

Be the Artist: Negative Space

Making art will give your brain a rest from screens and strengthen hand-eye coordination. And it is just plain fun!

Supplies

- **Plain piece of paper**
- **Pencil**
- **Tempera paint** (crayons will work, too)
- **Paint brush**
- **A small, familiar object that fits on the paper** (some ideas: scissors, tooth brush, spoon, small bottle)



Instructions

1. Trace your object on the paper several times.

Move the object into different positions, tracing as you go. Use the whole sheet of paper. Sometimes let your object go off the paper edge when you trace it.



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2. Start painting (or coloring).

Use one color to trace the outline of your object and fill in the space between each traced object without going into the traced object area.



3. Admire your beautiful artwork!

Want to explore more?

Keep creating art by trying one of these ideas as you do this activity again.

- Change your background color. How does the color affect your artwork?
- Change the object you are tracing.
- What happens if you cut out some of the tracings and glue a different piece of paper or a picture from a magazine to the back of your paper? Try it and see.
- Explore your own ideas!