



# DISCOVER SUMMER

from the Library and Our Friends



Hamilton County  
cincinnati  
public  
library

ages 15-18+

# Welcome!

We're so glad you picked up our second annual summer booklet. It's specially designed with engaging activities to help you enjoy summer to the fullest!

## New This Year

Many of the activities book are provided by our partner organizations in Cincinnati and Hamilton County. You may have visited some of these places in the past, and some may be new to you. This booklet is a great way to learn more about what's available to you right here in Greater Cincinnati.



Discover more ways to celebrate summer in Cincinnati and Hamilton County at [CincySummer.org](https://www.cincysummer.org)! This web page is meant to be a one-stop spot for you to find out about all kinds of fun learning opportunities happening this summer throughout the city and county.



*Paula Brehm-Heeger*

Paula Brehm-Heeger  
Eva Jane Romaine Coombe Library Director



p.s. Show us the activity you enjoyed the most by tagging [#cincysummer](https://www.instagram.com/cincysummer) on social media!

## Complete Activities, Earn Prizes!

Complete five of the activities in this book. Then, fill out an entry form at any Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library location or log your activities online at [CincinnatiLibrary.org/summer](https://www.cincinnatiandhamilton.org/summer) for a chance to win a great prize! Prizes include gift cards, LEGO sets, art supplies and more.

### Did you complete all eight activities in this booklet?

You are eligible for a second entry in our prize drawing!

*Winners will be drawn in August 2021.*

*Entrants must be age 18 or younger.*



## Visit [CincySummer.org](https://www.cincysummer.org)

Have a summer bucket list? You will! Find out about the coolest events for kids and families around Cincinnati and Hamilton County this summer!

## Discover It with a Discovery Pass

Enjoy free visits to our county's amazing arts, cultural, and recreational attractions with the Library's Discovery Pass program. Make an online reservation today!

[CinLib.org/discovery-pass](https://www.cinlib.org/discovery-pass)

## Free Meals for Ages 18 and Under at Select Libraries

The Library offers free meal boxes throughout the summer. This service is provided by UMC Food Ministry and made possible through federal funding, as part of the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs. Visit our website for times and locations.

[CinLib.org/meals](https://www.cinlib.org/meals)

## WiFi at the Library

Looking for a relaxing place to access the internet? Stop by the Downtown Main Library or our branch libraries.

[CinLib.org/wifi](https://www.cinlib.org/wifi)



41 locations · No late fees · 229+ databases · Millions of books, movies, music & more

**cincinnati**  
**public**  
**library**

Hamilton County

Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library  
800 Vine St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513-369-6900

[CincinnatiLibrary.org](https://www.cincinnatiandhamilton.org)





# Pop Culture Nature Journal

Find the real-life inspiration for the fictional nature in pop culture!

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Two pieces of paper
- Pencil or pen
- Stapler

## ACTIVITY

1. Prepare your journal by folding several pieces of paper in half, nesting them, and stapling them together along the fold.
2. Find a quiet moment to think about how nature is presented in your favorite pop culture items. Your favorite pop culture items might include scenery or characters in books, magazines, video games, movies, or music. Record 10 of these items in your journal, along with their names. (Attach pictures of your items, if available.)
3. Head outside to see if you can find real-world examples of natural materials that may have inspired your 10 pop culture items. Record the examples from the natural world next to the pop culture items.
4. Can't find everything you're looking for? You might need to look at photos or video examples from other climates!

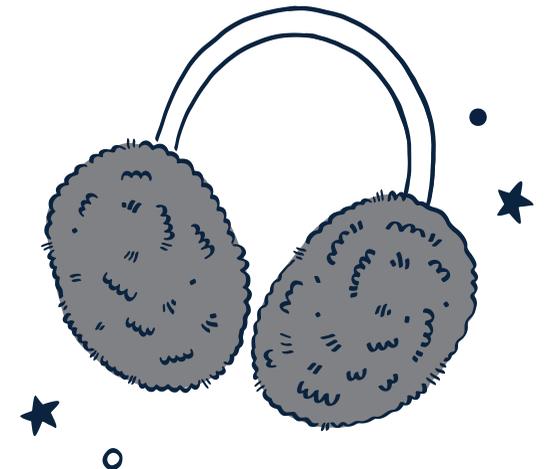
This activity is provided by:



Here is an example of a pop culture plant and its natural inspiration.  
Can you guess which book and movie they're from?



