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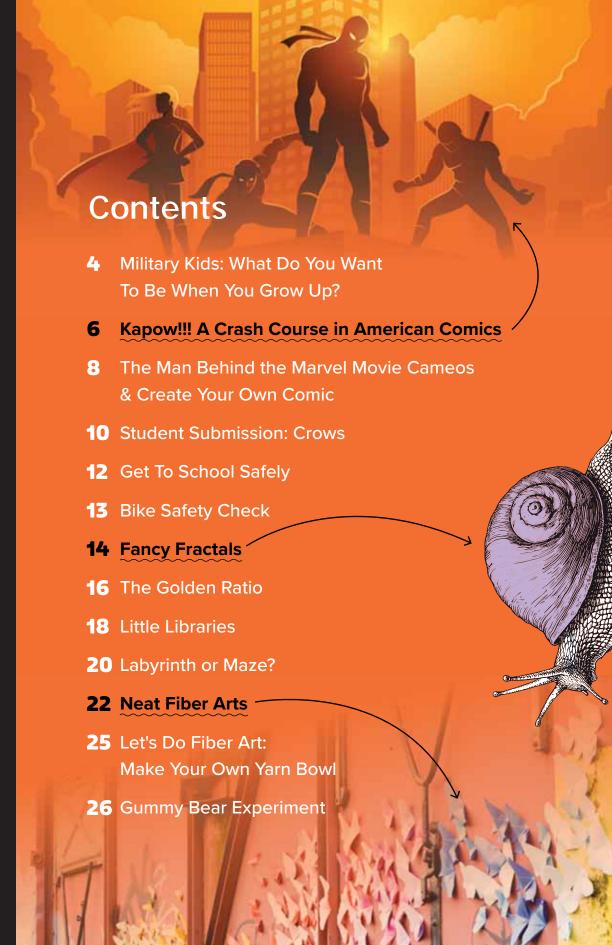
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FOLLOW US ON:









Military KIDS:

By Katie Wells

d, from artists to
and much more.
Up??

There are so many cool jobs in the world, from artists to scientists, carpenters, video developers and much more. We asked what you want to be when you grow up and you came up with some amazing responses! Lots of you want to be **YouTubers, singers, teachers and doctors!**

Morgan H. (11), wants to be a movie director!

These three siblings have athletics, medicine and locomotives covered:

Prayash G. (5), wants to be a train driver!

Prasoon G. (9), wants to be a footballer/ soccer player!

Prasiddh G. (11), wants to be an ophthalmologist!

Allyson R. (13), wants to be an astrophysicist!

Oliver P. (6), wants to work at a Spider-Man shop and invent real web-shooters. His sister...

Annabeth P. (9), wants to own a coffee shop or be a teacher!

• Aella M. (3.5), wants to be a monster truck driver!

Annabel C. (10), wants to be an animator.

Jameson C. (7), wants to be a herpetologist (that's a snake and lizard scientist)!

Ellie D. (5), wants to be a neonatal physician!

Sadie M. (6), wants to be a detective astronaut!

Kamran F. (7), wants to be a video game developer!

These three siblings all want to be something different:

Noah K. (17), wants to be a biomedical engineer!

Abe K. (11), wants to be a paleo artist!

Isaiah K. (7), wants to be retired (a lot of us are with you on that one)!









Special Forces DOGS:



Have you heard of the military working dogs that train with the Special Forces?

These canines are elite workers. They are highly trained to work alongside their human handlers to detect bombs, scout and patrol as well as go on search and rescue missions. Some are even trained to parachute out of planes or repel from helicopters. Can you imagine a dog floating down from the sky?

