

Cubist Animal Portraits

Inspired by artist Ashley Johnson, currently exhibiting as part of our "Presently" exhibition at the Art Gallery of Peterborough.

In her painting Contagion, she creates an image of two animals (a Pangolin and a Horseshoe Bat), but the image is probably a little different than what you would expect. Using techniques borrowed from cubism, Ashley Johnson creates a fragmented image that shows you many different angles, parts, and movements of each animal – all at the same time!

In this activity, you will make an animal portrait of your pet or favourite animal in the same fragmented style as artist Ashley Johnson.

Suitability: Ages 5+

You Will Need:

- Paper
- Markers, pencil crayons, paint, crayons – anything you can use to draw and colour
- Pens
- Pencils
- Viewfinder

Step 1:

Gather your supplies! You will need a viewfinder to help guide you as you make your artwork, so if you do not have a viewfinder handy, you can find instructions on how to make one by visiting our website.

[Please click here to find instructions on how to make a viewfinder](#)

Step 2:

Choose what you want to draw! We chose to draw a cat for our subject, but some other options might include: Your favourite animal, the birds outside your window, the squirrels in your backyard, or even the bugs in your garden

Step 3:

Place your viewfinder onto your paper and then pick one area of your subject to focus on and begin drawing.

Step 4:

Move your frame onto a new part of your paper and continue your drawing. Draw your image from a new angle or perspective on this part of the page.

Step 5:

Repeat **Step 4** as many times as you want! Remember to keep moving your frame and choosing different areas to focus on each time.

Step 6:

When you have finished drawing your picture, you can start colouring!