

OTHER PRIMARY STRUCTURES

FAMILY GUIDE

Instead of telling a specific story, some artists make form, color, and material the subject of their art. *Other Primary Structures* features sculptures created by artists from Latin America, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe who use simple shapes and forms to communicate different ideas. This exhibition is inspired by the original 1966 *Primary Structures* show at The Jewish Museum that included art with a similar focus on simple and direct forms.

Find a sculpture that stands out to you and discuss the following themes together.

SHAPE

Look closely at this sculpture and find as many shapes as you can. Think about the shapes you see in and around the parts of the sculpture.



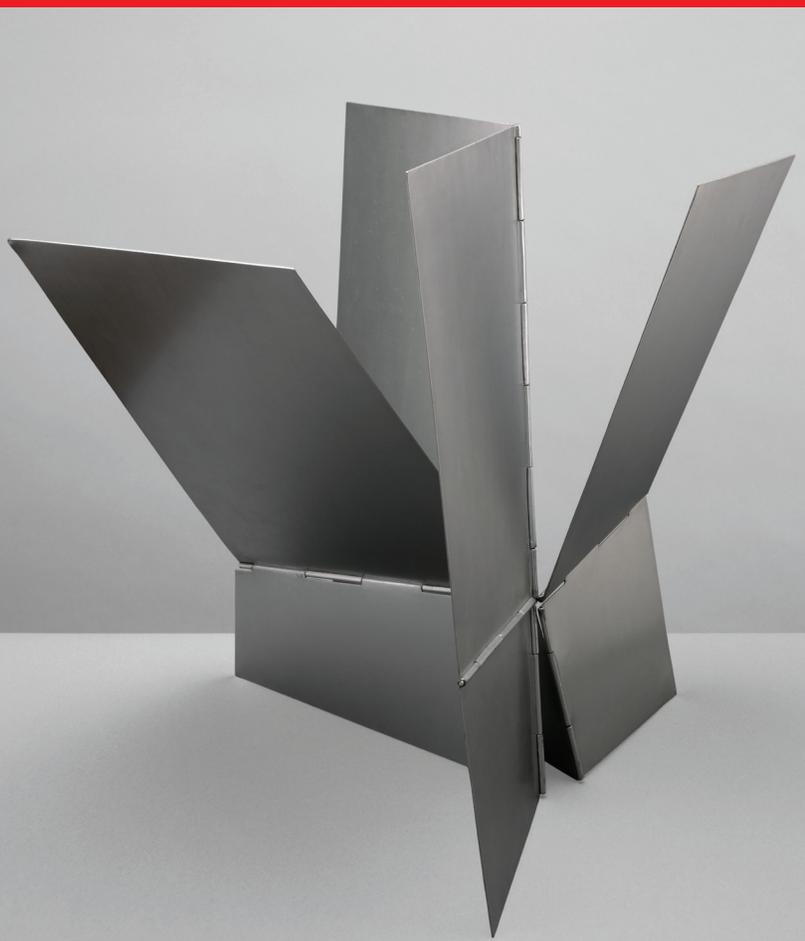
If there are shapes you notice that are not pictured here, draw them below:

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MATERIAL

- ▲ What is this sculpture made of? How can you tell?
- ▲ Describe the surface of this sculpture. Is it smooth, rough, or shiny?
- ▲ Have you seen this material before? Where?
- ▲ Are you surprised to see a sculpture made out of this material? Why?
- ▲ What colors, if any, do you notice?
- ▲ Can you find shapes within the colors of this sculpture? What are they?



FORM

One of the unique qualities of a sculpture is that, unlike a painting, which is usually a flat surface, you can view a sculpture from many angles.

The form of a sculpture makes it a three-dimensional object in a space.

In the first box below, sketch the sculpture you have chosen. If possible, walk around the sculpture and sketch it from another point of view. **Fill all of the boxes below with drawings of the sculpture that you see from various angles.**



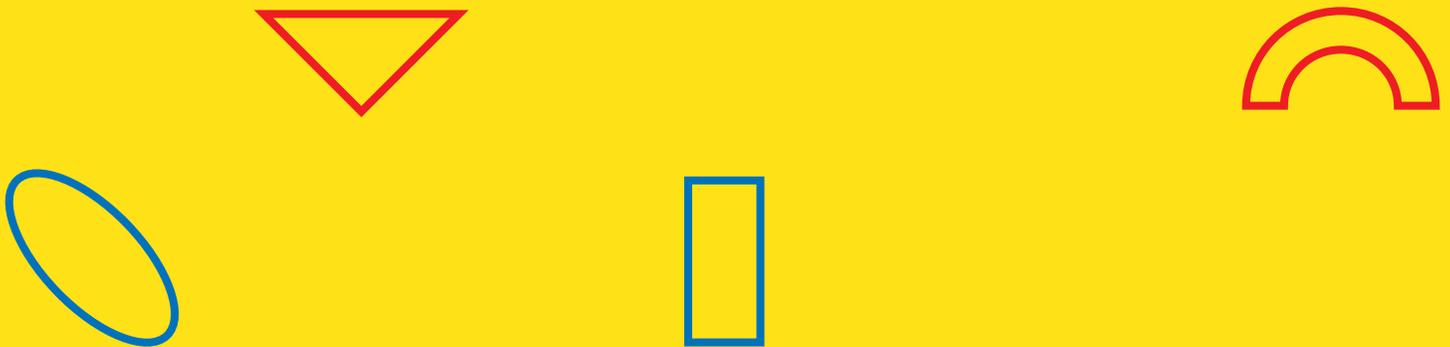
- ▲ How do the sketches change with each new point of view?
- ▲ Do you see the same shapes or different shapes?
- ▲ Is there a particular angle that is very different from the rest?

- ▲ How does it feel to stand next to this sculpture? Is it larger or smaller than you?
- ▲ What do the forms in this sculpture remind you of from your life? From nature?

AT HOME

Turn a flat piece of paper into a sculpture.

Before you start, think about the shapes you want to create as well as how they might look from different angles. Start by folding your paper in various places. Next, cut off a piece of paper and attach it in a new location with tape. Try crumpling, twisting, or ripping off pieces of the paper to change the surface texture and then try to reattach these pieces. Continue playing with these techniques until your sculpture is finished. Finally, give your sculpture a title.



Congratulations on completing the *Other Primary Structures* Family Guide. We hope you enjoyed the exhibition!

For more information on Family Programs, please visit TheJewishMuseum.org/Families.

T · H · E 5th Ave at 92nd St
JEWISH TheJewishMuseum.org
MUSEUM Under the auspices of The Jewish Theological Seminary

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Page Two: (top) Alejandro Puenta (Argentina, born 1930, died 2013), *Structure*, 1966, oil on canvas, 79 × 71 × 39 ½ in. (200 × 180 × 100 cm).

The Ella Fontanals-Cisneros Collection, Miami. © Estate of Alejandro Puenta

Page Two: (bottom) Lygia Clark (Brazil, born 1920, died 1988) *Monument to All Situations*, 1962, reconstructed 2013, aluminum, dimension variable: 19 5/8 × 19 5/8 in. (50 × 50 cm), flat position. Cultural Association "The World of Lygia Clark," Rio de Janeiro. © Estate of Lygia Clark

Page Three: Rasheed Araeen (Pakistan, born 1935), *First Structure*, 1966–67, steel, paint, 55 × 55 × 55 in. Aicon Gallery, New York. © Rasheed Araeen

This guide was written by Rachael Abrams and designed by Margot Laborde.