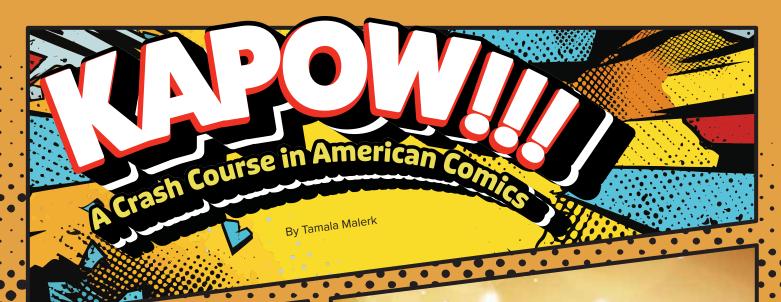
It takes a large amount of skill, trust and training for these dogs to do what they do. Their incredible sense of smell makes them perfect for these types of job duties. Dogs can detect explosives better than any military equipment.

Most military working dogs are a breed called the **Belgian Malinois**.

This is because they are quick as lightning, strong sniffers, fierce and loyal. Both the handler and dog train together to create an inseparable bond.

If you love dogs, you could also become a military working dog handler. ●

ENT



Did you know that zombies were not allowed in comic books for over 20 years? What about the fact that there are FIVE different eras of comic books? Comic books have a history that goes back over 100 years! They can be scary, funny, sad, imaginary or based on real life. There is a comic book out there for everyone.

The Golden Age of Comics (1938-1950s)

The first comic book published in America was "The Yellow Kid in McFadden Flats" by Richard Outcault in 1897. However, it took almost 50 years for comic books to become super popular. 1938 is the start of the Golden Age because this marks the first appearance of **Superman** in comic books.

Superheroes took over comic book stories during the Golden Age. This had a lot to do with World War II happening during this time.





Silver Age (1950s-1970s)

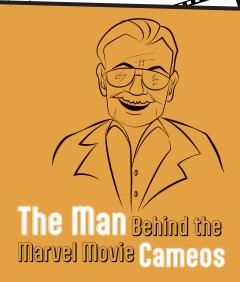
Many adults thought that comic books were too violent or too scary for children and the **Comics Code Authority** (CCA) was created to make rules about what could be in a comic.

Zombies, werewolves, vampires, horror and terror were not allowed in comics with the CCA seal of approval. Adults felt better letting their kids buy comics that had the CCA label on them. All the big comic publishers put the logo on their books. However, the CCA also led to weird characters that got around the rules such as **Vampiresaurus Rex** and **Zuvembies**.

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

Even with the strict rules of the CCA, many popular characters were created during this time. These include **the Teen Titans**, **Batgirl**, the **Justice League** and **Iron Man**.





By Tamala Malerk

When you are watching your favorite Marvel superhero movies, you may notice one man always appears. Who is that guy?

In 1922, Stanley Martin Lieber was born in New York. You may know him as **Stan Lee**. Comic book movies are popular today. However, it was not always like that. Lee helped to make comic books and movies cool.

He started working as a comic book assistant editor in 1938. He went on to be one of comic books' greatest creators and cheerleaders. Lee helped to create many characters you may know: The Fantastic Four, Spider-Man, The Incredible Hulk and The X Men.

Because of his important role in the Marvel world, he has appeared in over 60 Marvel movies, TV shows and video games. He usually says one or two lines, if any. These appearances are often short, sometimes even just a photograph. The quick appearances are known as "cameos." Unfortunately, Stan Lee passed away in 2018, but his story lives on in Marvel media. He appeared on a poster in "Deadpool and Wolverine" in 2024.

We don't have enough room on the page to list all of his cameos, but here are some of the most notable

- 1. First Marvel cameo on television:

 "The Trial of the Incredible Hulk" in
 1989
- **2.** First Marvel movie cameo in movie theaters: "X-Men" in 2000
- **3. First video game cameo:** "Spider-Man" in 2000 for the PlayStation 1
- **4.** First and only cameo with his wife Joan: "X-Men: Apocalypse" (2016)
- **5.** Last live Marvel movie cameo: "Avengers: End Game" (2019)

Have you seen a Stan Lee cameo?

Create Your Own Comic!