Mandrake  
(scientific name *Mandragora officinarum*)



## DISCOVER MORE



Discover the natural world at one of 17 parks and 4 conservation areas of the Great Parks of Hamilton County! Find one near you.  
[GreatParks.org](http://GreatParks.org)



Love nature photos? National Geographic Magazine's archive is free online with your Library card. Check out the magazine's first issue from 1888!  
[CinLib.org/nat-geo](http://CinLib.org/nat-geo)



# Be an Upstander

Use your voice to make change in Cincinnati or the world!

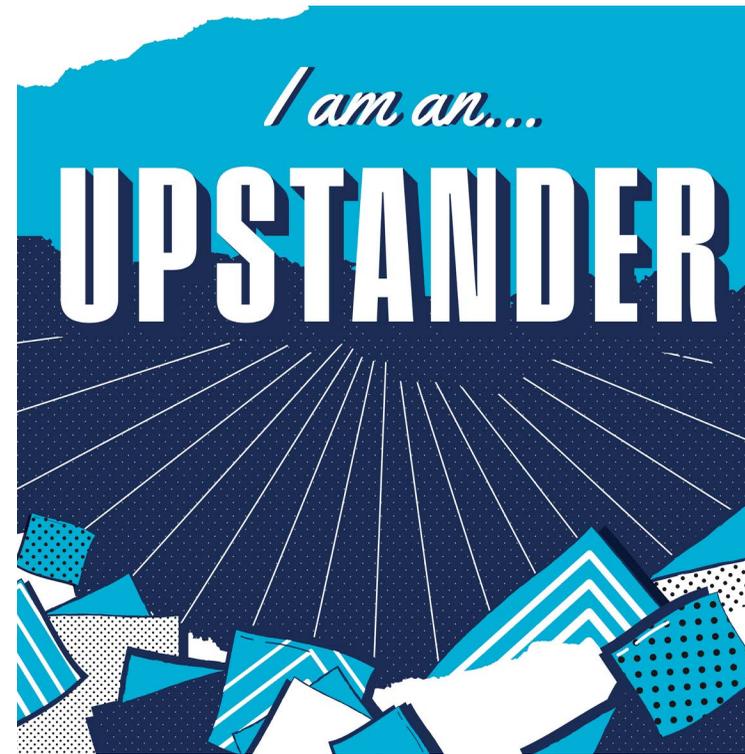
## WHAT YOU NEED

- Pencil or pen
- Several sheets of paper

## ACTIVITY

1. Think about one change that needs to be made in your school, neighborhood, or community. Using your paper and pen or pencil, write down answers to the following:
  - When did you first learn about this issue and why are you passionate about it?
  - Have you had personal experiences connected to this issue? If so, share one or two.
  - If you have already made an impact on this issue, share what you have done so far.
  - Explain why others should join you in taking action on this issue.
2. Now that you have reflected on these questions, write them in the form of a story that you can share with others. Once you have written your story, practice saying it out loud.
3. Share your story with a friend or family member. Adjust based on their feedback.

This activity is provided by:



We can all be upstanders and choose to speak out against injustice.

*llll* When you're ready, **SHARE YOUR STORY.** *llll*

Share individually, with a group, or in a video.

Share your story with classmates, friends, community members, or civic leaders!

Together, you can work to make a change!

## DISCOVER MORE



Learn more about activating your character strengths.  
[HolocaustandHumanity.org/upstander-activities](https://HolocaustandHumanity.org/upstander-activities)



Learn more about the Cincy Upstander Project.  
[HolocaustandHumanity.org/upstander-project](https://HolocaustandHumanity.org/upstander-project)

# Create Your Own Vision Board

Make a colorful visual reminder of your goals for the future!

