

GLOW 

# DREAM CITY

lesson Primary 5 – 8,  
lower secondary

# GLOW

Every year in November, the light festival GLOW takes place in Eindhoven. Dozens of national and international light artists showcase their work at various locations throughout the City of Light.

- Have you ever seen a GLOW artwork?
- Which one do you remember and why?
- What else can you tell about GLOW?





# Dream City

Together with light artist Hugo Vrijdag, we're creating an artwork for GLOW!

In previous editions, children took over their own living rooms. Then came the square, the museum, the church, and the Rabobank. And this year? We're taking over the entire city!

What are we going to do?

We'll draw what our dream city looks like.

What do the houses look like? How do we travel around? What does the art look like?

And where do you see art in your city?

The children's drawings will be projected onto the walls of the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven, as well as in Best, Oirschot, Helmond, and Veldhoven.

Some children will even build houses and streets.

Together, we'll create a giant city of light!

Join in, dream along, and enjoy GLOW 2025!

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# START

# LESSON



# DESIGN YOUR DREAM CITY!

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For GLOW 2025, you'll design a building for a dream city full of light and imagination.

You'll be inspired by art styles like **Dazzle paint**, **Hard Edge**, and **Op Art**. Then you'll build your design in 3D and add color using markers or pencils.

In the evening, the city transforms: **LED lights make everything magical!**  
Ready to let your building shine?





# Dazzle Paint

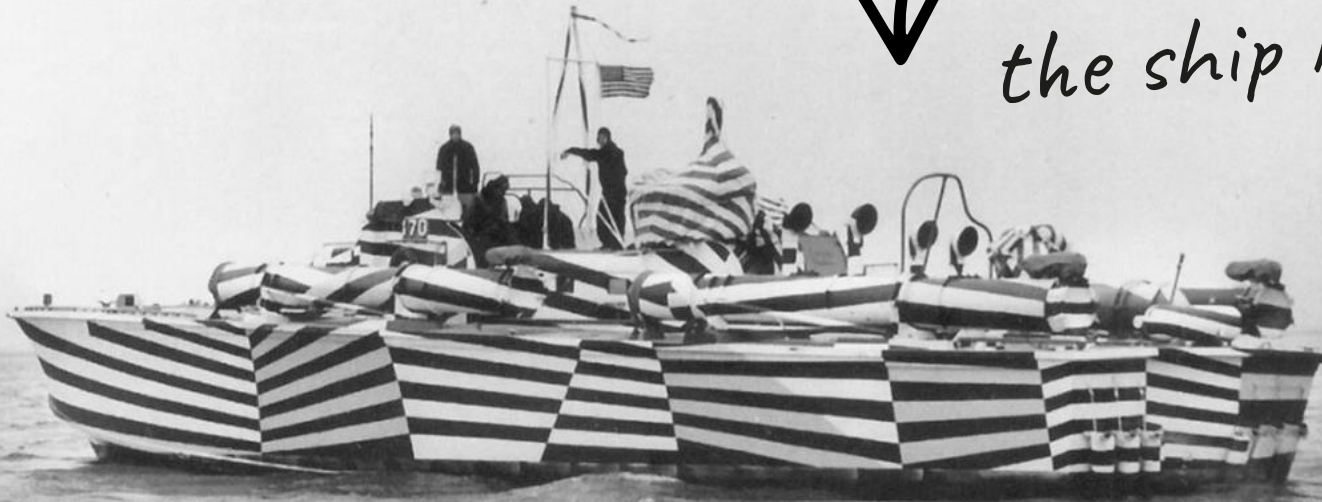
## Art as Camouflage

Did you know that art was once used to confuse enemies?

During World War I, some ships were painted with strange black-and-white patterns.

This was called **dazzle paint**. The stripes and blocks made it difficult for enemies to tell how big the ship was or which direction it was heading.

*Can you tell which direction  
the ship is sailing?*







## Questions:

- What feeling do you get when you look at these images?
- Can you recognize the shape of the ship?
- Have you seen these kinds of shapes and images before? If so, where?
- How does this image confuse you? Describe what happens to you and what it does to your eyes.







