

ArthurTM & Friends Make a Musical!



SPONSORED BY



Kids deserve the best.



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH THEATER

PROUD CORNERSTONE MEMBER



UNITED PERFORMING ARTS FUND

DEAR FIRST STAGE FRIENDS,

Big things are happening at Lakewood Elementary School! Mr. Ratburn's class is asked to write and perform a big show for all of Elwood City. Everyone is so excited! Everyone, except for Arthur. What should he do? Arthur feels more nervous as the big performance gets closer and closer. With the help of his family and friends Buster, Brain, Francine, Muffy – and even little sister D.W. – Arthur learns the importance of being his best, unique self. All aboard for an incredibly fun ride with this world premiere musical!

Enjoy the show,



Coltyn Giltner
Education Director
(414) 267-2972
cgiltner@firststage.org

PRE-SHOW QUESTIONS



1. This play is based on the *Arthur™ and Friends* Book Series and TV Program by Marc Brown. Have you ever read any *Arthur™ and Friends* books or seen the TV show? How might you expect this show to be similar? How might it be different? What do you think the show will be about?
2. Our show takes place in a place called Elwood City. Where do you live? What is your favorite thing about your community?
3. Have you ever put on a show, maybe at your school, your church, or even with your friends or siblings? What did you have to do to prepare? What was your show about?

MAPPING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

ACTIVITY

For Arthur's class's final project, they present a show filled with songs, monologues, and stories that are based on things they care about. The whole class also works together to create the final song all about their hometown, Elwood City. While they used what they already knew to create the song, Francine does some extra research to make sure their song tells the whole story of Elwood City. She finds out a lot of information that her classmates didn't know already and even used her research to create her own piece for the show!

Just like Francine and her classmates, let's get to know your community a bit more! This could be your home, your school, or maybe even your neighborhood. Using the materials listed below, the cut outs, and any other supplies you might need, follow the directions to create a map of your community!

MATERIALS

- Crayons/Colored Pencils/Markers
- Scissors
- A poster or a sheet of butcher paper
- Blank paper
- Trees
- Cars
- Houses
- Swing Set
- Grocery Store
- Gas Station
- Fire Station
- Library