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Markers
- Large piece of paper
- One 8.5x11 piece of paper
- Old magazines or newspapers
- Scissors
- Glue

## ACTIVITY

Think about your biggest goals and dreams. On the 8.5x11 piece of paper, write down three or four words that describe qualities you will need to reach these goals. Use the words supplied on the opposite page at right for inspiration. Cut out these words and set them aside.

1. Using the magazines or newspapers, cut out pictures that represent your goals and dreams. Set them aside. If you cannot find images that represent your goals and dreams, that's okay. Draw pictures of whatever you are missing!
2. Arrange the words and pictures you have cut out or drawn on the large piece of paper. When you are satisfied with the placement of the words and images, glue them to your vision board.
3. Share your vision board with a friend or family member. Talk about your plans to meet these goals and how you will measure your progress.
4. Place your vision board in an area where you will see it regularly.

This activity is provided by:



To reach my goals, I will need:

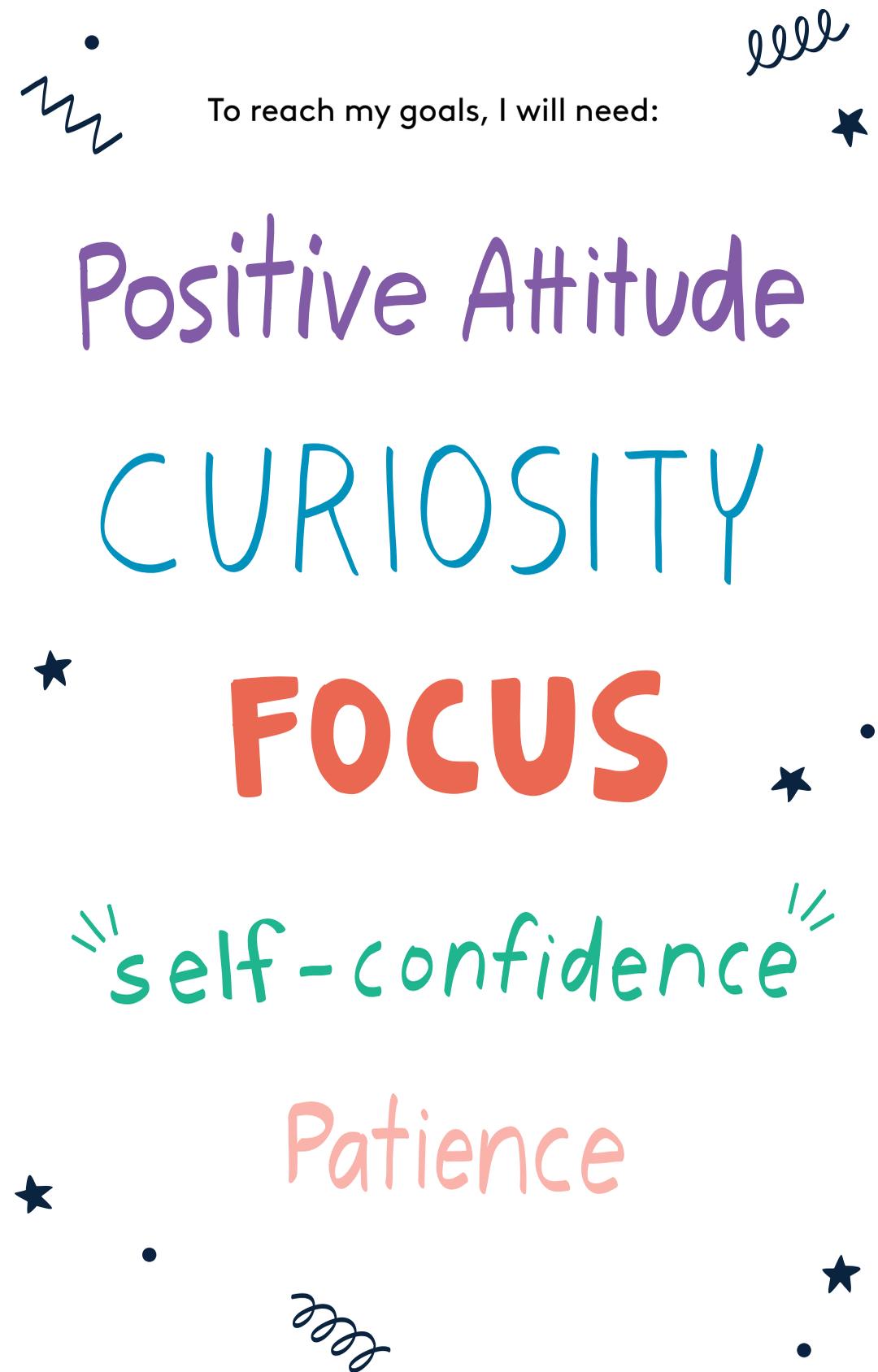
Positive Attitude

CURIOSITY

FOCUS

self-confidence

Patience



# Grow A Veggie Container Garden

Become more self-reliant and self-sufficient by growing your own food.

## WHAT YOU NEED

- One 12" or larger container with drainage holes (Like a five-gallon bucket, wooden container or a terracotta pot)
- Several vegetable seedlings
