

Tunnel BOOK

Tunnel books date all the way back to the mid-18th century and were inspired by movable sets on a theatrical stage.



What is a tunnel book?

Tunnel books contain pages that are held together by folded strips of paper on each side. The sides of the book might make you think of an accordion.

Tunnel books are “read” through a hole in the cover. Each page features openings that allow the reader to see through the entire book to the back cover. The images on each page work together to form a 3 dimensional scene inside the book to tell the story. The overall effect is an illusion of depth and perspective.



Let's create
your own tunnel book
using book templates,
collage materials
and colour.

Activity: Create your own tunnel book

What you need to make a three-paged tunnel book

- Ⓢ 3 template pages (for the body of tunnel book)
- Ⓢ 1 spine template
- Ⓢ a pair of scissors
- Ⓢ coloured pencils, textas, crayons
- Ⓢ collage materials
- Ⓢ glue.

PLEASE NOTE

The templates will need to be glued to cardboard so that the tunnel book will stand up. Cereal packs are great for this!



How do I do it?

The templates provided will help you to create a foreground, middle ground and background for your tunnel book.

Step 1 Create your visual story

Six different template pages have been provided. Choose three of these to create your story. Keep one intact for the back cover. Cut out the other two, making sure to leave the border frame intact (see pic). Tip: you can crease the centre of the template to create your first cut.

Step 2 Expand your story

Add some collage and colour to each individual page to add character to your story. Lay each page on top of the other to make sure all the elements can be seen.

TIP: Remember when you are adding collage, the objects in the foreground (front page) should be larger than the objects in the middle ground page and back cover to give perspective.

Step 3 Making the spines

Cut the spine template in 4 pieces along the dotted lines, colour in both sides, then fold along on the lines to make 4 lots of M-shaped accordions.

Step 4 Putting the tunnel book together

Place the M-shaped accordions on top of the back page (one on each side).

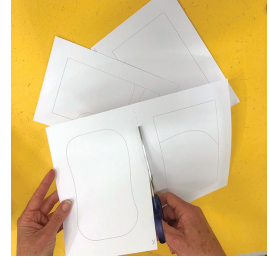
Make sure that the centre fold of the accordion spine points to the middle of the page. Glue or staple the page to the back of the accordion. Repeat on the other side.