Dazzle paint actually looks a bit like **Hard Edge** and **Op Art**.

Just like in Hard Edge, dazzle paint features sharp lines and bold shapes in strong colors — often black and white.

And just like in Op Art, it can make you feel a little dizzy — your eyes get tricked by the patterns!

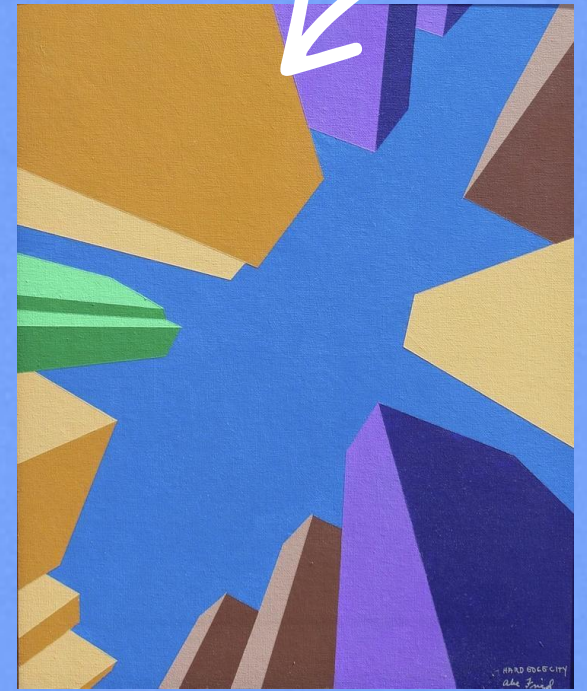
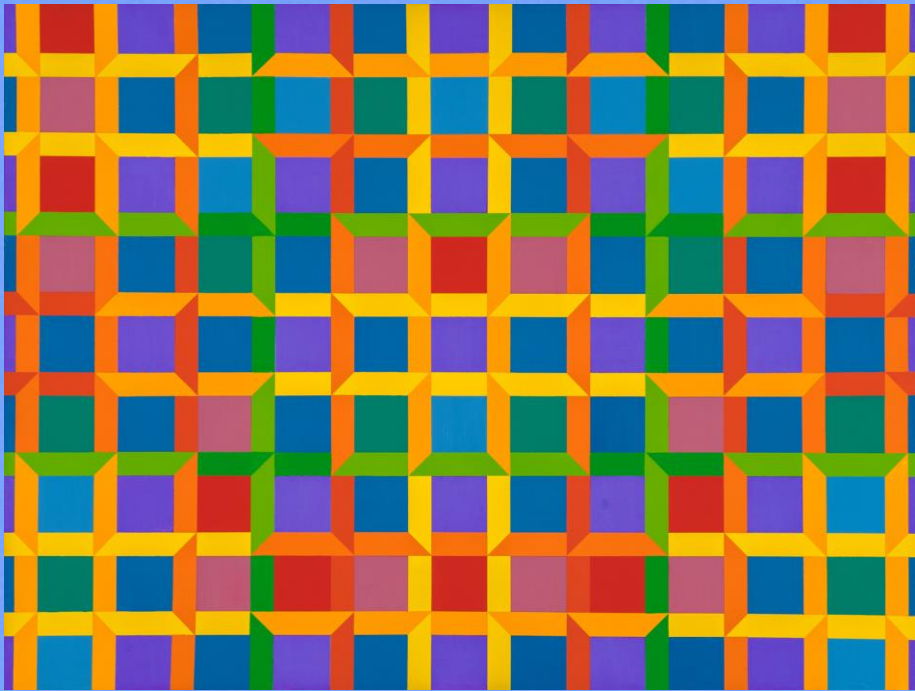


# What is Hard Edge art?

**Hard Edge art** is a painting style in which artists use sharp lines to create straight or curved shapes.

The colors are bright and clearly separated — they don't blend into each other.