- One small bag of potting soil
- One small bag of fertilizer
- Supports if you are growing tomatoes or peas (Like a tomato cage or wooden stakes)

*Be careful if you need to add drainage holes to your container!*

## ACTIVITY

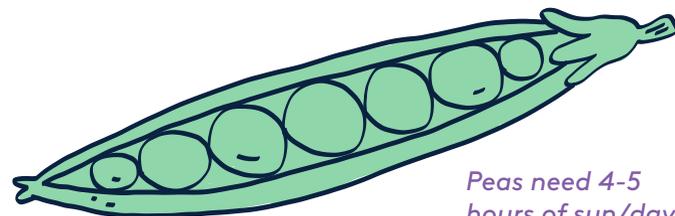
1. Gather your supplies and choose the vegetable you would like to grow.
2. Add soil to your container. Leave a 1" gap between the top of the soil and the top of your container.
3. Dig small holes in the soil to plant your seedlings. The seedlings' stems should begin at the soil line.
4. If growing peas or tomatoes, place the supports into the soil. The supports should be about 2' higher than the top of the container. As they grow, the pea or tomato plants will wrap around the support.
5. Place your container outside in the appropriate place so your plants get the correct amount of sunlight.
6. Monitor your container every day. Make sure your plants are getting the right amount of water. To do this, stick your finger an inch into in the soil. If it the soil is dry, water your plants. If the soil is wet or moist, you do not need to water your plants.

*Enjoy watching the changes in your vegetable plants!*



- Keep a notebook to track your plants' progress. Which day did flowers appear?
- Which day did your vegetable start to appear?
- Which day were you able to harvest your vegetables?

This activity is provided by:



Peas need 4-5 hours of sun/day



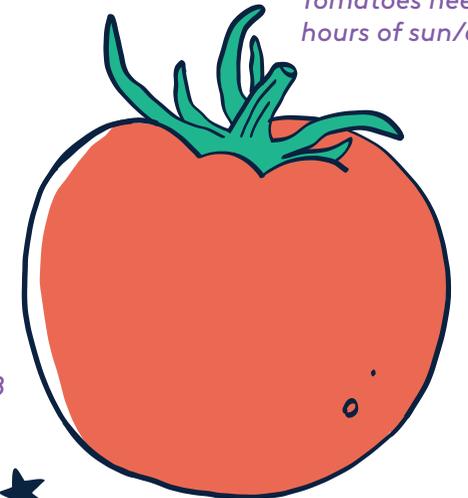
Spicy peppers need 6-8 hours of sun/day.