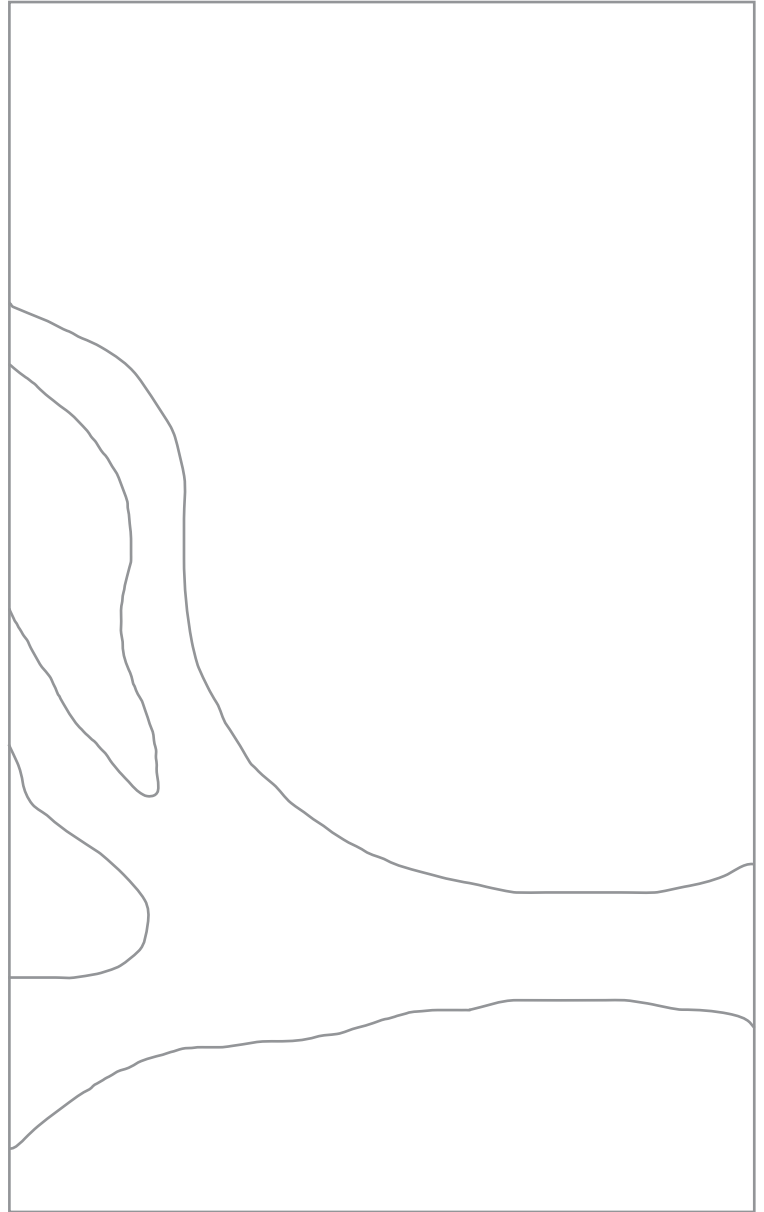
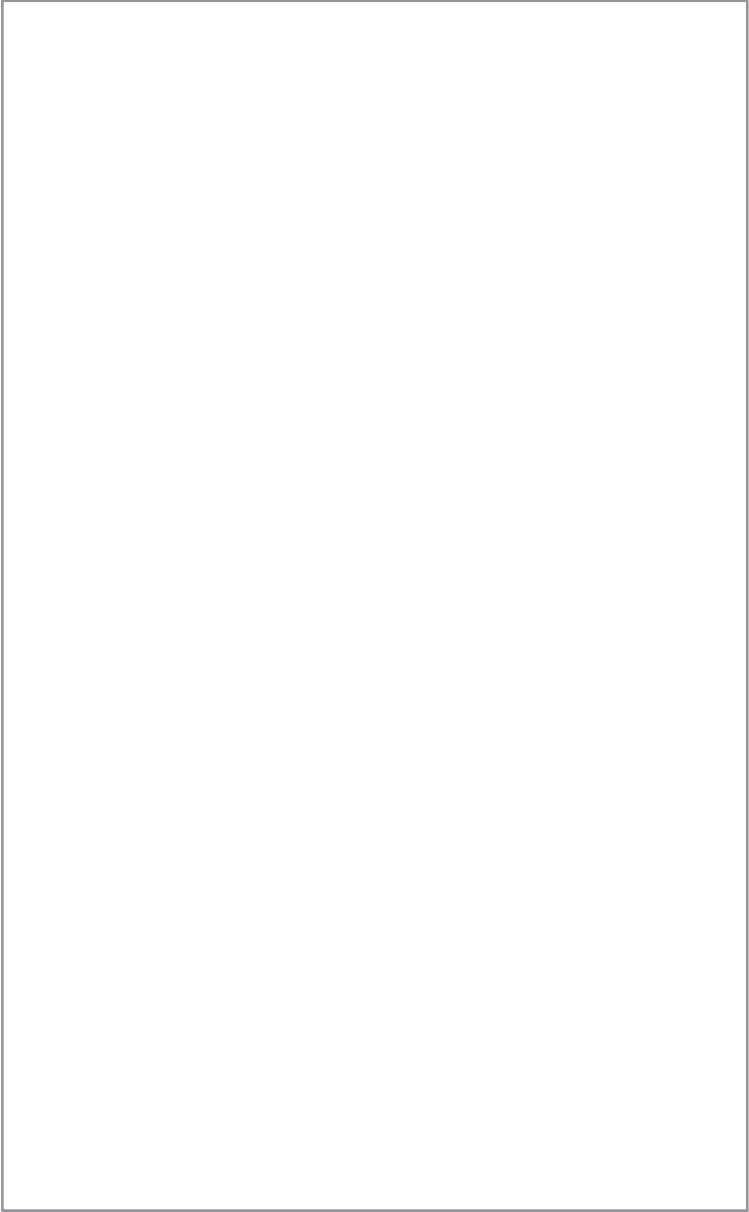
Glue or staple the next page to the top of the first M-shaped accordion.