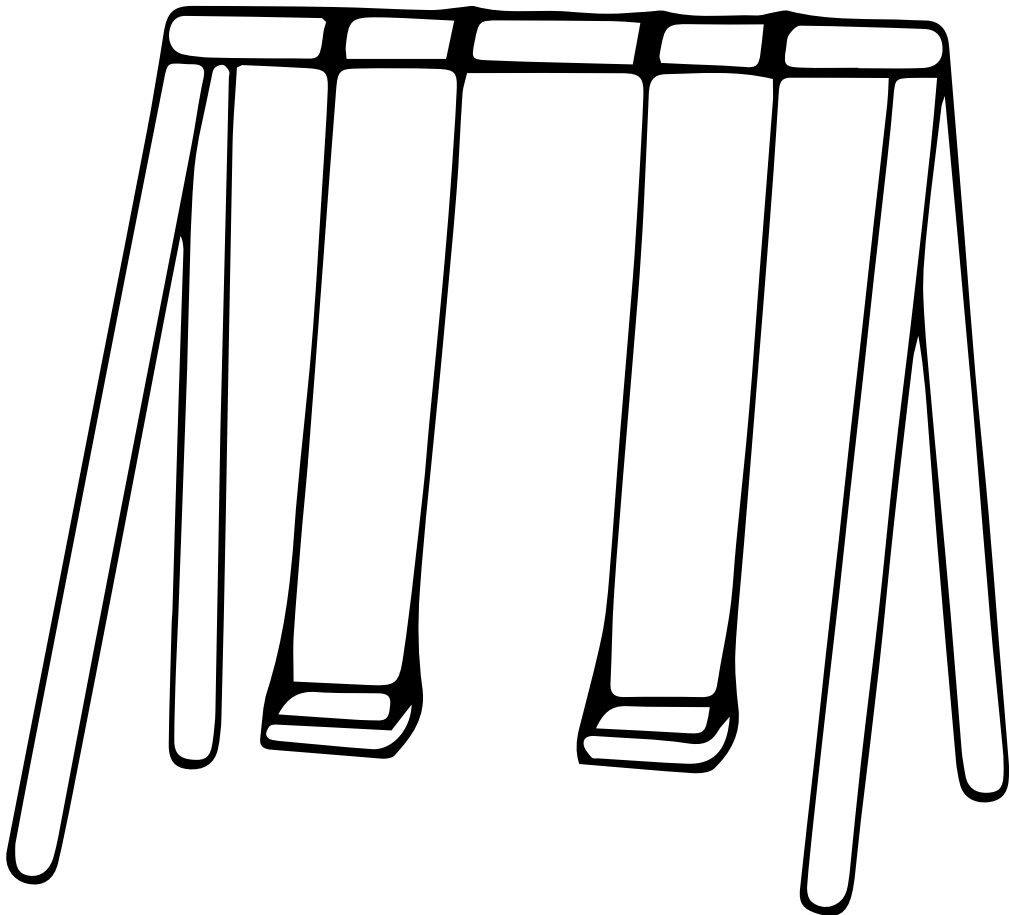
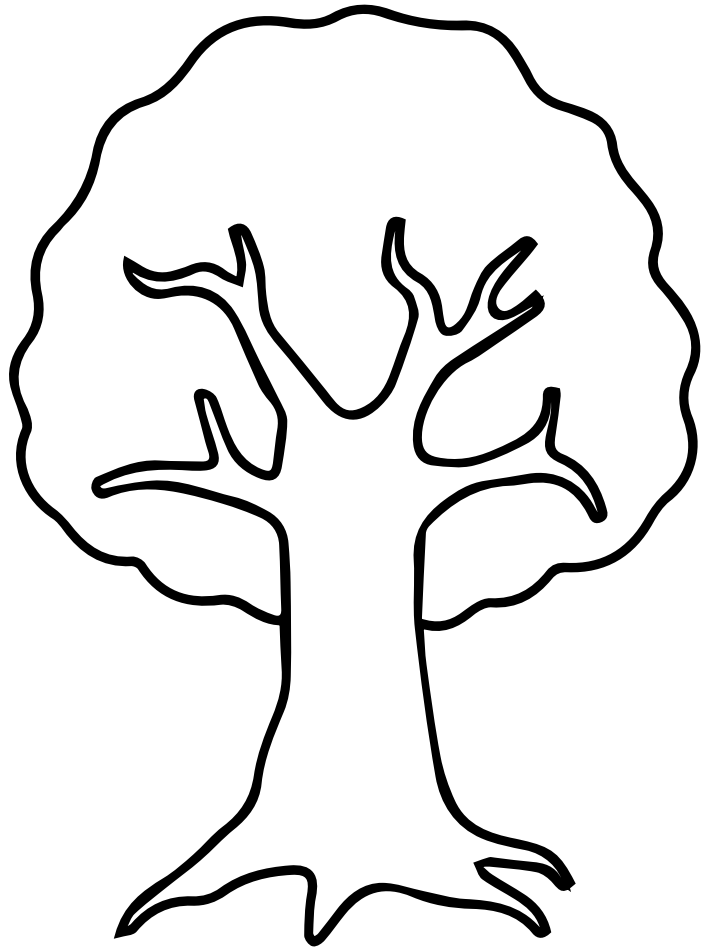
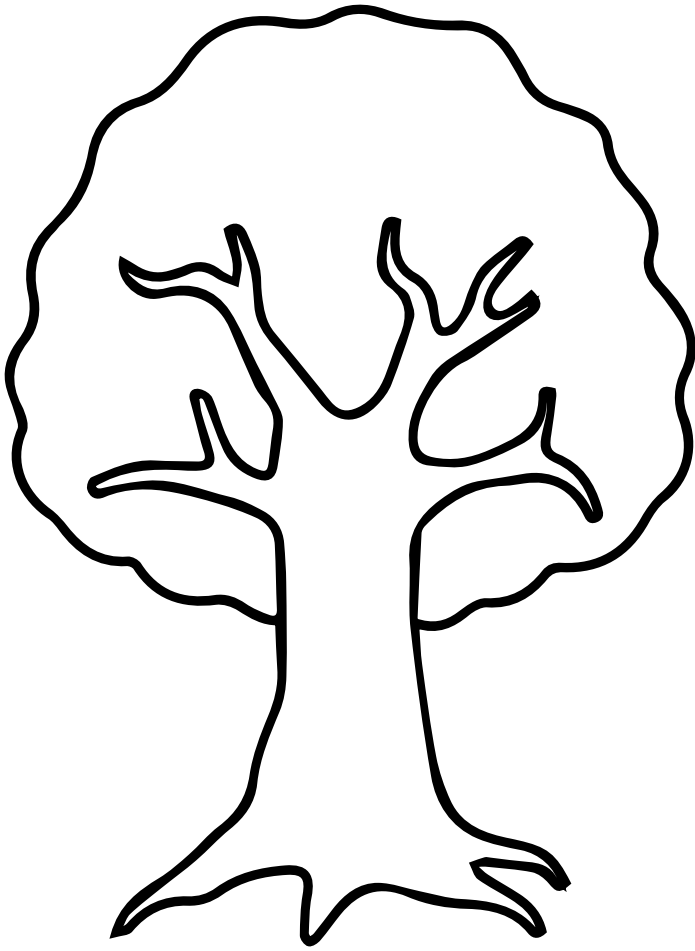
DIRECTIONS