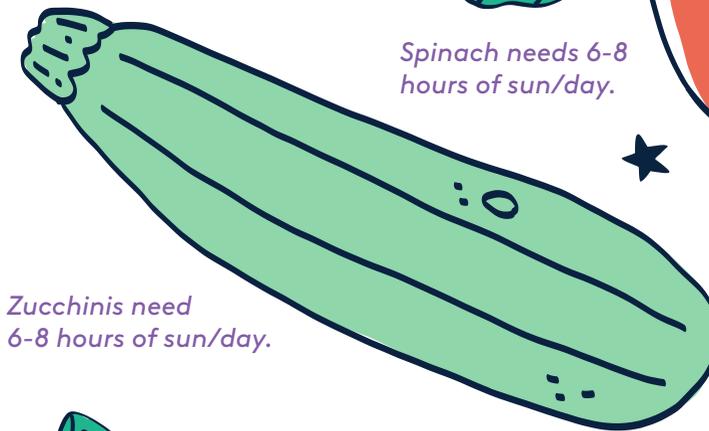
The vegetables on these pages are container-friendly and grow well in our climate (USDA Zone 6a) in the summertime!



Spinach needs 6-8 hours of sun/day.

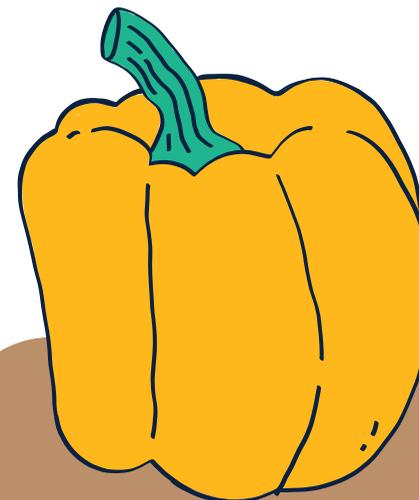


Tomatoes need 6-8 hours of sun/day.

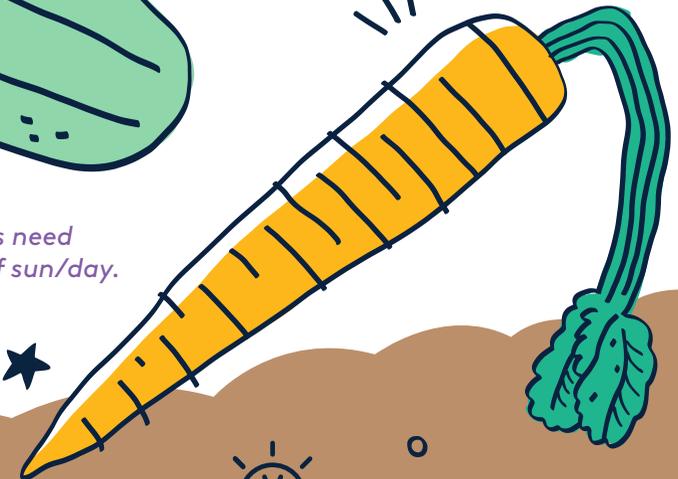


Zucchini need 6-8 hours of sun/day.

Carrots need 6-8 hours of sun/day.



Bell peppers need 6-8 hours of sun/day.



Soil dries out faster in containers than in the ground!

## DISCOVER MORE



Learn more about vegetable container gardening with a library book or eBook. [CinLib.org/veggie-container](https://CinLib.org/veggie-container)



Discover recipes to use your veggies with the Library's cookbook collection. [CinLib.org/veggie-cookbooks](https://CinLib.org/veggie-cookbooks)



# Find Your Path

As you begin to research careers and talk with professional mentors, it's important to make a good first impression!

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Elevator pitch form (On the opposite page)
- Pencil or pen
- Piece of paper

## ACTIVITY

A central part of creating a good first impression is presenting yourself in a meaningful way. An elevator pitch is an excellent way to accomplish this.

1. Fill out the form on the opposite page to help brainstorm your elevator pitch.
2. Using the responses to some of the questions on the form, pretend that a friend's parent has offered to talk to you about career opportunities. Use your blank piece of paper to craft the elevator pitch you would share with them.
3. Practice your elevator pitch several times. Make sure your pitch is no longer than a short elevator ride—about 20 to 30 seconds!

