

ARTIST FOR KIDS - #AFKfromhome – Janet Wang



Pattern detail from *The City, Soft Spectacle*
Drawings and digital media
Janet Wang
2016

Our art project this week is based on the theme of **mapping**. We'll be using **lines to show movement**, and then playing with repeating and overlapping these lines to create shapes for an abstract composition.

In my work, I love the idea of drawing places like a map with movement in the repeating lines and shapes. The image to the left is a detail from a pattern I created for the City of Regina. There are familiar landmarks and buildings from the downtown area, and I drew several self-portraits that I dotted around the map. All of the details are drawn in isometric perspective, a kind of false 3-dimensional form that is used in video games in which you can equally see the everything in the entire picture.

For our materials today, we're keeping it simple:

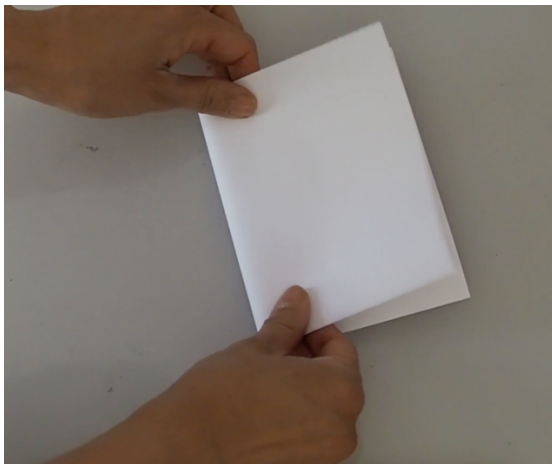
1 sheet of paper

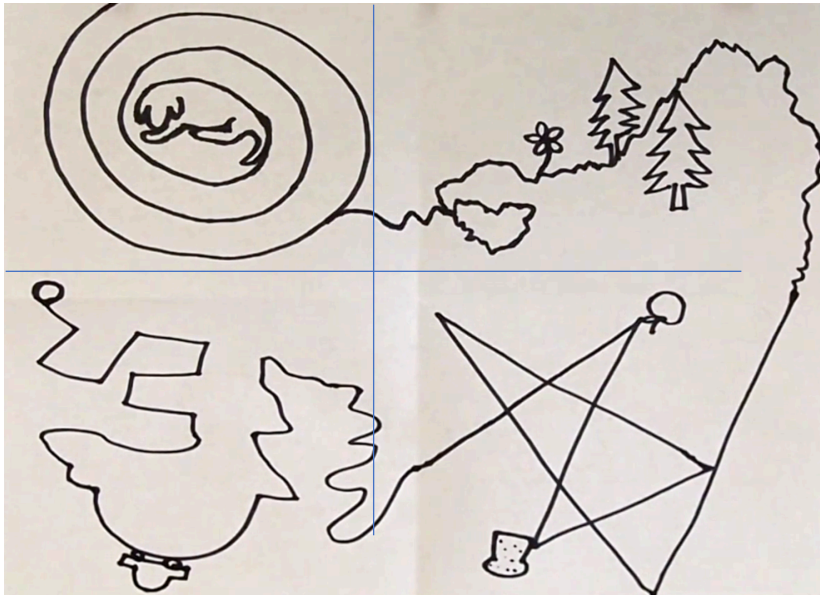
1 black ink pen or darker coloured pencil crayon, marker

Colour media (paint, pencil crayons, or whatever you have at home)

And one window!

Take your sheet of paper and fold it into half, and then fold this into half again. When you unfold your paper, it should be divided into four rectangles.



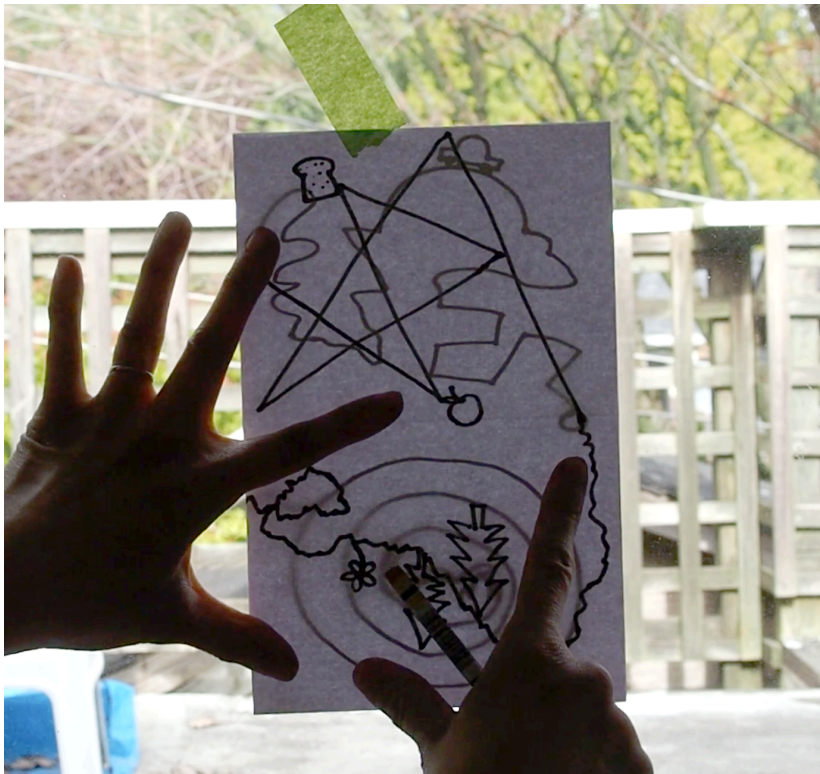


In each of the 4 sections, I drew a line to represent movement and places that I go to often.