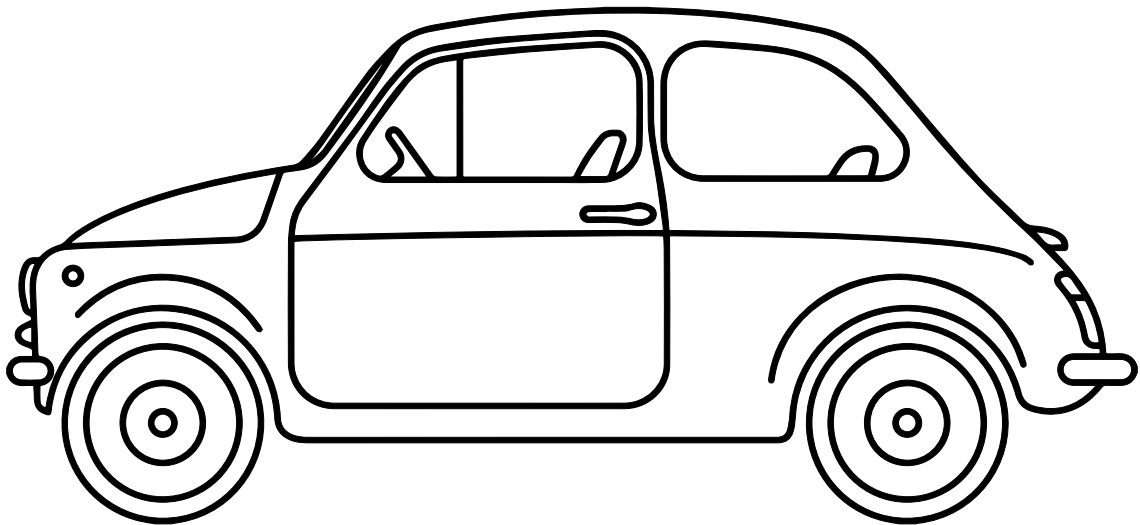
1. Print out all of the different graphic cutouts. Print out as many copies of each cutout that you need!
2. *Optional:* Create your own cutouts! Is there something in your community that isn't included in the provided cutouts-like a piano for your school's music room or a fridge for your kitchen? Grab a piece of blank paper and draw these things out. Ask your family for ideas if you want to add more!

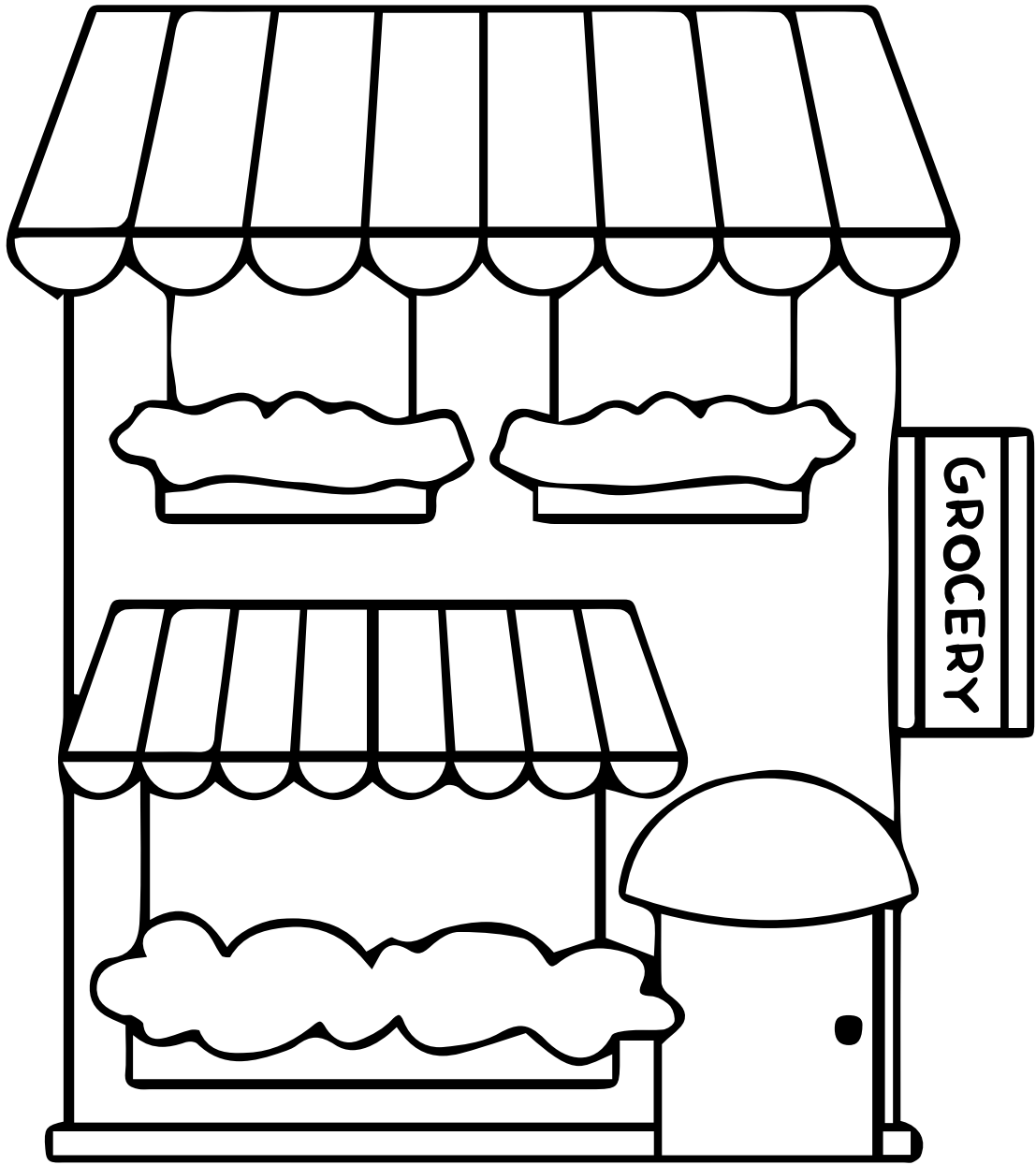
MAPPING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