*Feel confident?*

*Share your pitch with someone you know!*

This activity is provided by:

**Cincinnati Recreation Commission**

in partnership with Junior Achievement



## CREATE YOUR ELEVATOR PITCH

What matters to you?

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What are you good at?

---

---

What do you have to offer to a potential employer?

---

---

What interests you?

---

---

If you asked a friend, how would he/she describe you?

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What is one thing people should know about you?

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Tell me about your dream job.

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What types of things would you be doing in your dream job?

---

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Where would you be working in your dream job?

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What is your dream job title?

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# Make Stylish Paper Bead Jewelry

Create an eco-friendly fashion statement!

## WHAT YOU NEED

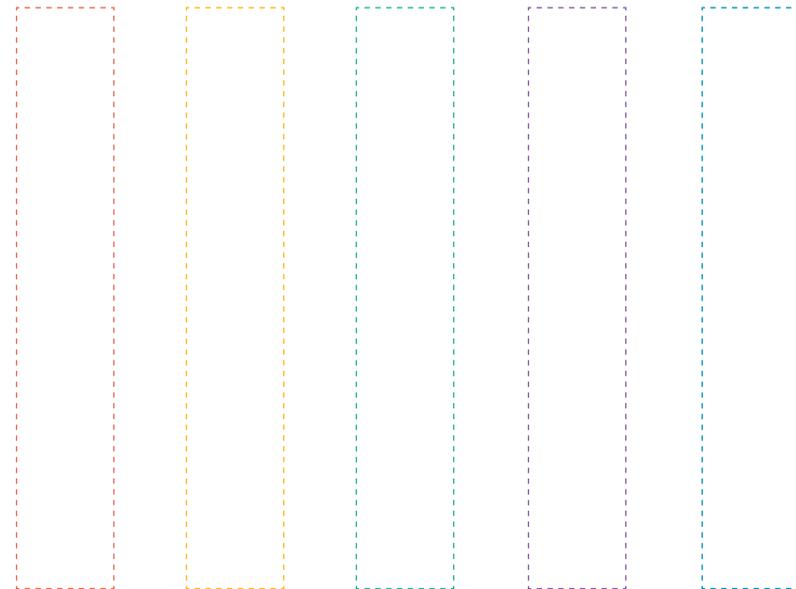
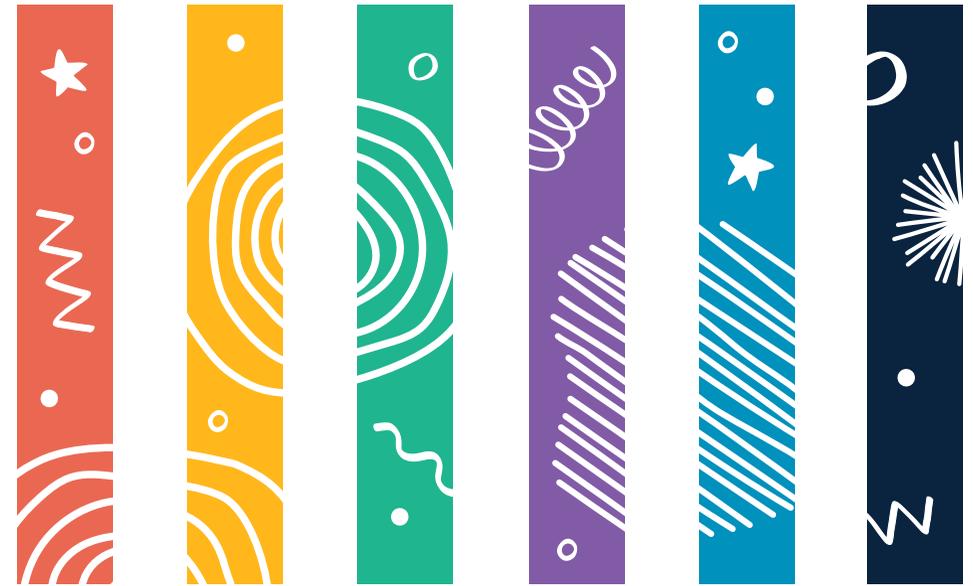
- Variety of paper (Like old magazines, scrapbook paper, or cut out the strips on the next page)
- One box of toothpicks
- Glue (Either liquid or a glue stick)
- Scissors
- Material to use to string your beads (Like elastic cord or thin string)