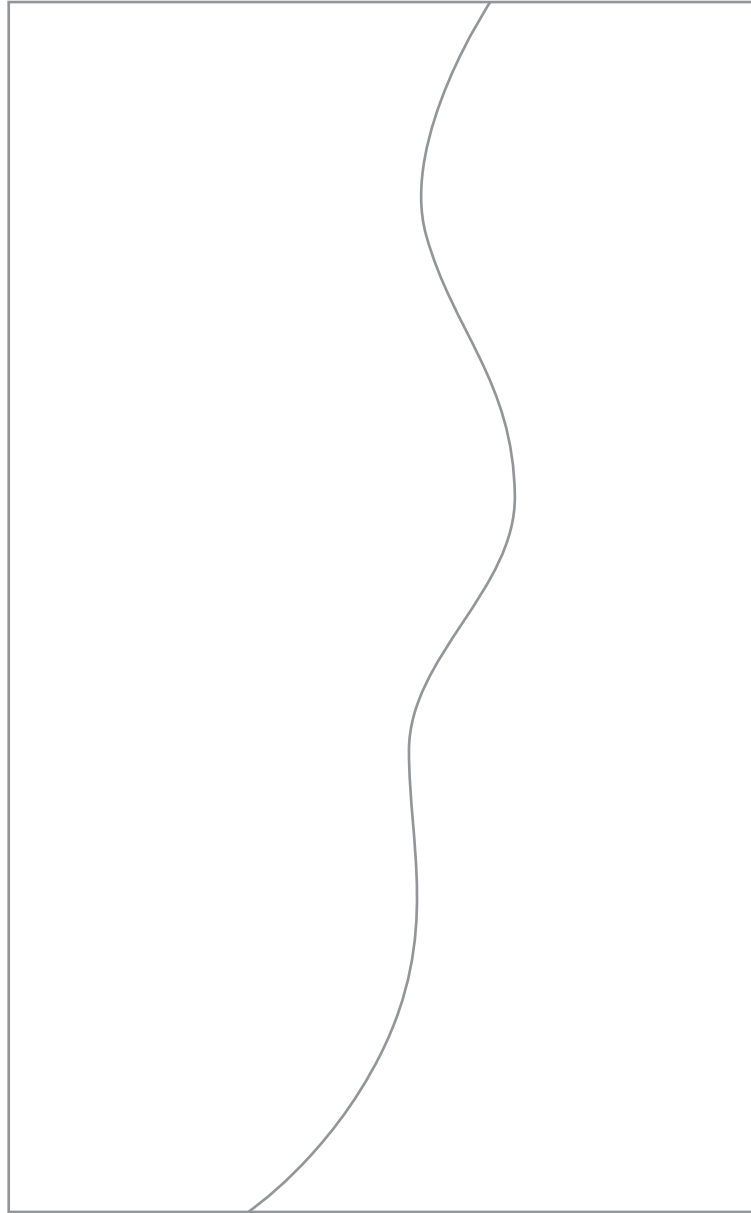
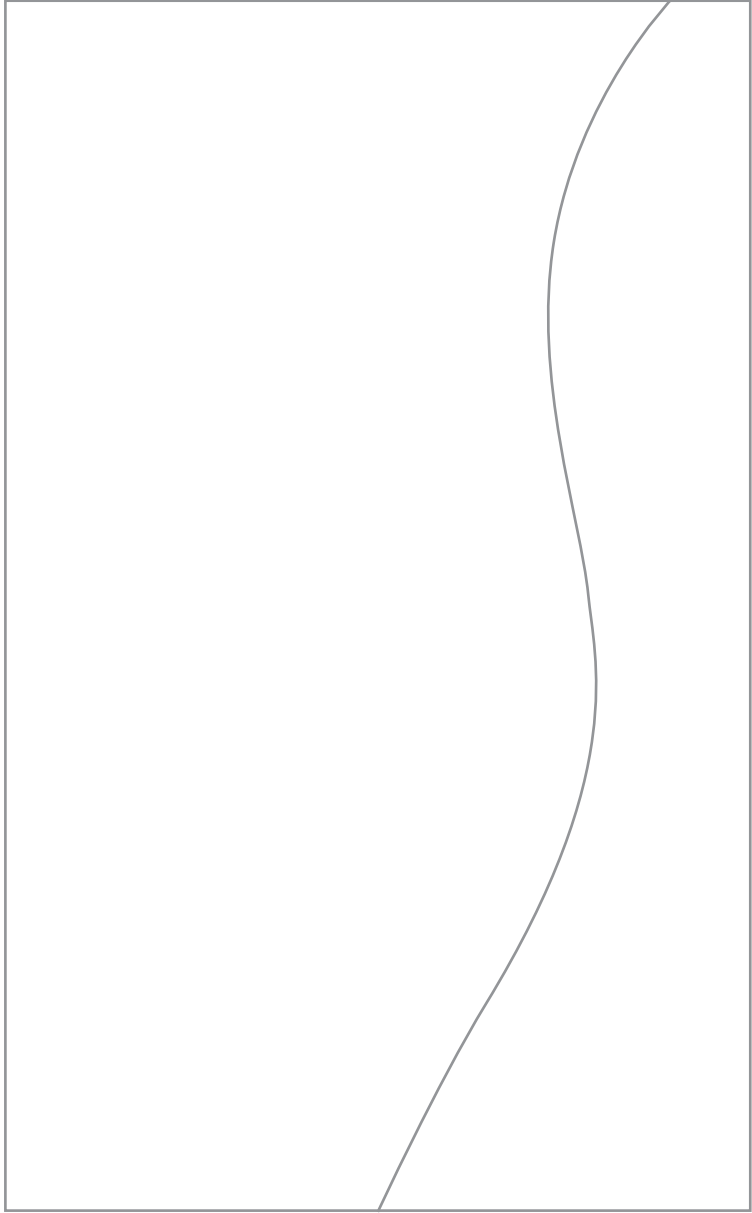
Next, glue or staple the second M-shaped accordion pieces to each side of the middle page creating a sandwich between the two M-shaped accordion folded pieces on each side.

