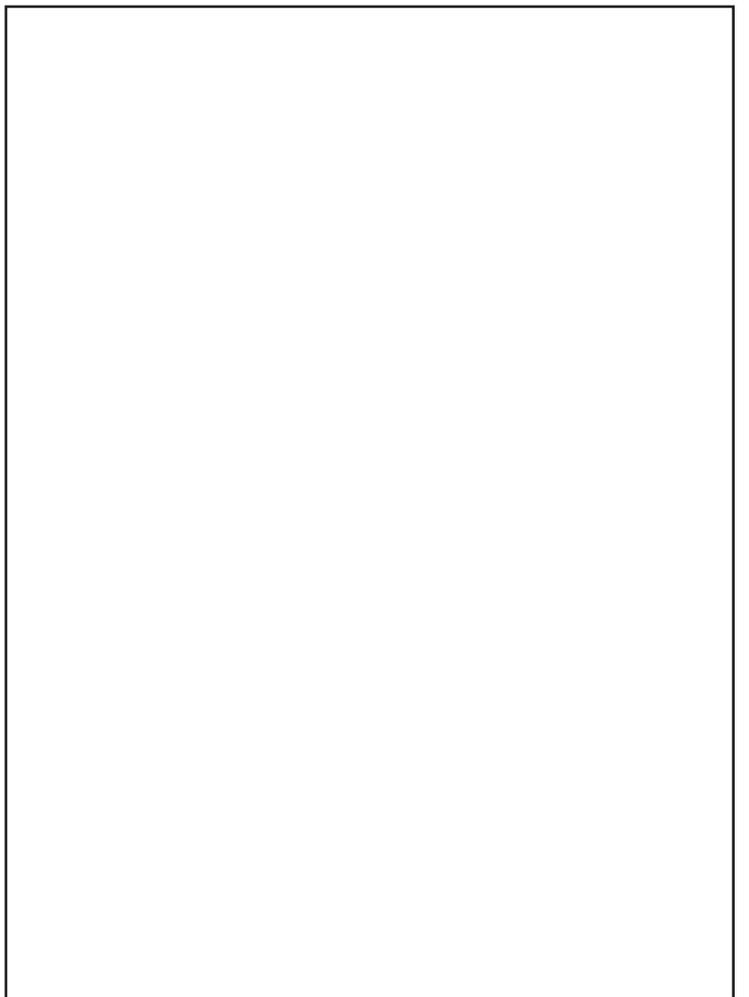
What you will need

- Paper
- Pencils / paint / pens



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9

Laura Ford

Bird Boy (without a tail)

Royal Victoria Dock

Bird Boy is a sculpture of a young boy dressed as a bird. The sculpture floats on a pontoon at Royal Victoria Dock. He appears lonely and, perhaps, lost out on the water but he asks for our attention and makes us wonder what he is doing there.

Did you know?

What birds may Bird Boy have met during their time as a sculpture on the water? (Look at the birds in the water or flying in the sky to give you a clue...)



Activity

The Adventures of Bird Boy

Activity 1

Make your own Bird Boy! Cut out this template (ask an adult to help if needed) and fold the base of the figure, as shown, to make it stand up. Try placing your Bird Boy in different locations around your house / garden. Where does he look most at home? Where does he look lost? What adventures can he have?

Activity 2

Can you make a painting of an imaginary place for Bird Boy?

What you will need

Activity 1

- Print out of this page
- Scissors

Activity 2

- Coloured pens / pencils
- Paint



FOLD



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10

Activity

Photography Challenge

Whilst you are on the IFS Cloud Cable Car, or on the ground with it in view, take a photograph of something unexpected that includes a line. You can see lines everywhere – on the ground, on buildings, marking the edges of things. You could look at lighting, colours, or nature.