## ACTIVITY

1. Cut a strip of paper, about 3" long by ½" wide.
2. Dab a tiny bit of glue onto the toothpick and attach it to one of the ends of the strip.
3. Tightly roll the strip around the toothpick. Secure the end of the strip to the rolled strip with a dab of glue.
4. Allow the rolled strip to dry for several minutes. Then, gently remove the toothpick.
5. Create more beads by repeating the activity!
6. String your beads onto some elastic cord, thin string, or other material.

## Wear your art!

This activity is provided by:



Here are some strips to get you started and few to design on your own.

## DISCOVER MORE



Do you enjoy making paper beads? Then consider applying for the Cincinnati Museum Center's youth volunteer program this fall. Teen volunteers help families and visitors engage in creative activities at the museum!  
[CincyMuseum.org](https://CincyMuseum.org)



Watch award-winning art and craft video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists on Creative Bug. The videos are free with your library card.  
[CinLib.org/creativebug](https://CinLib.org/creativebug)

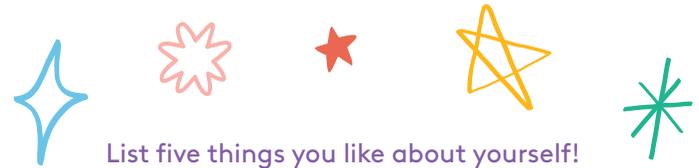
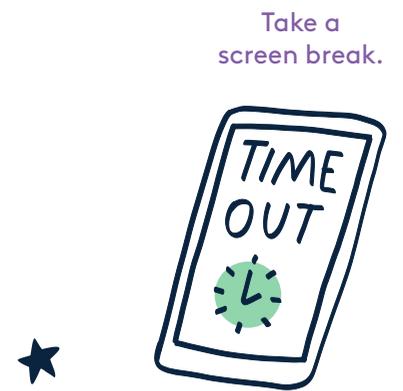
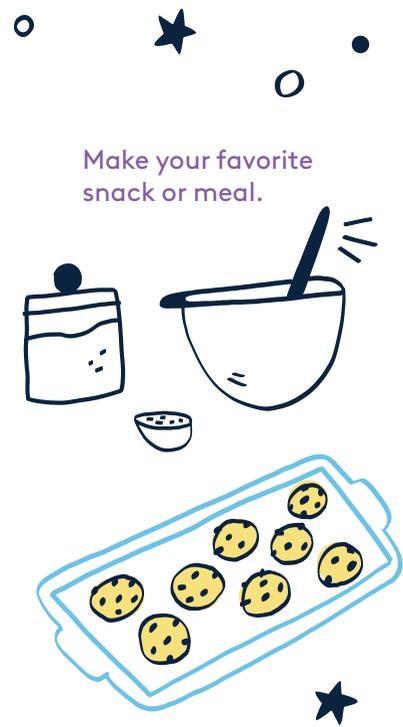
Practice meditation or yoga.



# Self-Care Summer

Practice these self-care tips now to enhance your well-being during the rest of the year.

This activity is provided by:



Five horizontal blue lines for writing.



Jot a plan or draw what you want to do in the future.



Call or send a text to a friend or family member. Tell them how much you love them.



Take a deep breath and forgive yourself.

## DISCOVER MORE



Unwind with yoga and wellness videos on Kanopy! Watch free with your library card. [CinLib.org/kanopy-yoga](https://CinLib.org/kanopy-yoga)



Consumer Health Complete has a ton of health and wellness information, including articles and videos. It's also free with your library card! [CinLib.org/creativebug](https://CinLib.org/creativebug)



This activity is provided by:



# Cincinnati Story Starters

Stuck in a rut with your writing? Spark your imagination using these writing prompts!

