

WHAT DOES HOME MEAN TO YOU?

An activity to do after reading *Islandborn* by Junot Díaz

Description

Consider what home means to you in this activity inspired by our reading of *Islandborn* by Junot Díaz.

Audience

3–6 years, with adult supervision

Time

30 minutes

Materials

- Paper
- Colored pencils, markers or crayons

Guiding questions

- 1 Just like Lola shows us, home is a place that can mean a lot of different things to many different people. What makes your home special to you? Do you have a favorite space in your home?
- 2 What is a story about a place you feel connected to that you would want to share with Lola's class?

Instructions

- 1 Take time to think about what the word *home* means to you. Is it a place? Is it a story? Is it a feeling? Whatever place you think of does not have to be the location where you are living right now. What is a place that you feel really close to in your heart?
- 2 Once you have an idea of what and where this place is, draw a picture of it! Use your imagination and represent your idea of *home*. Did you draw a building? Did you draw a story? People? Think back to some of the details that Lola drew about the Island. Are there similar ideas that you could think about and draw too?
- 3 Share it! Lola had a chance to share her drawings and stories with her family, neighbors, and her class. Who are some people you could share your drawing with?

Share your work

We'd love to see your work! Share your creation with the Chicago Architecture Center on Facebook or Instagram, using the hashtag #ChiArchitecture

Take it a step further!

When Lola wanted to learn more about the Island, she couldn't remember many details about it because she had moved when she was really young. When she completed her assignment for class, she relied on her family, friends, and neighbors to help her learn more. Who do you know who could help you learn more about your home, a favorite place in Chicago, a country your family is from, or stories about your family? Interview trusted adults, friends or neighbors from a safe distance about your questions regarding this place. Write or draw what you learn!

Many more challenges await. Visit our website architecture.org/learn where we regularly post new activities.