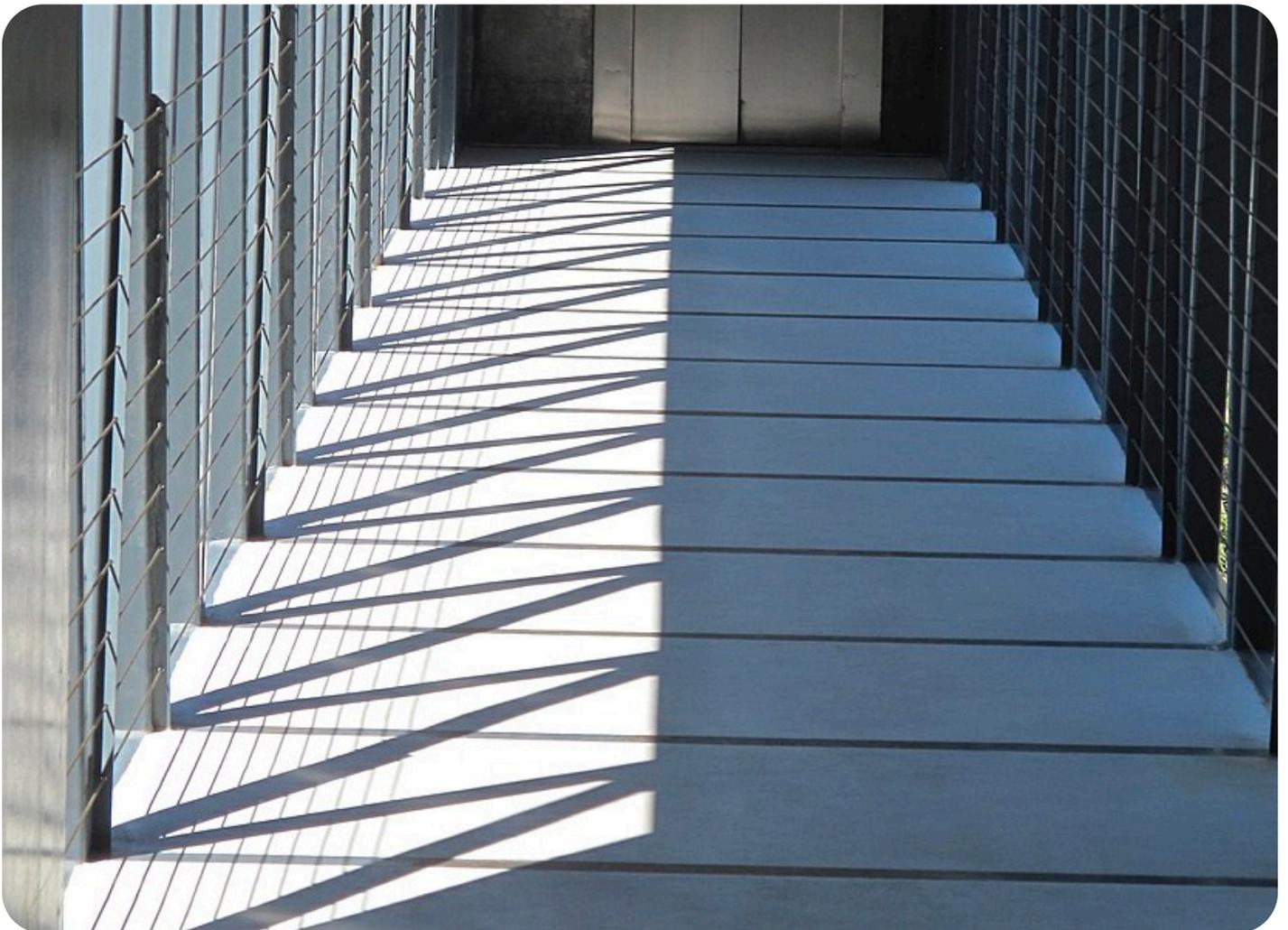
Submit the photo via social media, tagging us @TheLineLondon, or send via email to info@the-line.org.

Discussion question

Photography can have mental health benefits as it encourages you to slow down and observe moments. What else can help to improve wellbeing?