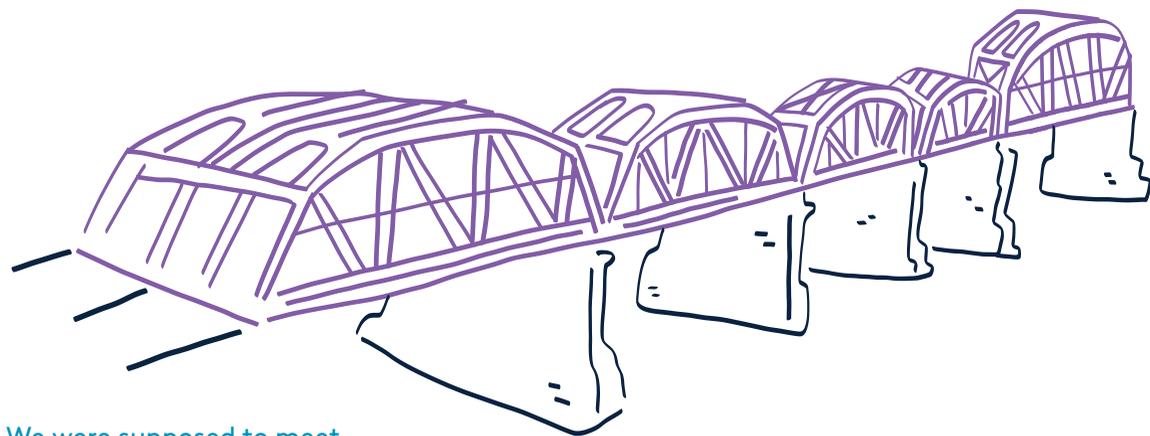
## WHAT YOU NEED

- Pen or pencil
- Paper, journal, or digital file for your story

## ACTIVITY

Use one of the story starter lines on these pages then finish the story! Story length is up to you, so keep going until you're finished.

Are you a plotter (you work from an outline) or a seat-of-your-pantser (you write without an outline)? Would working with or without an outline help you?



We were supposed to meet each other on the Purple People Bridge at midnight, but she/he never showed up...



It all started when I accidentally picked up the wrong suitcase at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport...



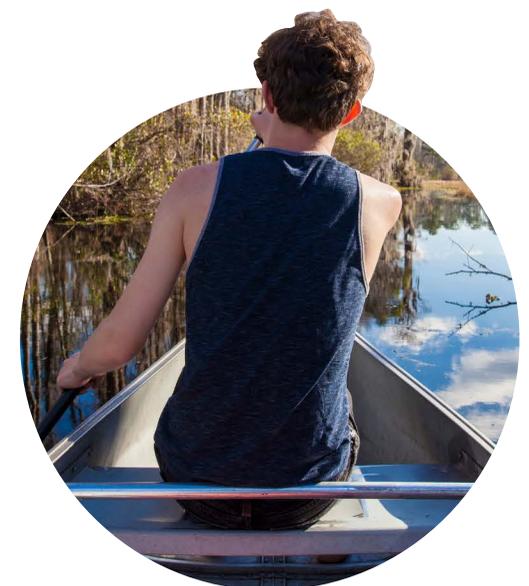
The server at Skyline walked over and whispered in my ear, "You have to leave because your life is in danger."



Time was running out. I had to run four more blocks to reach Music Hall.



We were canoeing at Sharon Woods when we noticed some unusual movement alongside the boat!







# A big thank you to our supporters!

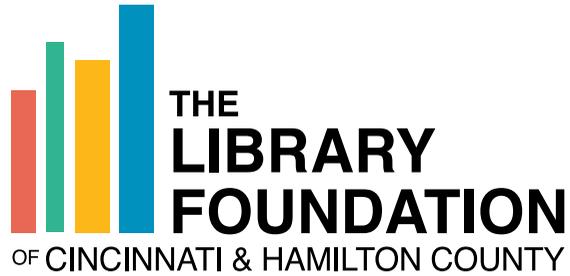
The Discover Summer program is made possible  
through the support of these donors.



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