*What does this image  
make you think of?*



# Frank Stella

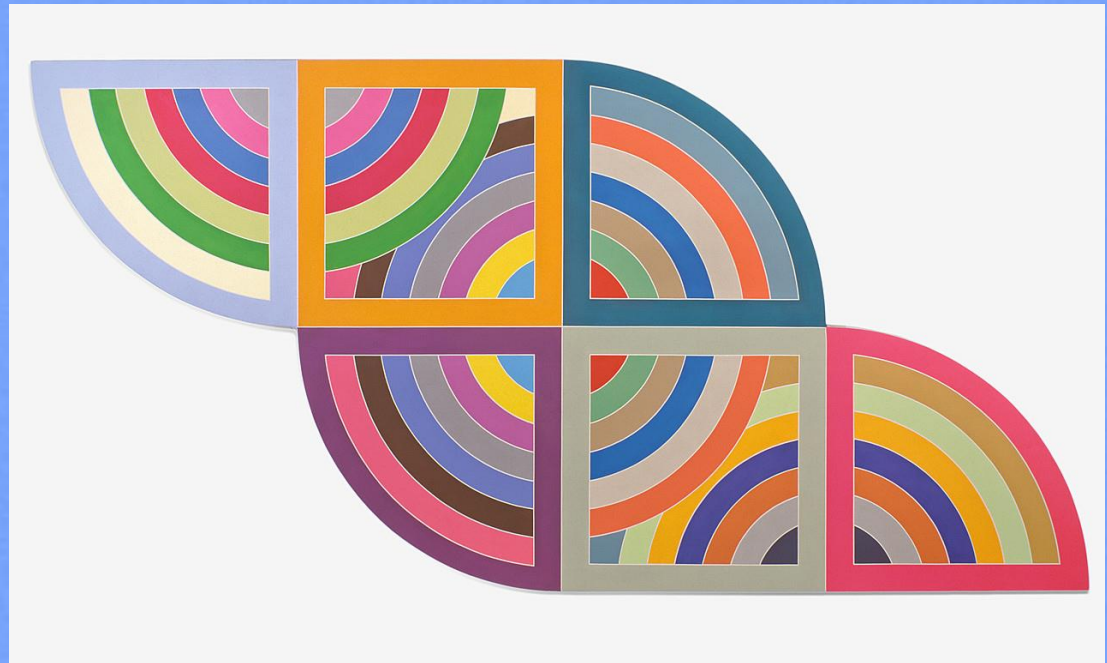
Take a look at these paintings by **Frank Stella**:

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In this artwork, you see colored lines that move inward like a kind of staircase. Everything is painted neatly and precisely.



In this work, he uses rainbow-like arches in all kinds of colors and shapes that fit tightly together.





# Rasheed Araeen

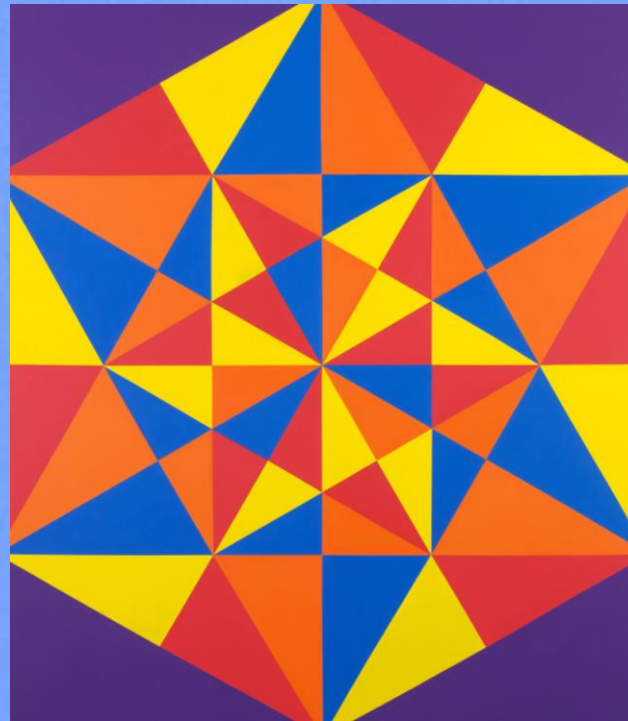
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Rasheed Araeen is an artist from Pakistan who lives and works in London.