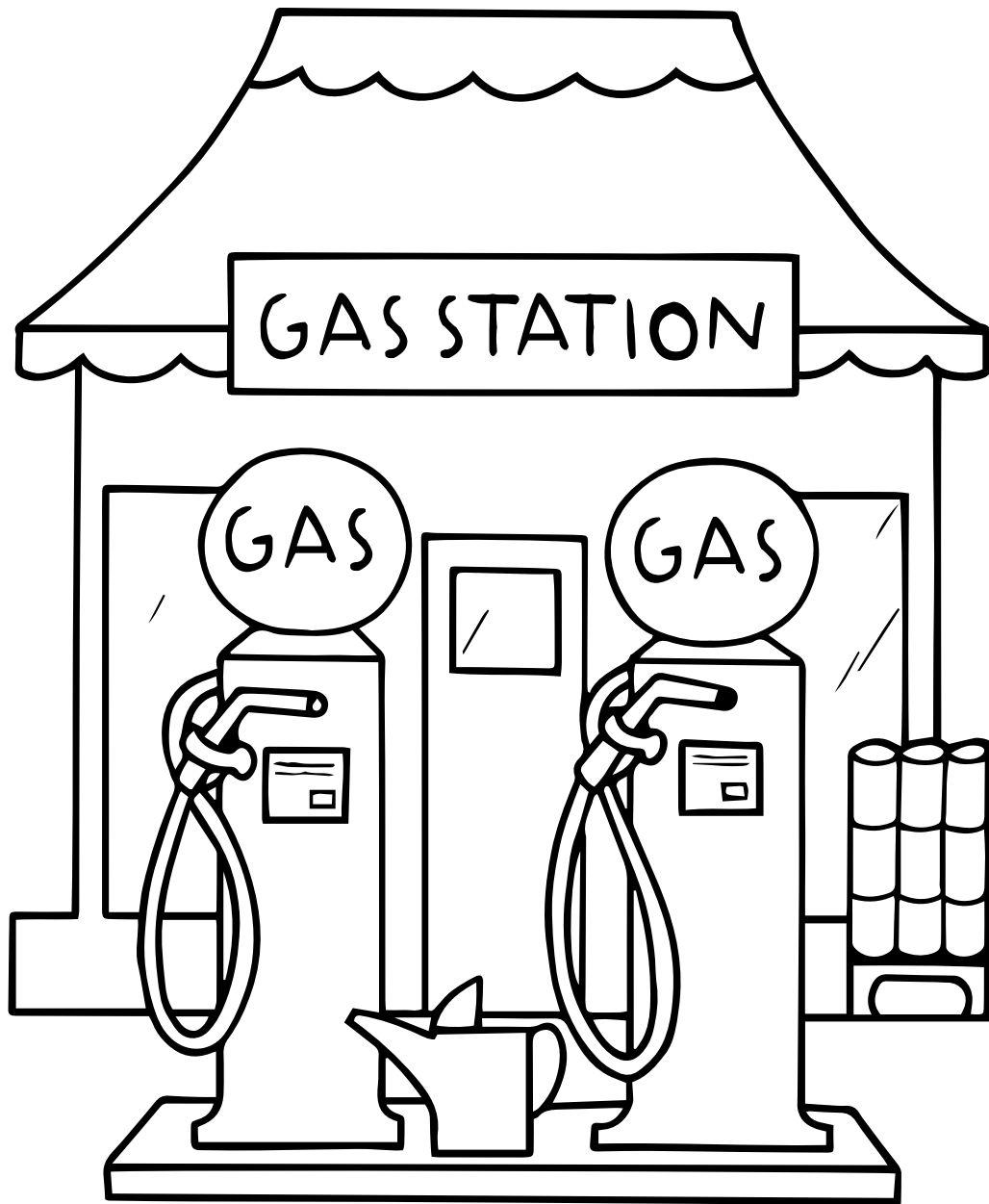
ACTIVITY

3. Using your own neighborhood as inspiration, color in each cut out. You can color these in based on what they look like in real life, or you can color them in entirely different ways! For example: maybe your neighbor has a bunch of flowers in front of their house that reminds you of polka dots. So, you could color the house using a polka dot pattern!
4. Cut out each cutout.
5. Arrange the cutouts on your piece of poster or butcher paper in a way that looks like how your home town is laid out. Is the park or jungle gym located near your home? Are the grocery store, gas station, and fire station all close to each other? Does it feel like it takes forever to get to your different neighbors?
6. Find 3-5 little known facts for different places in your community. Interview friends, family, or teachers at your school who are familiar with your community.
7. Lastly, show off your map! Gather your friends or your family and explain all of the different parts of your map and the choices you made.