Making a comic story is like telling a fun little adventure with pictures, all on one page. Use the blank panels on the next page to make your comic.

Step 1: Start the Story (Panel 1)

This is where we show:

- Where the story is happening (Is it in a castle? A forest? A kitchen?)
- Who's in it (A wizard? A burrito? A superhero?)
- What they want to do (Make a magic spell? Find their way home? Eat a huge sandwich?)

Step 2: Uh-oh! Something Goes Wrong (Panels 2–3)

Now something bad or funny happens that stops the character from getting what they want.

 A mistake, a silly mix-up or a surprise problem to solve.

Step 3: What Now?! (Panels 4-5)

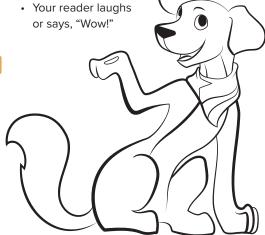
This is where your character:

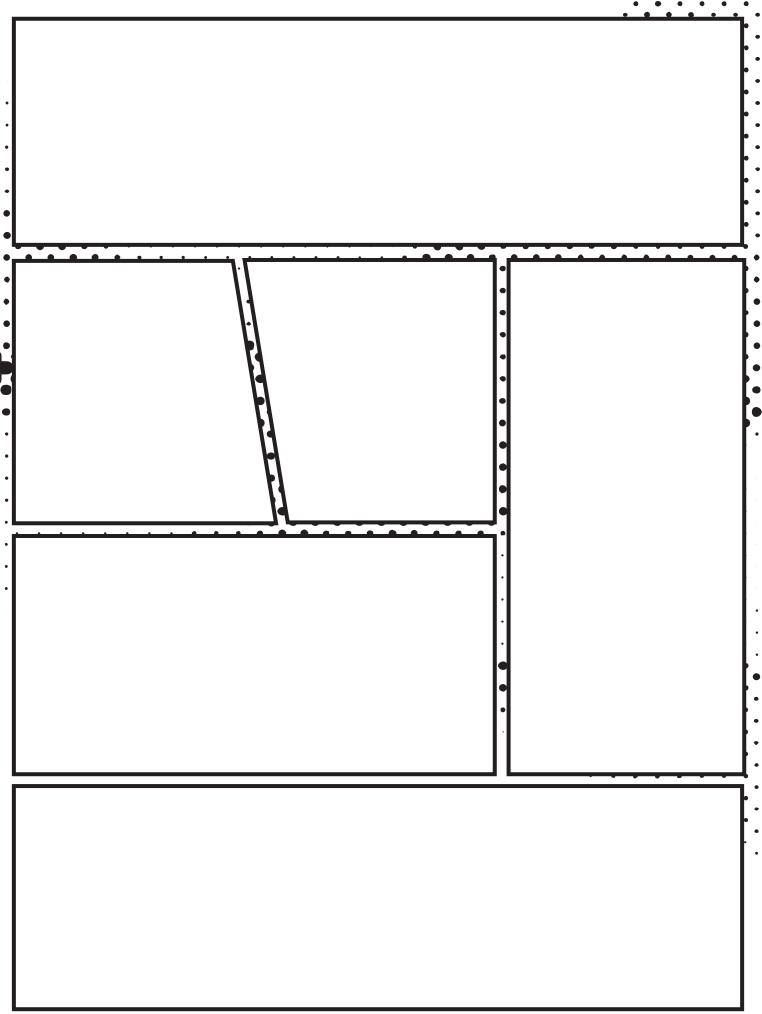
- · Feels surprised, sad, mad or confused.
- Thinks of a new plan or tries something different.