He uses sharp shapes and symmetry so that everything in his art is equally important — just as everyone is equal in the real world.

*His work OPUS HB2  
is a bright and colorful  
painting that hangs in  
the Van Abbemuseum  
in Eindhoven.*

*Which color do you see  
most often in this artwork?*





# What is Op Art?

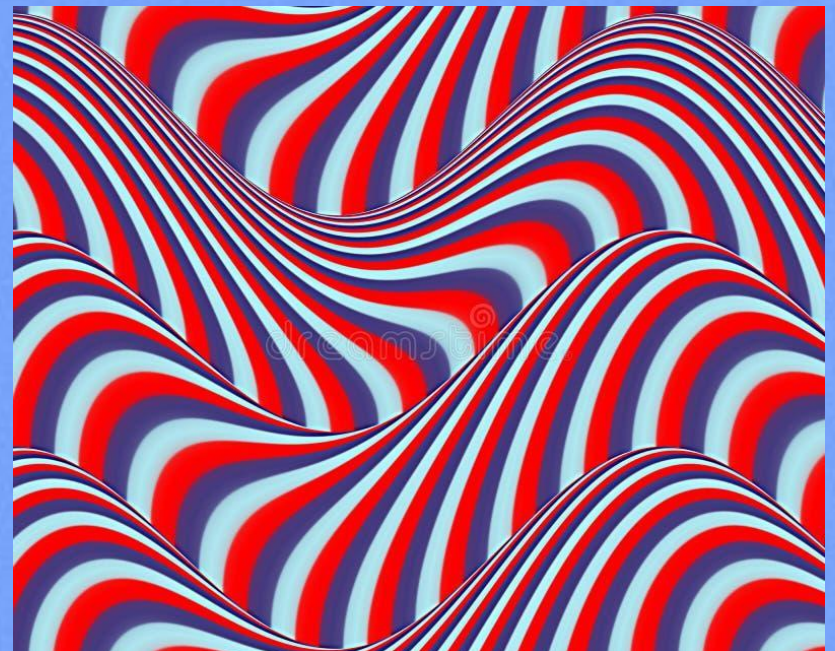
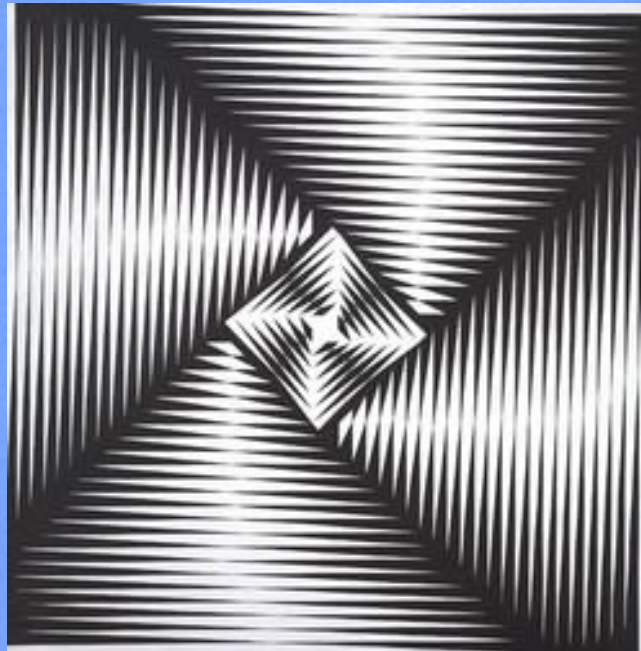
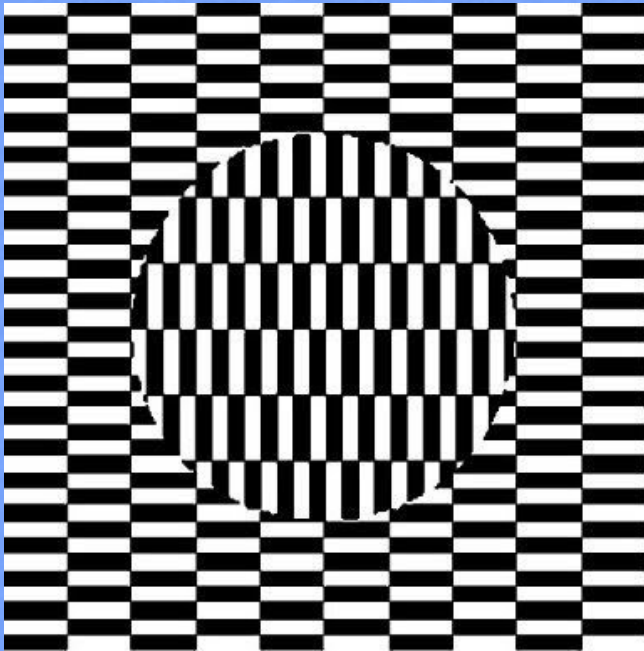
**Op Art is art that tricks your eyes!**