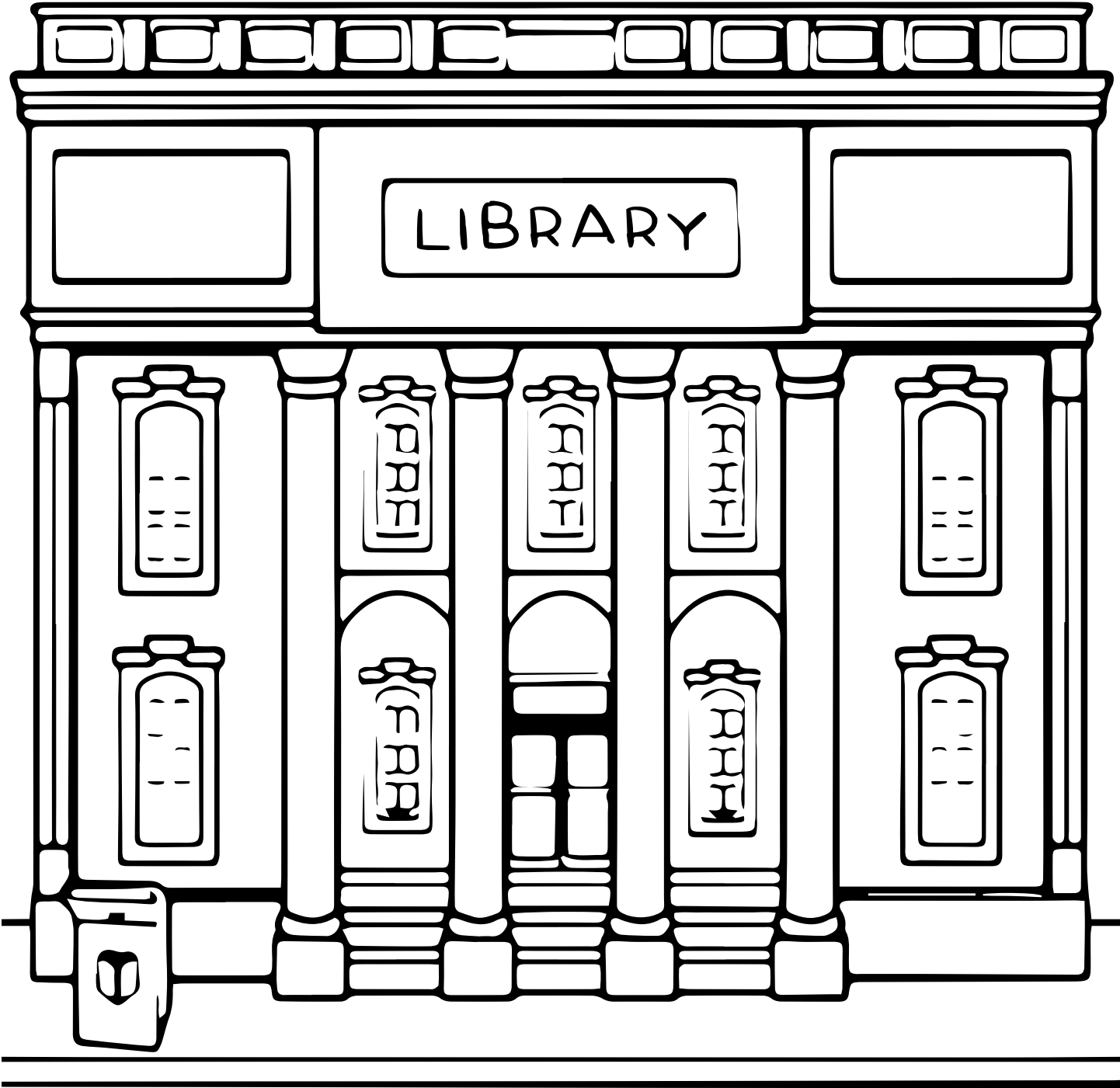












GOING GREEN

ACTIVITY

In *Arthur™ and Friends Make a Musical*, Francine is a budding activist, and wants to make Elwood City a better place. In the book *Arthur™ Turns Green*, Arthur and his classmates start a new class project called “The Big Green Machine”. For this project each student explores a different way that they can go green, or make the planet a better place by protecting the environment. Arthur makes a map of his house, and shows all of the different ways his family can conserve energy and protect the planet.

