

INVITATIONS TO CREATE

Three playful creative invitations for children of all ages to enjoy experimenting with.

We are young artists (age 16-19) from The Kite Trust – Cambridgeshire's leading LGBTQ+ charity working with young people across the region. We have drawn on our personal experiences of exploring and developing our own identities to design these invitations for families approaching the charity for support.

We suggest ways to explore different aspects of yourself and the world around you:

The Growth of a Tree

Exploring our roots, connections and community, with Noah.

Art is Everywhere

Re-imagining the space around us, developing ideas and looking after ourselves and the environment, with Riley.

Future You-niverse

Imagining and freeing ourselves to be who we want to be, with Mars.

During lockdown these *Outside the Box* invitations were sent to families along with a selection of carefully chosen art materials we thought would be appreciated. We hope you can find materials and objects to use around your home and outside in the natural world.

Thank you to Hilary Cox Condron and Sally Todd, artists working with [Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination](#), who shared their skills and experience whilst mentoring us to develop this project.

Watch the short film we made to introduce ourselves and our ideas [HERE](#).

Remember the offers are very chill, there's no pressure to finish them or do them in any particular way – there really are no wrong ways to play with them.

We'd love to see anything you try out.

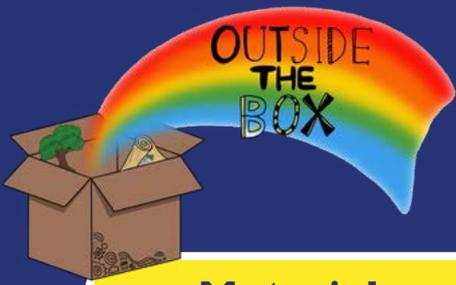
Please email any photos to us at info@cambridgecandi.org.uk or post on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram and tag Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination.

We hope you enjoy trying these out and they help you feel relaxed, happy and connected.

From
Mars, Noah and Riley



A Fullscope Creative Care project with The Kite Trust and Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination



THE GROWTH OF A TREE

Materials:

ink pen, charcoal, large sheets of paper, wax crayons or pastels, air hardening clay, string, masking tape, scissors and found natural objects

Hello, I'm Noah! I wanted to be a part of this project as nature and art are an important part of my life. I think it's important to be creative. My invitation to create is based around how nature supports us and our community.

Your challenge is to make a 'tree' that grows and develops however you choose. This could include adding rubbings of leaves, sculpted leaves and forms in clay, personal messages, poetry, collage and drawings.

THE LEAVES

represent those who are important to you in a positive way. For example your friends, family, pets, heroes.

THE BRANCHES

represent your hopes and dreams.

THE TRUNK

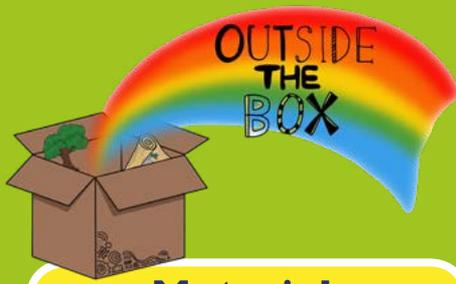
represents your strengths and things you enjoy.

THE ROOTS

represent the things that have led you to where you are now.



I experimented with using natural objects to create textures and patterns.



ART IS EVERYWHERE

Materials:

acrylic paint, brushes, gum arabic, and recycled, natural, and everyday objects.

Hi, I'm Riley! Being creative can be such a great outlet and a way to express yourself. It's also a great way to brighten up familiar surroundings and transform them into somewhere full of colour and creation. There is no time limit on being creative so take your time to experiment and enjoy it!

Use your imagination to create something that really represents you. Maybe step outside, have a look at the environment around you. What can you see? Is there anything you can use as a natural canvas? Maybe a fallen leaf or a pebble.

Acrylic paint is permanent when dry so perfect for all surfaces... unless you want to wash it off!

Experiment with other objects to apply paint - twigs, cardboard or crumpled up papers can make a really cool texture.

Cardboard can also be a great canvas and is perfect for building sculptures.



I did this painting on a wheelie bin using masking tape and acrylic paint.



This is [Sebo Walker's](#) art! He's an awesome artist and produces such vibrant murals. I love his work.

Can you spot anything around you that you could make into paint?

Gum Arabic is a binding solution that you can use to create your own paint... or you can just use water to create your own home made ink colours.



You could try using coffee granules to make a rich brown colour, or spices such as turmeric for a vibrant yellow.



EXPERIMENT AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN CREATE!

OUTSIDE
THE
BOX

FUTURE YOU—NIVERSE

Materials:

large sheets of paper,
pens, pencils, glue,
scissors, magazines and
papers for collage.

Hi! I'm Mars I'm a young nonbinary artist and this is the offer I have created for you! Create a character which can be you, but changed to be how you'd be if you could choose everything about yourself, an identity to represent you at least a little! You can also create a universe for your character and friends to be in. Imagining you in your future You-niverse!

Create a character for yourself - this character can be transformed and be as elaborative as any identity you choose.

IMAGINING
AND FREEING
OURSELVES
TO BE
WHO
WE WANT
TO BE

These activities are very chill, there's no pressure to somehow know exactly how you might look or act later on in life. Use this as more of a way to play with some of the things you think would appear if you could make everything about yourself the best way it can be.

This is me!

I hope you enjoy these activities no matter how you choose to look at them, and that you can find hope for the future of you and your identity! :)

YOUR VOICE!

Create your own language or symbols - invent words and secret messages for your character and world.

Make a large fold-out map of your ideal world or universe.

Draw, write and collage.

You can make and name the places, who and what else would be in it, and choose the rules you would like in your world.