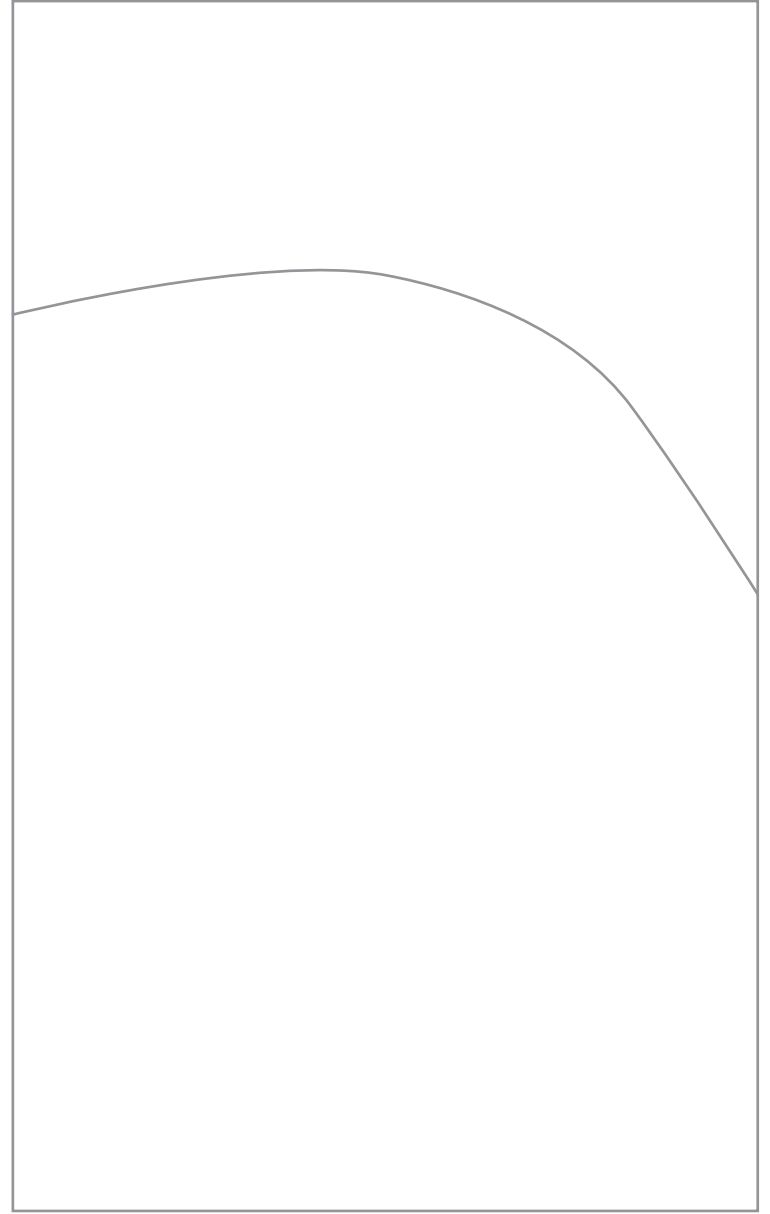
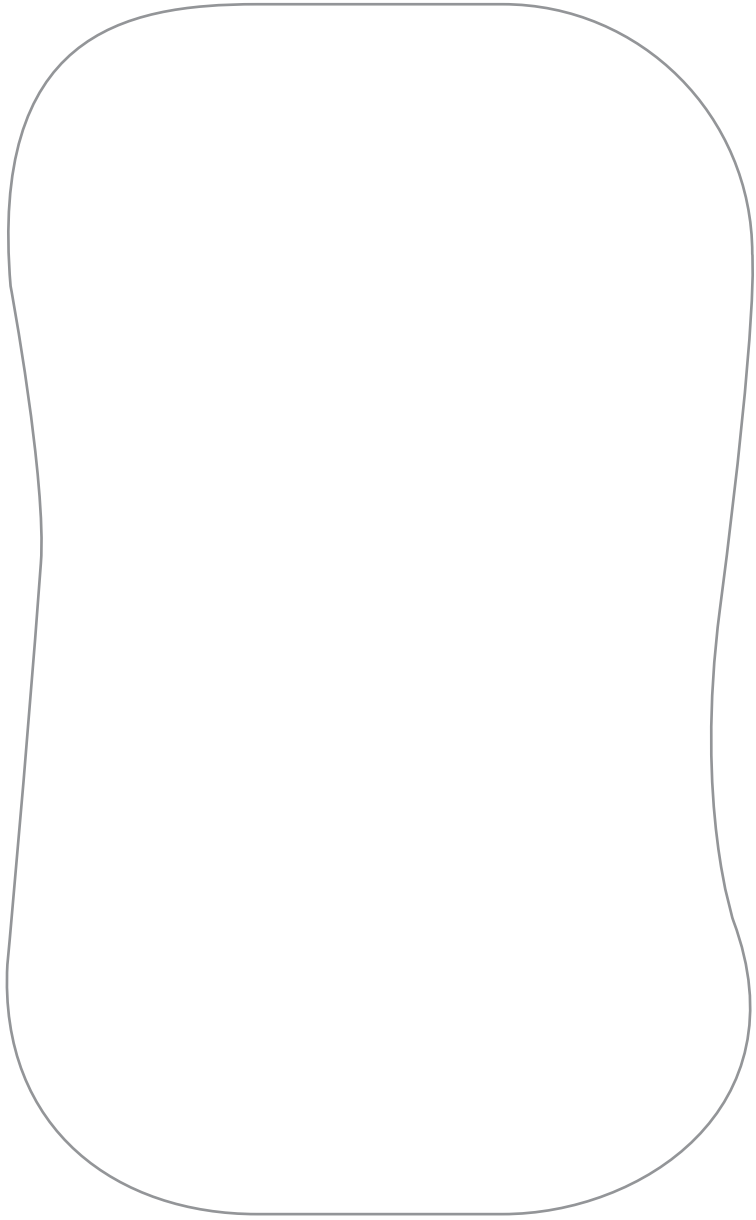
Glue or staple the front page of your book to the top of the M-shaped accordion strips at either side.