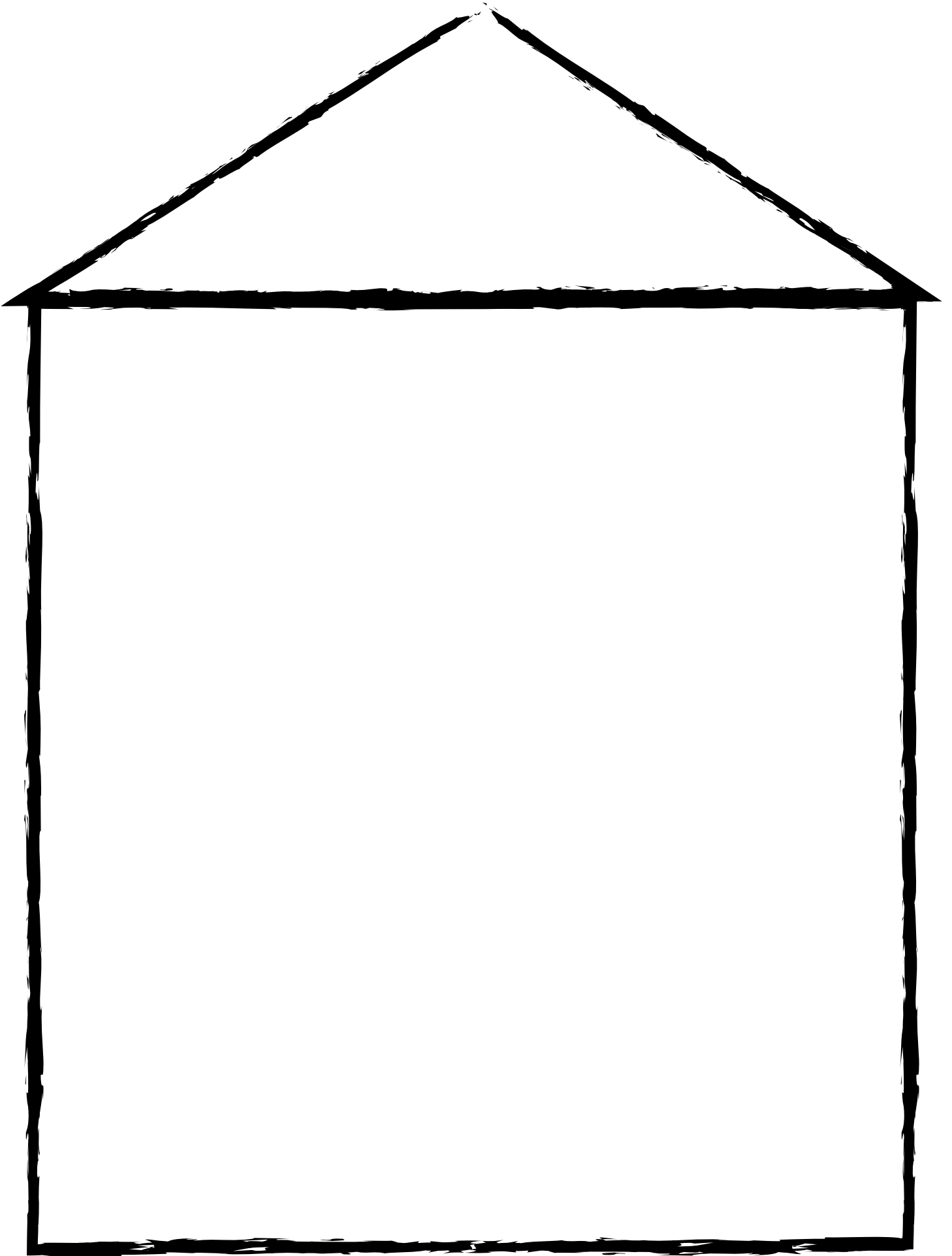
You can turn green just like Arthur!

MATERIALS

- Building template
- Pencil or pen
- Crayons, colored pencils or markers

DIRECTIONS

1. Draw lines onto the template to divide it into rooms, and make it into your home, school, or any other building that you want to turn green.
2. Decide what you can do to turn green in each room. Draw this into the template, and write some words to describe it.
 - a. For example, you could draw recycling newspapers and magazines in the living room of your home, unplugging chargers and other electronics when they're not in use in your classroom, or taking public transportation in your garage or outside of your school.
3. Share your poster with a family member or friend!



COSTUME DESIGN

ACTIVITY

There are many people who are involved in creating a musical like *Arthur™ and Friends Make a Musical* – not just the actors onstage! One of the people offstage who has to understand the characters and the story is the costume designer. A costume designer's job is to show off who a character is the very moment they step on the stage through the clothes the actor is wearing. One of the first few things a costume designer does, once they understand the characters, is draw pictures of what their costumes look like. These are called renderings!

Now YOU get to be a costume designer! Take a look at the renderings from *Arthur™ and Friends Make a Musical's* designed by costume designer Jason Orlenko for inspiration. Then, using what you know from the TV show, books, and the musical, create your own version of one of the characters from the show using the body outline provided. If you'd like to create more than one design, feel free to print out more copies of the body outline!



Arthur



D.W.