Step 4: The Ending! (Panel 6)

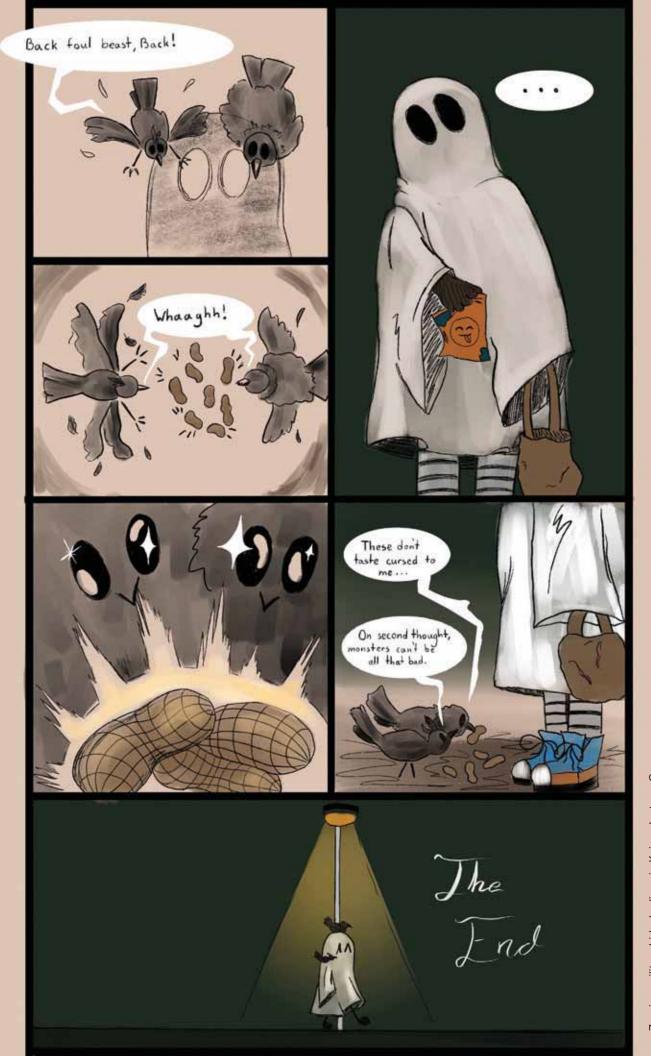
Here's the big surprise or funny moment—the conclusion.

Something silly or totally unexpected happens.









Zoe is a military kid who lives in Kaiserslautern, Germany and goes to a German high school near her house.

O SCHOO

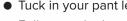
By Kat Nickola

TAKING THE BUS

- Be early.
- Have your bus pass ready.
- Stay seated and calm.
- Respect the bus driver.
- Chat quietly.

RIDINGABIKE

- Wear a helmet.
- Tuck in your pant legs.
- Follow road rules.
- Use hand signals for drivers.
- Listen and look for cars.
- Carry your stuff in a backpack or basket.



WALKING

- Use the sidewalk.
- Only cross at a crosswalk.
- Wait for a green signal.
- Stay alert for cars.
- Keep your phone put away.
- Use reflective gear on dark mornings.



By Kat Nickola

Write in and trace the bike parts you need to check for a safe bike ride.

1. Clean the ___ with a rag so it runs smoothly. 2. Your , or saddle, should not move when you sit on it. _____ levers to make sure they stop 3. Squeeze the your bike. 4. Use a white in front and a red one in back. 5. Test the sound of your _ **6.** Pump up your ___ _ so they are firm. What connects your brake levers to the brakes?



Write the circled letters:

FRACIALS:

A fractal is made from a never-ending pattern that is repeated at different sizes. It is "self-similar." This means that as you zoom in or out, all the parts have a similar shape to the whole thing.

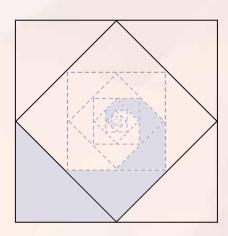
By Kat Nickola

SPIRAL FRACTALS

You can make a simple spiral fractal.

Start by drawing a square. Now draw another square inside of it but turned sideways. Keep drawing smaller and smaller squares inside!

