



ARTS PLUS

# The Sunny Pages

At home art activities to brighten your day

## “Mexican Alebrijes”

This activity is appropriate for ages 8 and up

Time from start to finish = 45 min. -1 hour

You will need the following materials:

- Pencil
- Sharpies (thick and thin)
- Markers/colored pencils
- White paper
- Colorful paper
- Scissor
- Glue (or glue stick)



### Brief project description:

Alebrijes are Mexican hand-carved wooden animal sculptures that are brightly painted with a lot of intricate patterns and designs. They are made by *artesanos* (artisans) and you might have seen them in the movie *Coco*. You can make your own drawing version of an alebrijes at home!

## Steps

- **#1:** Start by drawing a simple outline shape of your favorite animal in pencil. If you're not sure how to draw this outline, find a picture from a book or online and trace the basic shapes of the animal's body on thinner computer paper.
- **#2:** Trace over your original pencil outline in sharpie.



- **#3:** Divide the shape of your animal into different sections. You can divide your animal into many small sections for a more complex drawing or into larger sections for a simplified drawing.
- **#4:** Color each section a different color. Make sure that no two sections (that share a common border) are the exact same color.



- **#5:** Add repeating patterns or designs to some or all of the sections using a thin black Sharpie and different colored markers. Try to come up with a different design for each section: stripes, wavy lines, zig-zag, polka dots, whatever your like!



- **#6:** Cut out your animal and mount it to another sheet of paper with glue or glue stick. A colorful construction paper or scrapbooking paper will make a nice background. You can also continue the pattern making and decorate your background if you want to!



**Share your “Sunny Pages” projects on social media with the hashtag: #artsplusathome**