Buster



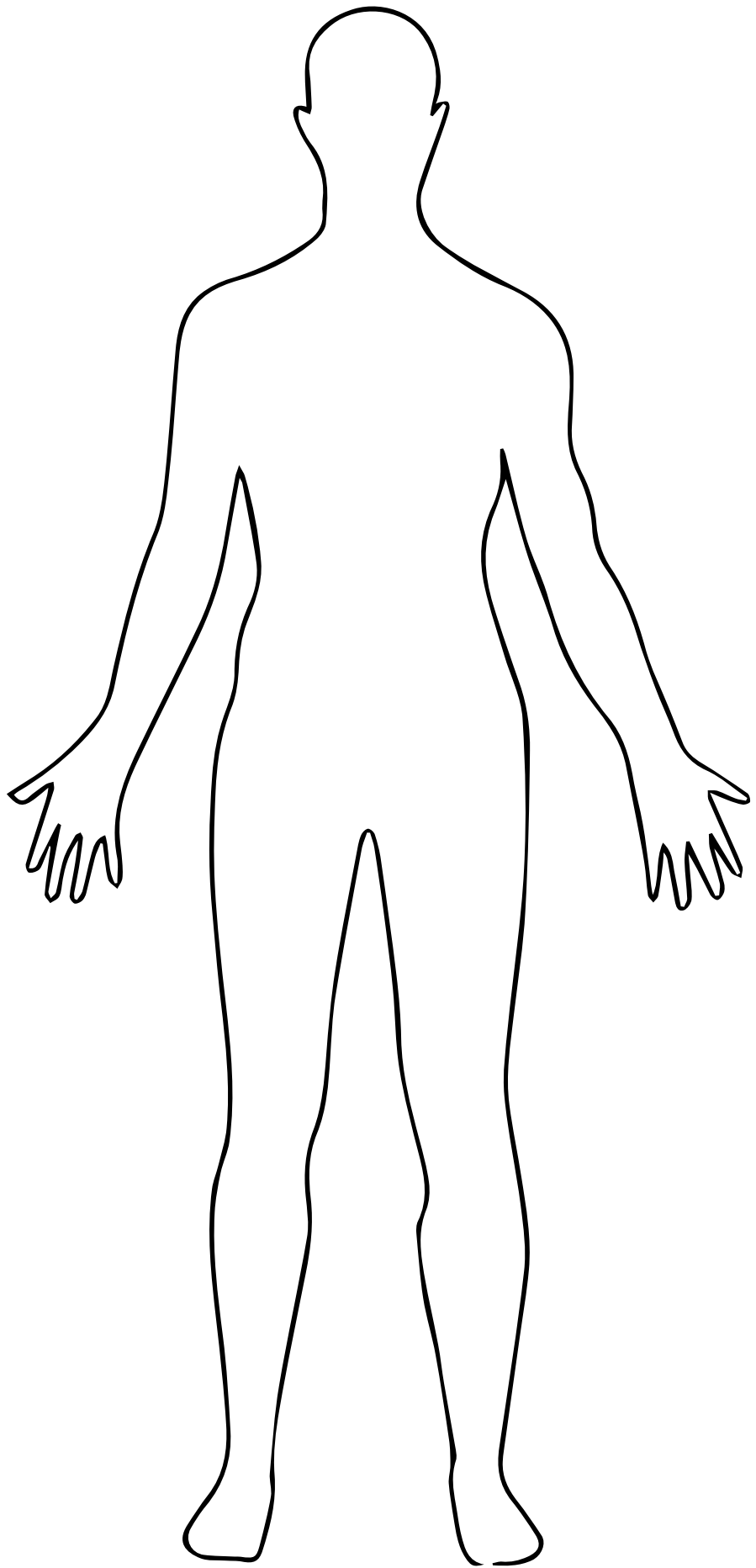
Brain



Muffy



Francine



MINDFULNESS: BODY SCAN

ACTIVITY

In *Arthur™ and Friends Make a Musical*, Brain helps Arthur calm his body and mind by walking him through some breathing exercises. This is called mindfulness. Mindfulness is something you can do when you are feeling nervous or upset, and it can help you feel more in control of your body and your feelings.

While breathing exercises are one way to practice mindfulness, we can also use the rest of our bodies to practice mindfulness! Try this Body Scan Exercise to practice mindfulness on your own!

BODY SCAN

1. Find a comfortable place to lie down on the ground on your back. Take a few deep breaths and try to relax your muscles, feeling the weight of your body sinking into the ground. Try to focus only on how your body feels, you can close your eyes if you want to!
2. Take a moment to notice how your body feels when it is relaxed. Are there any parts of your body that feel tighter than others? Do you have any aches or pains?
3. Starting with your feet, squeeze your muscles really tight for 3 seconds, and then relax again. How do the muscles in your feet feel different after squeezing and relaxing them?
4. Try this exercise of squeezing and relaxing in other parts of your body, try it in your legs, your belly, your arms, and your face. While you do this, pay attention to how the different parts of your body feel.
5. When you have finished squeezing and relaxing each part of your body individually, try squeezing your whole entire body at once and then relaxing.
6. Take a few minutes to relax your whole body again when you are ready to be done with the exercise. Finish your mindfulness exercise with a few more deep breaths.
7. When you are finished, take your time sitting or standing back up. Allow your body to take the time it needs to be ready for the rest of your day.

POST-SHOW QUESTIONS



1. Many of us, like Francine, have certain things that we are very passionate about changing in our community. Do you have anything that, as Mr. Ratburn says, you “Put your heart into?” What changes do you want to see in your community, and how might you accomplish these changes?
2. What stories or skills do you have that make you unique? How can you use these stories or skills to help solve a problem or work as a team?
3. Writing your own story and sharing it with others can be scary. How do you calm yourself down when you feel scared? What could you do to support someone who is scared?

WHO SAID IT?

1. "Yes, the crisis. That's when your problem reaches its climatic peak, and everything changes forever."
2. "Billions of planets in the universe and you think ours is the only one with life on it. Now you're boring AND too big for your britches"
3. "Do you see this fashion magazine from Milan? Do you know Milan? It is in Italy."
4. "Did you know the first 48 mayors were all boys?"
5. "I want to be...exceptional. And I'm not. I'm just a regular amount of ceptional"
6. "Sometimes you need someone to believe in you when you don't believe in yourself"
7. "I think the hat can sit this one out. Some things shouldn't be left to fate."
8. "That happened with my cat once. She started vomiting and just couldn't stop. It was so gross. But you're not gross."
9. "Everyone is differently designed
So how can you be boring
If you're one of a kind?"