The lines, shapes, and colors seem to move or ripple — but in reality, nothing is actually happening.

Your brain thinks something is going on, while it's really just a clever pattern.

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*Try it  
do you see the  
paintings moving?*





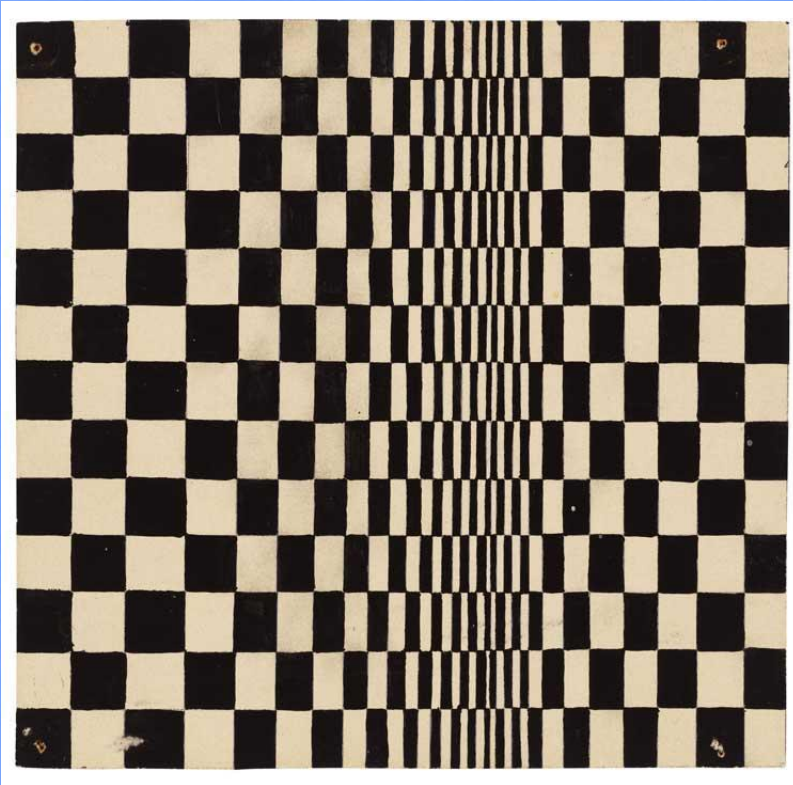
# Bridget Riley

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Take a look at this work by Bridget Riley.

It looks as if the little blocks are being pulled inward, or as if the center is moving.

But if you look closely, you'll see it's just a clever pattern of black-and-white squares.