To see the spiral, color the triangles.

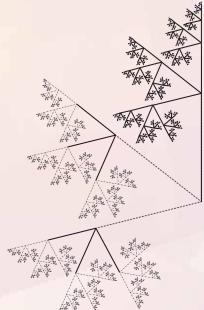


BRANCHING FRACTALS

You can also draw branching fractals. Start by drawing three lines. At the end of each line, draw three more. Keep adding three more branches to the tip of each line.

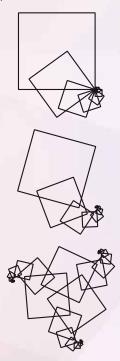
Use the Fractal Explorer to create your own branching fractals:

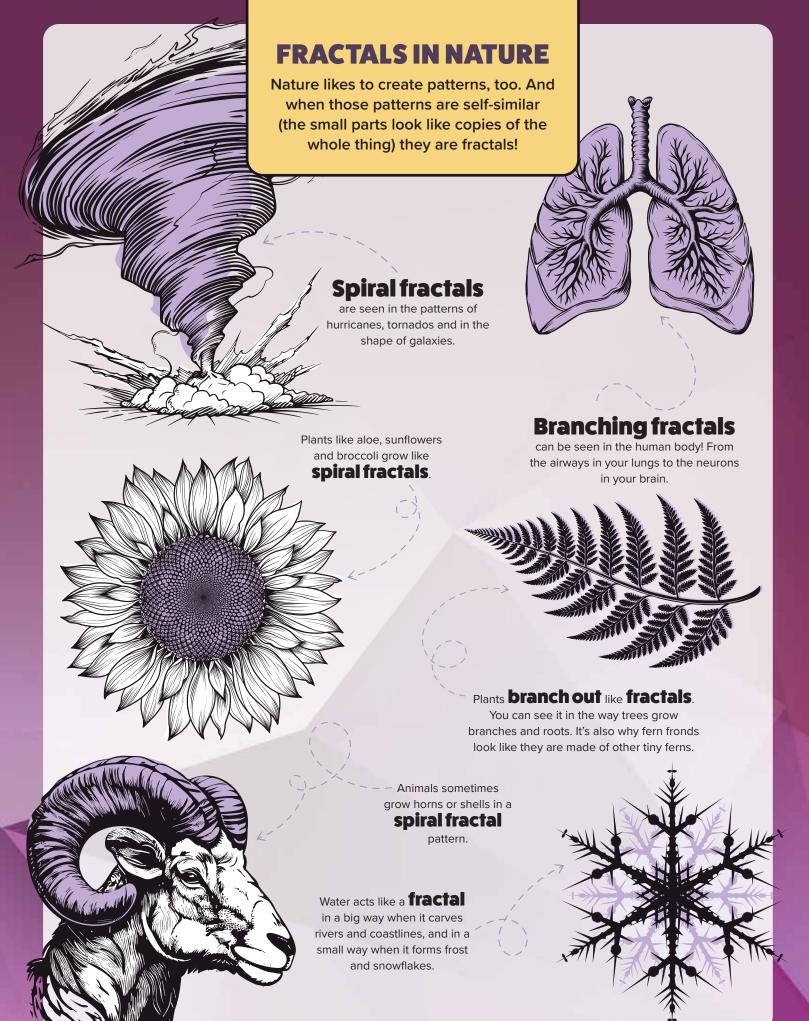
www.visnos.com/demos/fractal



COMPLEX FRACTALS

Mathematicians can make very complex fractals like a dragon curve. Using math, a simple line is copied and turned. Then each set of lines is also copied and turned. This happens over and over as it makes a pattern.





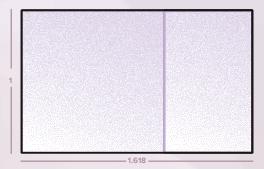
THE GOLDEN RATIO

There is one special way to make fractals that is both math and art. It is called the golden ratio. You can use it to lay out a drawing or frame a photo.

