# Congratulations!
## You're in the right place to explore, create, and grow!

BUT, sometimes, working out where to start can be tough, for both the parents and young creatives.

This **Creative Spark Kit** holds a treasure trove of resources to inspire and support tweens/teens, and prompts to get those creative juices flowing.

### What's Inside?
- Online resources for young creatives **(pg 2-3)**
- Books to inspire and ignite ideas **(pg 4 )**
- Creative prompts to jumpstart your imagination**(pg 5 )**

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**BONUS: Chatterbox Activity**
- Simply **1. PRINT** and **2. FOLD IT UP** by following the instructions.
- Need help? check out the design notes at : **So Mad About Design**
- Use the pre-filled options to jump in right away, or customise the blank template with your own ideas.

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*A Quick Note for Parents & Caregivers*
*These resources are here to spark creativity, but I recommend you check them first to ensure they're a good fit as age suitability varies.*
*While I've gathered these from research and recommendations, I haven't explored every detail, and you should monitor usage.*
*This list is always evolving, so if you find a great tool (or something that doesn't quite fit), let me know - I'd love to keep improving it!*

## Go on then, explore and create  with confidence!

### psst....this is a clickable PDF, simply click on the links
### to check out the resources.

# ONLINE resources

Explore, create, and get inspired with these hand-picked creative resources.

## ART & DESIGN INSPIRATION & LEARNING

- **Tate Kids**
  Explore famous artworks, play art-related games, and try fun DIY projects.

- **Google Arts & Culture**
  Virtual Museum & Art Exploration. Take virtual tours of famous galleries, zoom into masterpieces, and explore AI-powered art tools.

- **The Met #METKIDS**
  Kid-friendly art history, interactive maps, and behind-the-scenes looks at famous pieces.

- **Art Gallery of NSW – Learn: Kids at Home**
  Offers fun, hands-on art activities, videos, and creative challenges to inspire young artists from home.

- **Queensland Art Gallery & GOMA**
  Offers interactive art activities, games, and exhibitions designed to inspire creativity in young artists.

## COLOUR THEORY & DESIGN TOOLS

- **Canva's Colour Wheel & Design Learning**
  Learn how colours interact, create custom palettes, and understand colour harmony.

- **Adobe Color**
  Experiment with colour harmonies, gradient palettes, and colour schemes.

- **Canva Colour Meanings**
  Explores the symbolism and psychology behind colours to inspire better design choices.

- **Coolors**
  Colour palette generator. Generate random palettes & experiment with harmonies for art & design projects.

- **Picular**
  It's like Google for Colours Type in any word (like "forest" or "marshmallows") and see colours inspired by that theme.

# ONLINE resources

## DRAWING & INTERACTIVE CREATIVITY TOOLS

- **Inktober**
  Drawing Prompts. A drawing challenge with daily prompts every October (or check out previous years prompts for ideas!).

- **Quick, Draw!**
  **– AI Drawing Challenge**
  A fun AI game that challenges you to sketch recognisable images quickly.

- **JacksonPollock.org**
  An interactive digital painting tool that lets you create Pollock-style drip paintings with just your mouse —no mess, just creativity!

- **Auto Draw by Google**
  A drawing tool that turns your doodles into illustrations using AI magic! Perfect for playing with ideas and seeing what AI thinks you're drawing. LEARN MORE

## CREATIVE INSPIRATION & LEARNING

- **Teen Breathe**
  **– Creative Living for Teens**
  A magazine dedicated to creative confidence, mindfulness, and design thinking.

- **Pixar in a Box – The Art of Animation & Storytelling**
  A free course from Pixar and Khan Academy about animation, storytelling, and the creative process.

- **Rebel Girls – Inspiring Creative Stories**
  Learn about amazing women in creative industries, from illustrators to filmmakers.

- **The Kid Should See This**
  **– Curated Cool Creative Content**
  A collection of inspiring videos covering unexpected, fun, and educational topics of all types, including art, design & creativity.

*There's no wrong way to create – just start!*

# BOOKS *to inspire*

Discover the ideas, insights, and visuals of these inspiring books!

### GRAPHIC DESIGN, DIGITAL ART & DRAWING

- **Graphic Design for Everyone by Cath Caldwell:** A beginner-friendly guide covering typography, colour theory, and layout, helping young designers learn design skills.
- **Kawaii Kitties by Olive Yong:** Learn how to draw adorable kawaii-style cats.
- **Think and Make Like an Artist by Claudia Boldt & Eleanor Meredith:** Fun art activities to develop your imagination.
- **Making Comics: Storytelling Secrets of Comics, Manga, and Graphic Novels:** How comics work, covering storytelling, character design & layout.
- **The Illustrator's Guide to Procreate by Ruth Burrows:** Step-by-step Procreate tutorial book, teaching young artists how to create digital illustrations.
- **The Sketchbook Idea Generator by Jennifer Orkin Lewis:** Perfect for overcoming creative blocks and sparking new ideas.