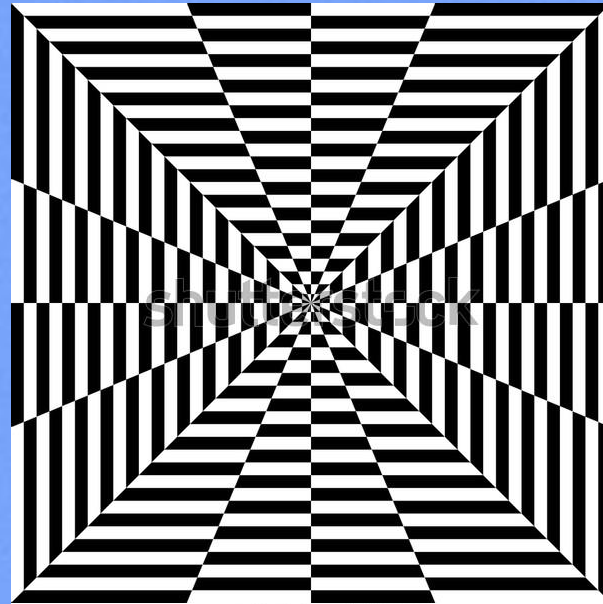


# Want to create your own Hard Edge or Op Art?

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**When making a Hard Edge or Op Art artwork, it's best to use a ruler or a compass.**

*For example,  
make little shapes  
and let them gradually  
become smaller.  
You can color the  
shapes alternately,  
or make them all black.*



*Note:  
coloring neatly  
helps to  
enhance  
the effect.*





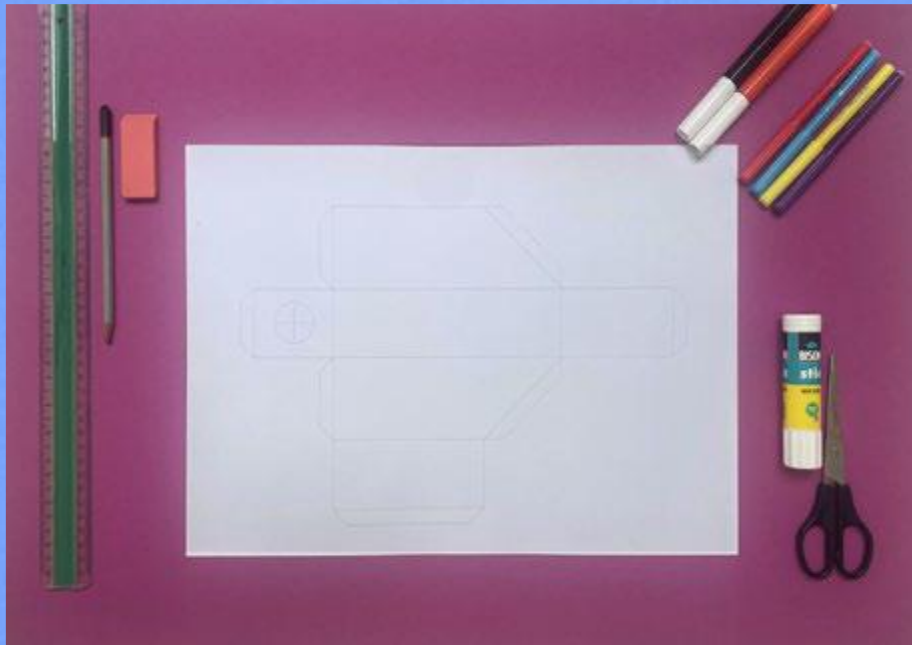
# Assignment:

## Build a Dream City!

- You're going to design a **building for your dream city**.
- Let yourself be inspired by the art styles of **Dazzle paint, Hard Edge** and **Op Art**.
- Then, color your building and construct it in 3D.
- All the buildings will come together to form a **white dream city**, which comes to life at night with **LED lights**. That way, the city transforms from white to full color!

