

# IDEA PORTRAIT

An activity to do after reading *What Do You Do With An Idea?* by Kobi Yamada

## Description

Foster your budding thinker's ideas through this activity inspired by *What Do You Do With An Idea?* by Kobi Yamada.

## Audience

Children ages 3–6+ with adult supervision

## Time

40–60 minutes

## Materials

- Construction paper
- Paper
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons
- Scissors
- Glue or tape

## Guiding Questions

- 1 What is an idea? Where do they come from?
- 2 Have you ever had an idea that you've always wanted to share? What did you do with it?

## Instructions

- 1 Where do our ideas live? From the book we just read, you now know that your ideas come from your mind! Let's create a portrait of you and all of your ideas.
- 2 On a blank sheet of paper draw a self-portrait. Start by drawing the shape of your head. Add your neck and shoulders. Be sure to fill the entire page and add details like your hair, eyes, nose, and mouth, plus anything unique to YOU!
- 3 Cut out your portrait. Glue or tape it to a piece of colored construction paper.
- 4 What good ideas do you have? Is it an idea about inventing something? Do you have an idea of an exciting adventure you'd like to take? Or maybe you have an idea of something special you'd like to make for a friend? Ideas come in all shapes, sizes and colors. On a blank piece of paper draw images to represent your ideas.
- 5 Cut out your ideas and glue them on the background of your portrait to make an ideas collage. Add any additional colors, drawings, or pieces of paper you want to your collage. Look at all of those ideas swirling around in your mind!
- 6 Once you have glued on all of your ideas, find someone that you would like to share them with. It can be a family member, a friend, or even a stuffed animal! Make sure you ask them what their ideas are, too! When you were sharing

your ideas with this person, did you notice if they had different ideas than you? Did you have similar ideas?

## An example portrait



## 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!

Architects' unique ideas provide us with beautiful spaces to live and play in. But to create and grow these ideas, architects use a variety of methods to find inspiration around them—like going outside, looking at art, or listening to music. In our book, the little boy realized that he wanted to take care of his idea, so he built a roof over it to give it time and space to grow. What will you do to help your ideas grow?

Many more challenges await. Visit [architecture.org/learn](http://architecture.org/learn) where we regularly post new activities.