

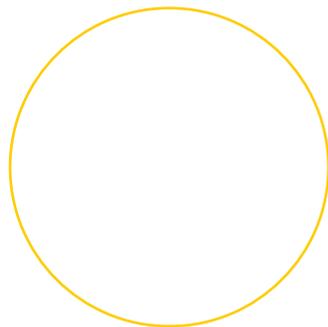


## ACTIVITIES WITH DOODLING

Transform this shape into something scary.



Transform this shape into something funny.



## Week 6 PLAYING WITH DOODLES

Explore the inspiring and extraordinary works of art, exhibitions, and installations at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston! Whether at home or in the galleries, use this guide to take a trip through the Museum and discover different works of art. If you are using this art guide at home, find works of art in the MFAH Collection at [mfah.org/art](http://mfah.org/art).

## SKETCHING IN THE COLLECTION

**Let's start the conversation!**

*Use these steps to talk about art with your family.*

1. Drawing and sketching is a very important step in the artistic process. However, we mainly see finished works of art in the Museum with little knowledge as to how the artist planned and practiced beforehand.
2. Find a piece of art online or in the Museum that looks like it would have taken a lot of time and preparation to complete.
3. Discuss what the artist's process might have been leading up to the finished piece. What would the artist have practiced sketching in a sketchbook? What other skills would the artist have needed to practice? Does it look like the artist drew inspiration from real life or from their imagination?

### Did You Know?

- Doodling can help you to focus and improve your memory.
- Many American presidents doodled—in fact, 26 of 44—from Theodore Roosevelt, who doodled animals and children, to Ronald Reagan, who doodled cowboys and football players, and John F. Kennedy, who doodled dominoes.
- There are no mistakes in doodling. Whatever you create is just right. Who knows, it might just be the beginning of a great work of art!

# MAKE ART AT HOME

## Exploring Abstract Drawing

Time: 30 minutes

Difficulty level: Easy



### Investigate the Work of Art!

1. Vasily Kandinsky was inspired by music's ability to convey emotion and he aspired to have his paintings do the same. What are some words you would use to describe the emotion in this painting?
2. Can you point out a few areas of the painting where lines are overlapping?
3. Do you see more straight/geometric lines or curved/organic lines?

Fill this space with doodles of your own.

### Let's Make Some Art

#### *Gather These Materials*

Drawing paper

Pencil

Crayons or colored pencils

### Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Using your pencil, begin drawing organic shapes that overlap.
2. Continue doing this until the page is filled.
3. Now pick certain parts of the shapes that you want to fill in.
4. Let Kandinsky's artwork inspire your color choices and mark making. Think about how soft shading will create a different feeling than dark, scratchy lines.

*Share your finished artwork on social media with #MFAHathome.*

Above: Vasily Kandinsky, *Sketch 160A*, 1912, oil on canvas, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, John A. and Audrey Jones Beck Collection, gift of Audrey Jones Beck, 74.140.

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