For the first square, I drew a spiral shape showing how my dog likes to walk in smaller and smaller circles before lying down for a nap. This then leads to the next section where I walk my dog through the woods everyday with my kids.

The next mini-map is my route in my kitchen – it's quite small, so I walk in small little triangles to get different pots and pans, take food out of the fridge or fetch a spoon from a drawer.

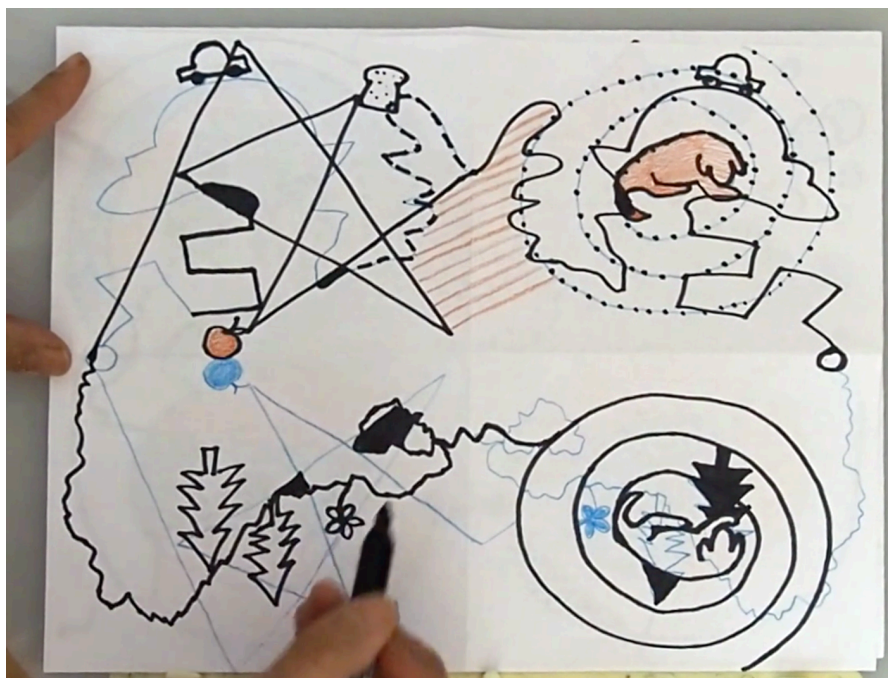
The last mapping is of my drive through the streets and over the bridge to my studio in Vancouver.



Next, fold your paper in half with the drawing side out. You will be able to see both the drawing on the outside of the paper, as well as the drawing from the other half.

Tape your drawing to the window and use a pencil or pencil crayon to **trace the lines** into the top quarter. You can trace everything or choose certain lines to create new shapes and forms.

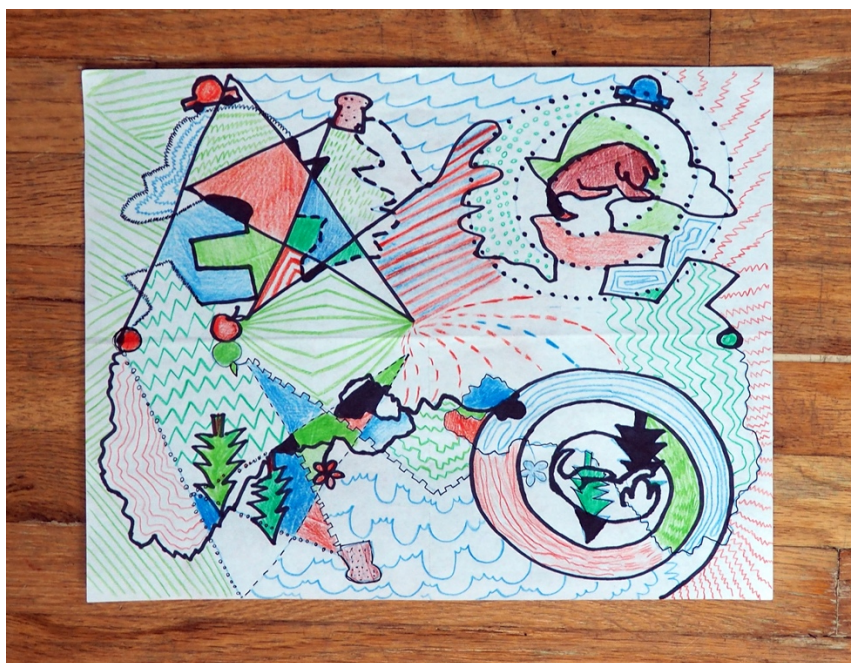
I then refolded the paper in the other direction, and traced again. You can fold and refold your paper to make different combinations, or you can share drawings with a family member and trace their images on to yours!



When you unfold your paper, you will now have some interesting new intersections and overlaps. **Use your black marker or pencil crayon to darken your lines.** You can play with different mark making, like dotted lines, dashes or whatever fits the shape!

You can then choose 3-4 colours to fill in your map. Because our paper is thinner, dry media (crayons, coloured pencils, markers or pastels) work best. You can use solid colours, patterns, and more lines to make this a colourful, abstract map.

While we may not see our friends and classmates everyday, we're probably taking walks along the same paths, or doing similar things at home. Every time our paths cross, or we meet up with someone, we can still create new connections, just like our overlapping map lines did in this drawing.



Art is an amazing way for us to connect as well, whether through your growing gallery at home, or as a nice gift for someone special. **Share your map with us** through Instagram with the hashtag #afkfromhome, or email AFKinfo@sd44.ca. We'd love to share your beautiful artwork!