You have just made a tunnel book! You can make your book longer by adding pages and making more M-shaped strips.









FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD



FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

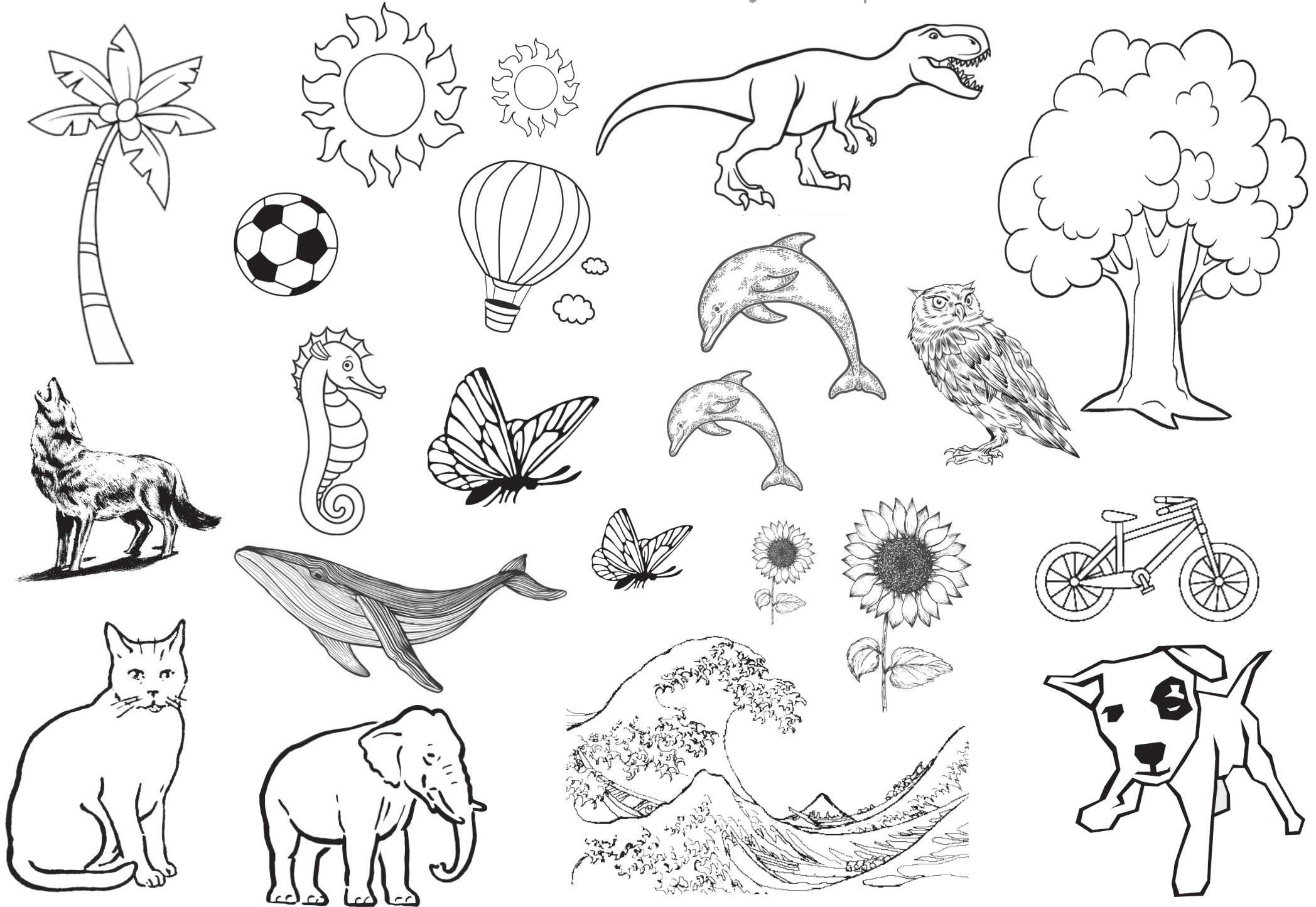
FOLD

FOLD

FOLD



Cut out images from magazines, colour these and use or create your own pictures on the back of these sheets.



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