Or, you can copy nature and use it to make repeated patterns.

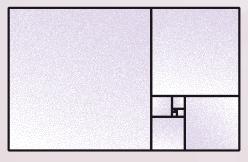
The ratio is a special number that starts with **1.618**. It is represented by the Greek letter Phi: Φ.

It can be seen in a rectangle with the short side measuring 1 and the long side measuring 1.618.

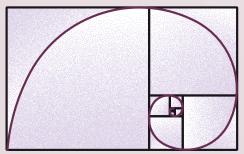


The rectangle can be broken down into a square and another rectangle. Then that rectangle can be broken down into a square and rectangle.

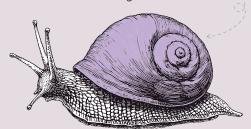
It can go on and on and on.



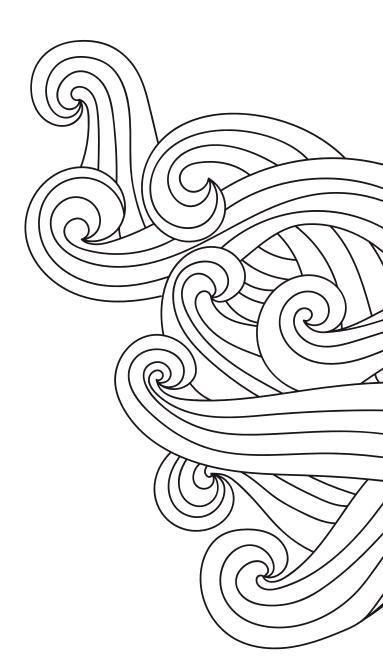
This golden ratio makes a special fractal that spirals.



Nature shows off the golden ratio in shells!



COLOR THE MOLLUSK TO FIND THE GOLDEN RATIO!







n your travels, you may have noticed little sheds, telephone booths or repurposed doll houses filled with books. These are mini, free libraries.

The idea is that if you take a book to read, you return it when you are finished reading or you add a book to replace it. These pop-up little libraries are all over the world. Each library is unique. Some have books in other languages, some have books in braille and some even have crafts and activities.

Find a registered
Little Library near you!

They've become so popular there are even a few on military bases.

A military kid just like you had the idea for a little library located on-post in Baumholder, Germany. According to the "Kaiserslautern American" newspaper, Lorne Huxtable, who was a seventh grader at Baumholder Middle School when he built it, said, "I need to get better at reading, so I thought I'd just promote literacy throughout the whole community as well." This is a little library which has been officially registered with LittleFreeLibrary.org.





If you live in Bavaria look for this little library with a spinning pinwheel on top in Amberg (close to Vilseck and Grafenwöhr).

When traveling around Europe, I've seen unique little libraries in Interlaken, Paris, Rome, Bamberg and Amberg. Always keep your eye out, you never know where you might find one and it can be fun to try reading a book in another language! ●







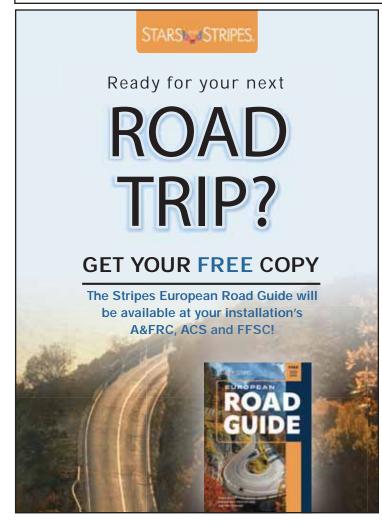


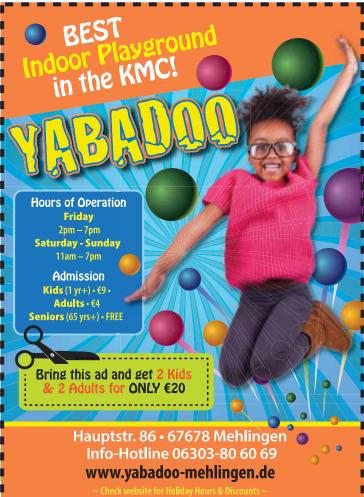




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Art on the Underground!