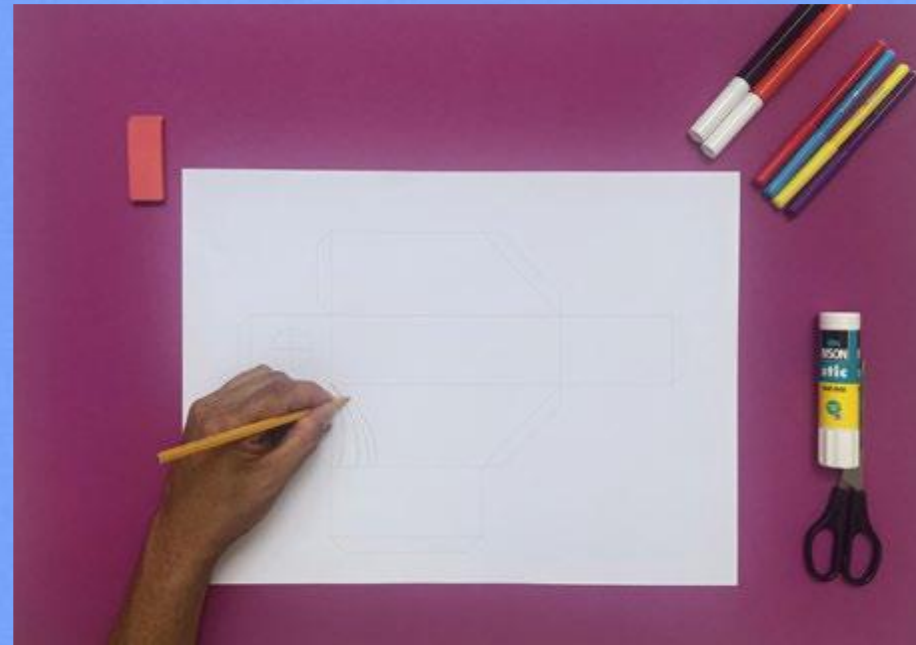
# Let's get started!

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## Materials needed for the lesson:

Flat building template, pencil, bright colored markers or felt-tip pens, scissors, and glue.



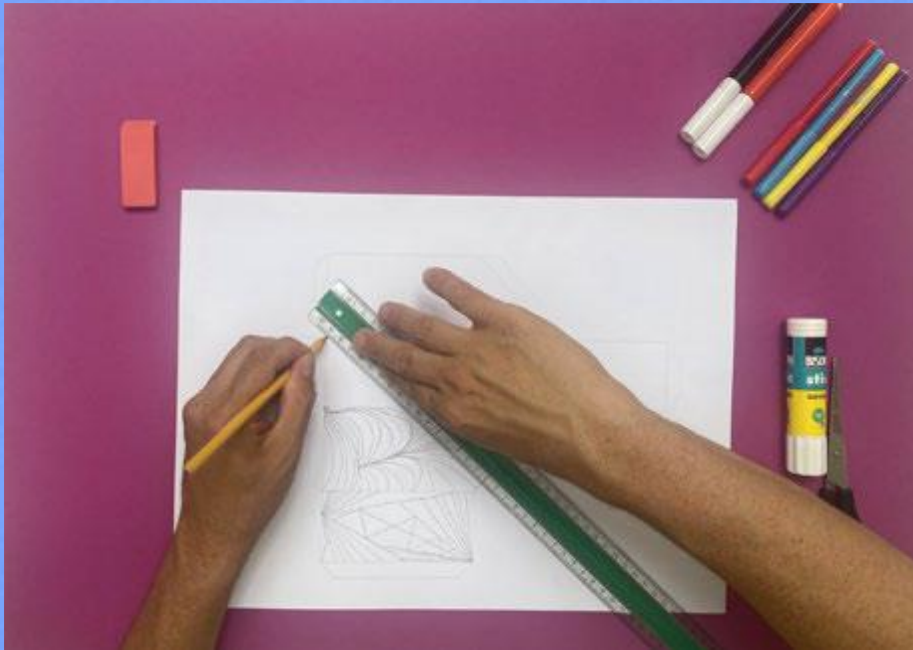
## Sketching with a pencil

Start by drawing with a pencil on the side with the lines. Feel free to experiment and make mistakes — that's totally okay. It doesn't have to be neat yet; this is just the practice phase!