**ArthurTM
& Friends
Make a Musical!**

**GOING TO A SHOW
AT THE TODD WEHR
THEATER**

SOCIAL STORY

In partnership with



I am going to see a First Stage show at the Todd Wehr Theater.



I am going to see the show with

**Watching a play is like watching TV or a movie,
except people are on stage in front of us.**



They are called actors. They can see and hear me too.
I can't turn the channel or turn the volume up and down.

A play is made up of many interesting things.



Costumes



Scenery



Sound



Lighting

When we arrive at the theater, we will probably have to climb some stairs. There are stairs outside the building, and inside the building.



We may need to wait in line to scan our tickets.



When we are waiting, I can stay with my family or teacher.

An usher will help us find our seats.

We will enter the theater and find our seats.



There are bathrooms in the lobby. If I need to, I can use the bathroom before we go to our seats.

Someone will show us where to sit.



The audience area is for all of us.



The stage is for the actors only.

When I am in the theater waiting for the show to start:

1. I can talk to my family or friends.
2. I can take a short break in the lobby.



There will be a lot of people in theater and it may get noisy.

If it gets too loud:

1. I can bring headphones if I want.
2. I can put my hands over my ears.
3. I can leave the room and take a short break in the lobby.



I can come back when I am ready.

During the show:

1. I can watch and listen to the actors quietly.
2. I can applaud if I like something.
3. I can hold things in my hand that make me feel comfortable.



If I need to talk:

1. I can talk quietly to my family.
2. I can write down what I want to say.
3. I can leave the room.

After the show there will be a “talkback.”

The talkback is a chance for me to ask questions.

1. I will raise my hand to show that I want to ask a question.
2. I will wait for the leader to call on me to ask my question.
3. I don't have to ask a question if I don't want.



I can ask different kinds of questions:

1. I can ask questions about the show.
2. I can ask questions about the scenery, costumes, lights, or sound.

**After the show is finished,
I will leave the theater with my family.**



ArthurTM & Friends Make a Musical!

MEET THE "ELWOOD" CAST

These are the actors you will see at the
Sensory Friendly Performance on
Saturday, October 22, 2022 at 3:30PM.

THIS IS VIVIAN.



Vivian plays a character named Arthur.
Arthur is nervous because they cannot think of ideas
to write about for their scene in the school play.
Arthur is DW's brother.

THIS IS SILVER.



Silver plays a character named Muffy.
Muffy loves fashion and being the center of attention.

THIS IS ALICE.



Alice plays a character named Francine. Francine wants to make sure the Elwood City musical points out things about the town that are not strong so they can help make the city better.

THIS IS GIA.



Gia plays a character named D.W..
D.W. is Arthur's sister. They are sarcastic and
love teasing their brother.

THIS IS RYON.



Ryon plays a character named Buster. Buster has an active imagination and loves to create stories. They are Arthur's best friend.

THIS IS CHARLIE.



Charlie plays a character named Brain.
Brain is known for their intelligence and is very smart.

THIS IS JAMES.



James plays a character named Mr. Ratburn.
Mr. Ratburn is Arthur and his friends' teacher.

THIS IS ZACH.



Zach plays two characters: Dad and Ulysses Napoleon Baggypants. Dad is Arthur and D.W.'s father, and Ulysses Napoleon Baggypants is a character from a story by Buster.

THIS IS SARALYNN.



SaraLynn plays two characters: Mom and Queen.

Mom is Arthur and D.W.'s mother, and Queen is a character from a story by Buster.

**ArthurTM
& Friends
Make a
Musical!**

MEET THE "LAKEWOOD" CAST

THIS IS SANAIAH.



Sanaiah plays a character named Arthur.
Arthur is nervous because they cannot think of ideas
to write about for their scene in the school play.
Arthur is DW's brother.

THIS IS NIAMH.



Niamh plays a character named Muffy. Muffy loves fashion and being the center of attention.

THIS IS LUCIA.



Lucia plays a character named Francine. Francine wants to make sure the Elwood City musical points out things about the town that are not strong so they can help make the city better.

THIS IS LAYLA.



Layla plays a character named D.W..
D.W. is Arthur's sister. They are sarcastic and
love teasing their brother.

THIS IS ALEX.



Alex plays a character named Buster. Buster has an active imagination and loves to create stories. They are Arthur's best friend.

THIS IS JALONI.



Jaloni plays a character named Brain.
Brain is known for their intelligence and is very smart.

THIS IS JAMES.



James plays a character named Mr. Ratburn.
Mr. Ratburn is Arthur and his friends' teacher.

THIS IS ZACH.



Zach plays two characters: Dad and Ulysses Napoleon Baggypants. Dad is Arthur and D.W.'s father, and Ulysses Napoleon Baggypants is a character from a story by Buster.

THIS IS SARALYNN.



SaraLynn plays two characters: Mom and Queen.

Mom is Arthur and D.W.'s mother, and Queen is a character from a story by Buster.

ArthurTM & Friends Make a Musical!

ArthurTM and Friends Make a Musical!
is a musical. Actors will be singing and
dancing throughout the show.