Every tube (subway) station in **London** has a small labyrinth artwork you can trace with your finger.

©TRANSPORT FOR LONDON

A labyrinth has one path through the entire thing. It is easy on purpose. The action of drawing the line or walking along the trail can be calming.

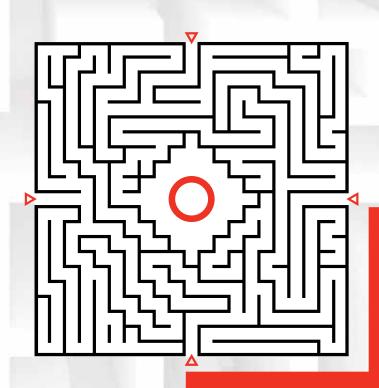
LABYRINITY OR MAZE?

A Maze is a puzzle you must solve. The goal is to figure out which path to take. There are dead ends and wrong turns.

Visit a maze!



The **Drielandenpunt maze** is where Belgium, Germany and The Netherlands meet. The name means "three land points."





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By Katie Wells

Have you heard of fiber arts?

Fibers are strands of material that come from plants, animals, humans or even plastic. Think sheep wool or soft fluffy cotton. These strands of fiber are then woven together and used to make thread, yarn, clothes, art and more. Knitting, crocheting, felting, quilting and paper making are all forms of fiber art. People around the world do some pretty neat stuff with fiber art that not only beautifies spaces, but also has purpose.