What you will need

— Camera or smartphone



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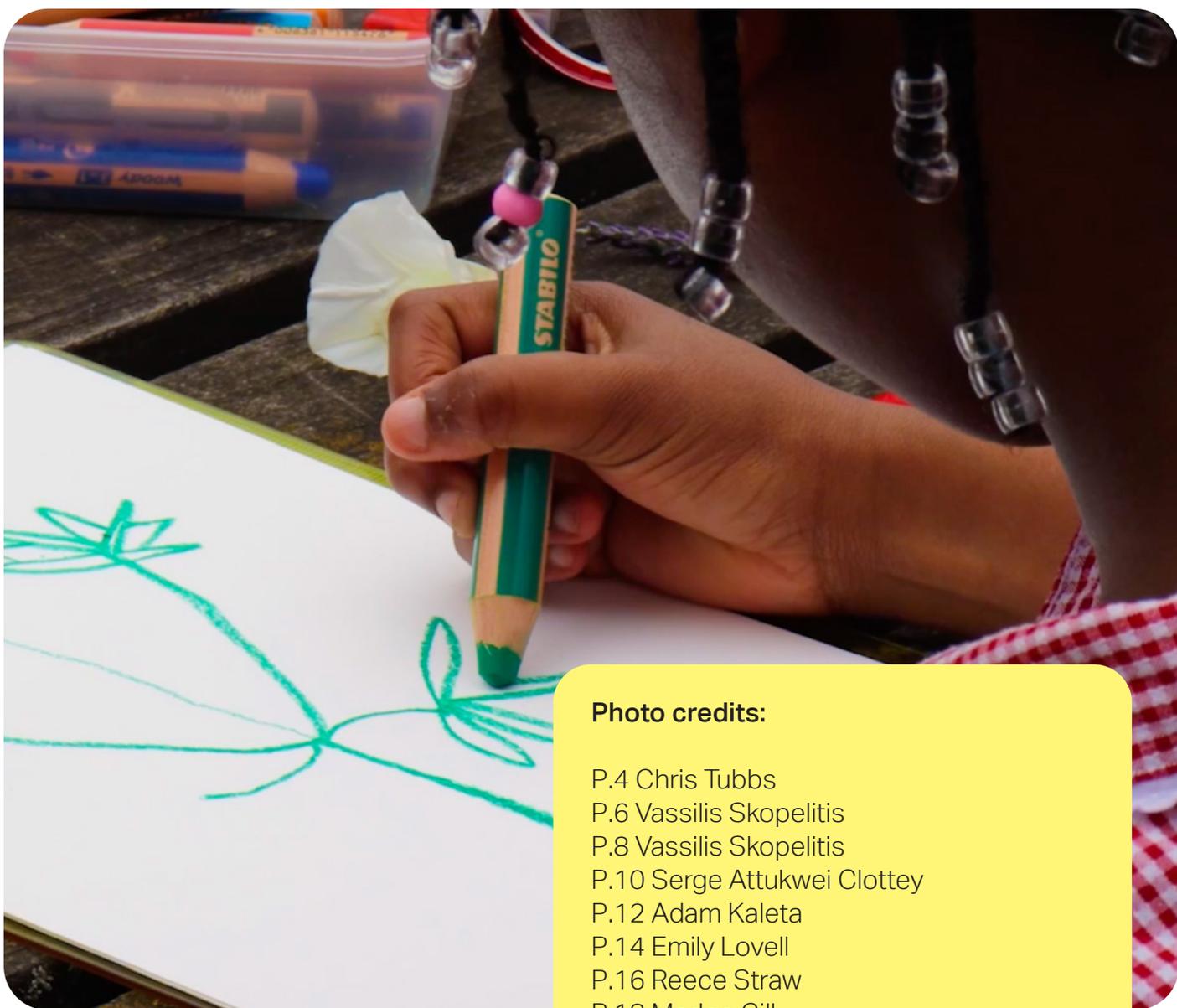
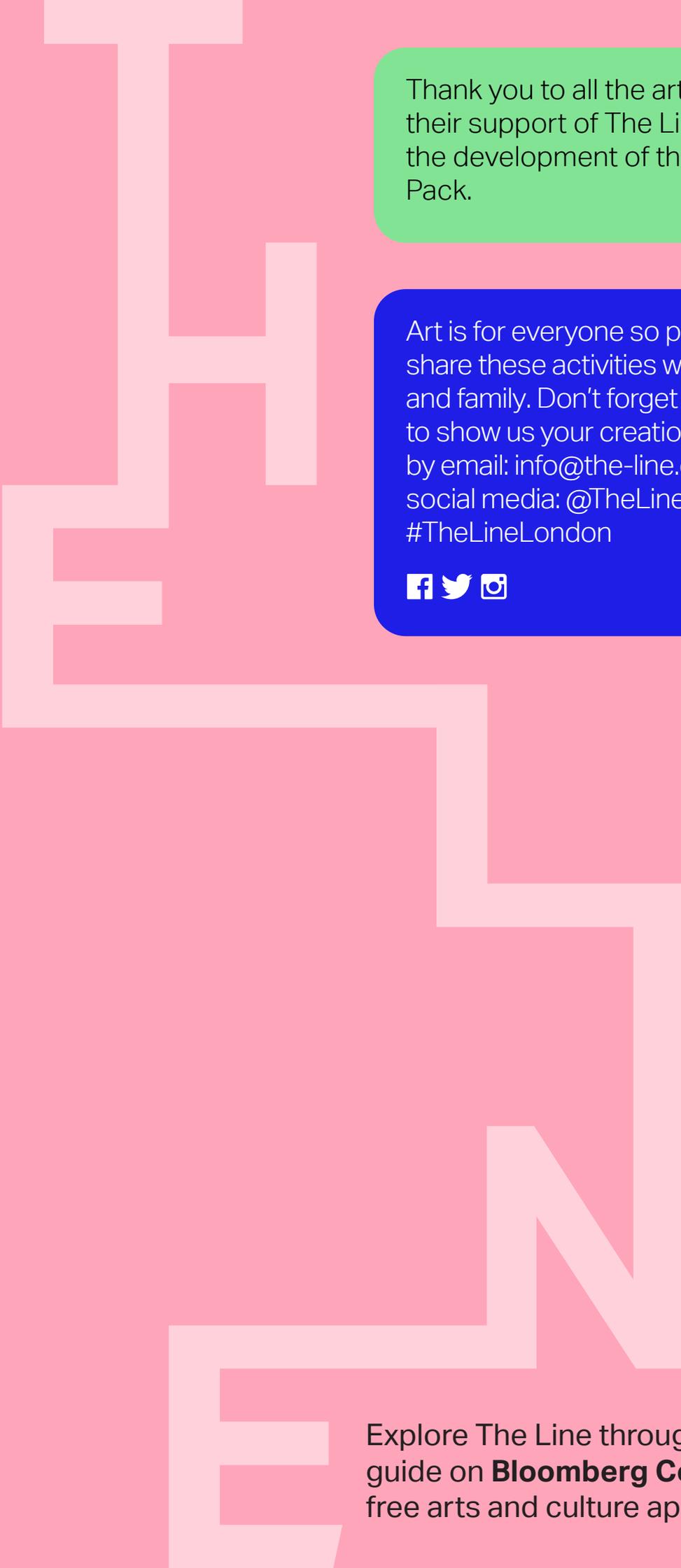


Photo credits:

- P.4 Chris Tubbs
- P.6 Vassilis Skopelitis
- P.8 Vassilis Skopelitis
- P.10 Serge Attukwei Clottey
- P.12 Adam Kaleta
- P.14 Emily Lovell
- P.16 Reece Straw
- P.18 Madge Gill
- P.19 Vassilis Skopelitis

All illustrations courtesy The Line.



Thank you to all the artists for their support of The Line and the development of this Activity Pack.

Art is for everyone so please share these activities with friends and family. Don't forget to show us your creations, either by email: info@the-line.org or social media: [@TheLineLondon](https://www.instagram.com/TheLineLondon) [#TheLineLondon](https://twitter.com/TheLineLondon)



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