### DISCOVERING ARTISTS & ART HISTORY

- **Women Artists A to Z by Melanie LaBarge:** A beautifully illustrated book celebrating female artists throughout history.
- **Georgia O'Keeffe: Portrait of an Artist by Lucy Brownridge:** A kid-friendly biography of one of the world's most famous painters.
- **The Art Book for Children by Phaidon:** A fun introduction to famous artworks and artists.
- **Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls by Elena Favilli & Francesca Cavallo:** Stories of inspiring women told through beautiful illustrations.

### CREATIVE CONFIDENCE & INSPIRATION

- **Good Selfie: Tips & Tools for Teens to Nail Life by Turia Pitt** – A confidence-building book with real-life advice for teens.
- **365 Days of Creativity by Lorna Scobie:** Daily creative exercises to stretch your imagination.
- **You Are an Artist by Sarah Urist Green:** Encourages readers to create their own art using prompts.

# JUMPSTART *creative prompts*

## Stretch your creativity & think outside the lines!
From drawing challenges to design exercises, these ideas will help inspire and develop your skills.

- **Draw with your eyes closed:** This activity encourages you to let go of perfectionism and embrace your creativity. Close your eyes and draw an object from memory. When you're finished, open your eyes and add details and colours.

- **Sketch your favourite character** from a movie or TV show in different styles.

- **Choose a random word** & draw a scene or image that comes to mind when you think of it.

- **Design a logo** for a made-up company or product.

- **Create a mood board** in Canva for a dream holiday, using photos and design elements.

- **Use the symmetry tool** in Procreate to create a butterfly or other symmetrical design.

- **Illustrate a tiny world** inside an everyday object.

- **Mashup:** Take two unrelated objects and merge them together in a design e.g. a cactus and a bicycle, a robot and a teapot.

- **Draw in Procreate with a different brush** than you usually use, and see how it changes your style.

- **Choose a colour** and challenge yourself to create a design using only shades of that colour.

- **Draw a portrait of your pet** or an animal using an unexpected colour palette.

- **Reimagine your favourite animal** as a fantasy creature.

- **Turn your name** into a creative logo.

- **Draw yourself as a character** in a video game.

- **Design a postcard** in Canva from an imaginary planet.

# CREATIVITY STARTS WITH A SPARK,
# & THIS KIT IS HERE TO KEEP IT BURNING!

Whether you're picking up a pencil or an iPad, exploring new ideas, or just having fun with the prompts, there's no right or wrong way to create.

Get in there, try something new, and most of all—enjoy the process. You never know where your imagination might take you!

👉 Want more inspiration?
Visit <u>So Mad About Design</u> for more creative resources, tutorials, and digital art tools to keep your creativity flowing!

Check out the free resources:
✔ Beginner-friendly tutorials to get you started
✔ Step-by-step guides for creative challenges
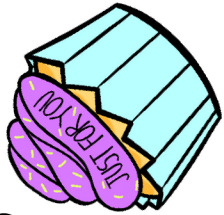✔ Downloadable colour palettes, Procreate secrets, brushes, and more!

**<u>Start Creating!</u>**

# CREATIVE SPARK CHATTERBOX

1. Print and cut around the outside of the Chatterbox
2. Fold in Half and then in half again.
3. Open out, turn over so the blank side is facing you and fold each corner into the middle,
4. Turn over and repeat, folding each corner into the middle.
5. Fold in half and then in half again (with the numbers on the inside), ensuring folds are pressed well.
6. Keep folded in half and slip the thumb and finger of one hand behind 2 of the pictures. Gently work your fingers into the centre points and fold the paper until the 2 points meet.
7. Repeat with the other hand until all 4 points meet in the centre.
8. All the pictures should now be at the front with the centres touching.
9. Your Chatterbox is now ready to use!

**Draw**

4

**Create**

3

Combine 3 animals to create a completely new creature! Draw it!

Design a mascot for your school or sports team.

8

Silly Selfie time! Draw a portrait of yourself pulling a silly face.

7

Create a book cover for a made up story.

Create a birthday card for a friend or family member.

Design a poster for your favourite band or musician

9

Listen to music and draw how it makes you feel.

Draw your favourite animal doing something unusual.

5

**Inspire**

2

**Imagine**

1

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www.somadaboutdesign.com

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