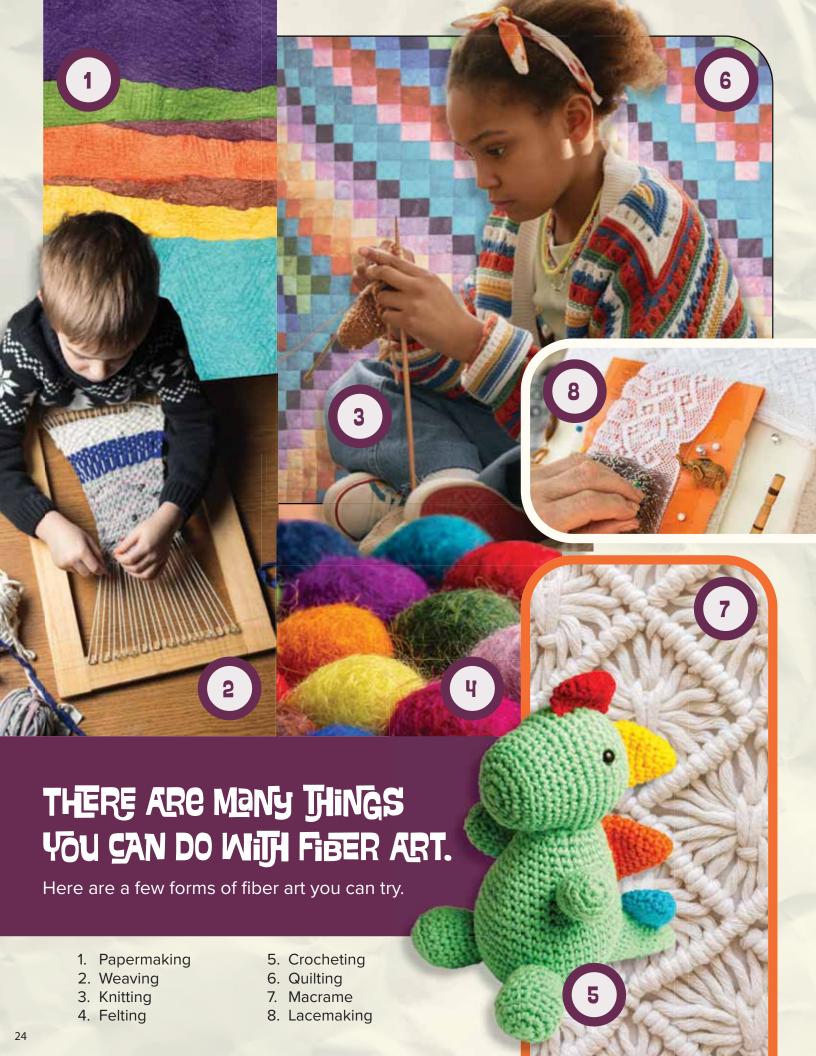
CROCHET CANOPIES

Yarn is one of the most adaptable fibers. When you think of yarn, you may think of cozy knitted or crocheted sweaters, scarves and blankets. Things made to keep you warm. Well, yarn can also cool you down.

As summers continue to get hotter, reaching beyond 100°F, cities in Spain have started to put up canopies over shopping streets to help cool things down. They are typically made from plastic or canvas. But a group of local women known as the "ganchileras" (women who crochet) in Alhaurín de la Torre, Spain decided to bring some color back into the sky with yarn. Together, they crocheted a sunshade spanning an entire kilometer. Some people lovingly refer to it as "the granny blanket of Calle Malaga."

The canopy took three years to make. It provides shade for over 500 square meters. That is bigger than a basketball court! Now, more towns are starting to make their own versions. You might even see crochet umbrellas hovering up above your head while walking down streets in Europe.



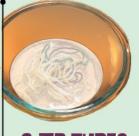




This is a super fun, but MESSY craft! You might want to work outside or cover the table with an old towel.

STEP ONE:

Cut your yarn into strands. 5-inch to 12-inch pieces work great!



STEP THREE:

Place bits of the yarn into the glue and water mixture. Let them soak for a few seconds. Squeeze out any excess glue and start layering it around the balloon. Get as crazy as you want looping the yarn in neat patterns.



Keep adding yarn to your bowl and patting it down so it sticks well.

STEP FIVE:

Let the yarn dry overnight. If you used a lot of yarn, it may take longer to dry. Then, pop the balloon. Now you have a cool place to store your keys, treasures or more balls of yarn. ●

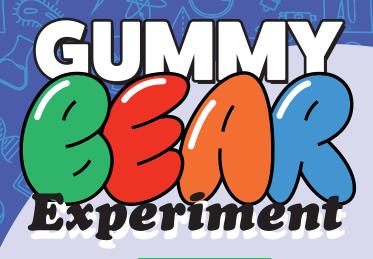


Cover the balloon with plastic wrap and tape its tail to the table.











By Tamala Malerk

What happens when a gummy bear gets too wet? In this experiment you will find out which liquid changes the gummy bear the most.



- O8-10 gummy bears
- O4-5 clear cups
- O4-5 liquids
 - Water
 - ☐ Salt water
 - ☐ Milk
 - □ Vinegar
 - □ (Optional) A local drink like:
 APFELSCHORLE in Germany
 CHINOTTO in Italy,
 HORCHATA in Spain or
 GINGER BEER in England.
- O Pencil or pen







See how our experiment turned out!











Hypothesis (*This is what you think will happen before you do the experiment*) What liquid do you think will change the gummy bear the most? Why?

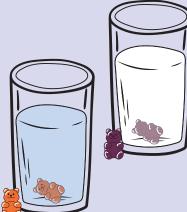
Results

Which gummy bear changed the most? Which gummy bear changed the least? Was your hypothesis right? •



Method

- **1** Fill each cup with one of the different liquids.
- Put one gummy bear into each cup.
 Also, set a gummy bear beside each cup
 to compare them later.
- Wait 10–12 hours.
 You may want to do
 this before you go
 to school and check
 your results before
 you go to bed.







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