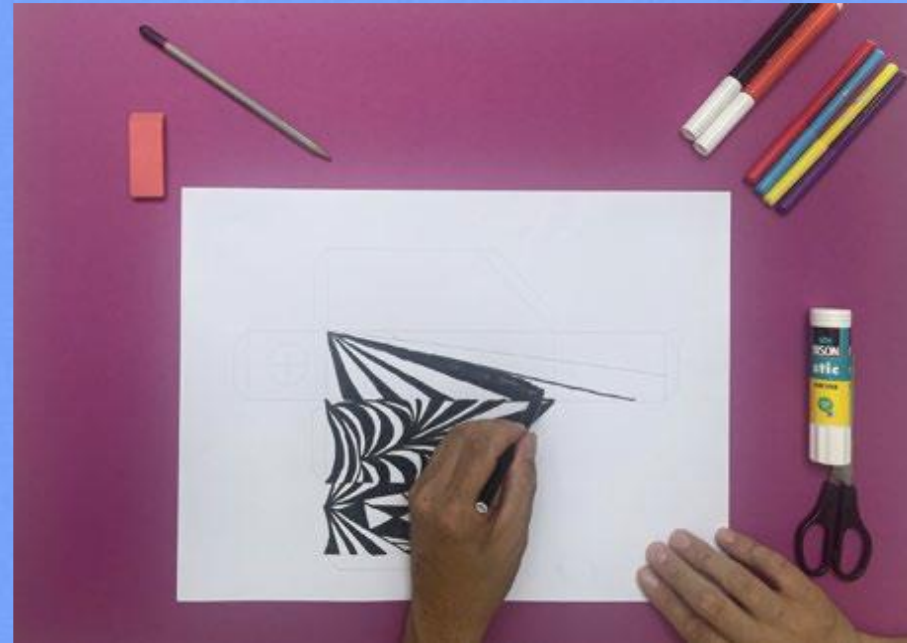
# Let's get started!

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## Creating clean lines

Use a ruler, compass, or stencil to draw sharp lines. You may ignore the walls inside the building — that actually enhances the Dazzle Paint effect!



## Time to color!

Happy with your design? Then you can start coloring! The glue tabs may remain white.

# Let's get started!

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## Use bright colors

Choose vivid colors that really stand out. Try using colors that contrast strongly with each other — it makes your building exciting and eye-catching!



## Cutting

Carefully cut out your building along the outer lines. Don't forget to cut out the round hole at the bottom too!



# Let's get started!

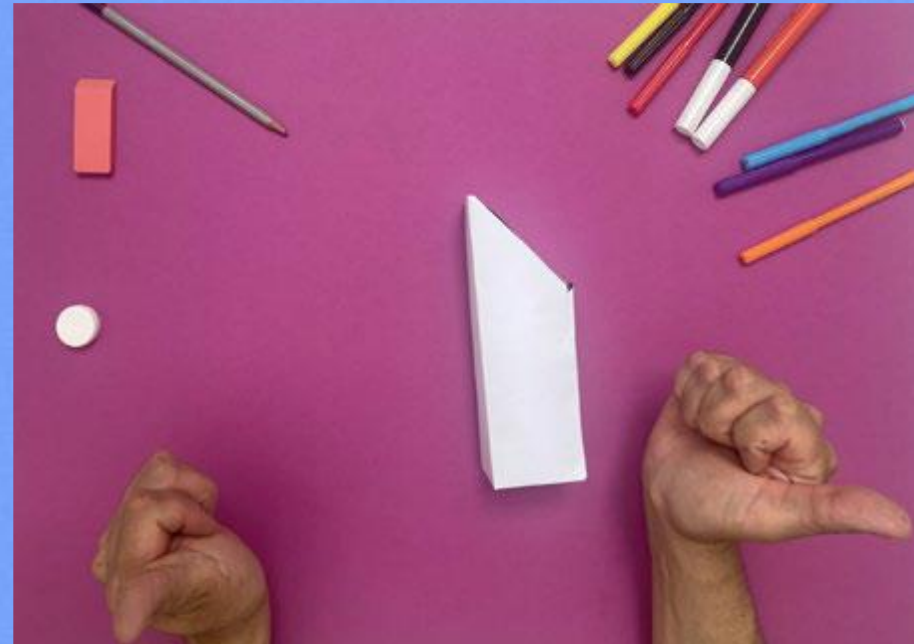
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## **Folding and gluing**

Fold all the lines of your building. Make sure your drawing ends up on the inside of the building.

Apply glue to the tabs and stick the building together.

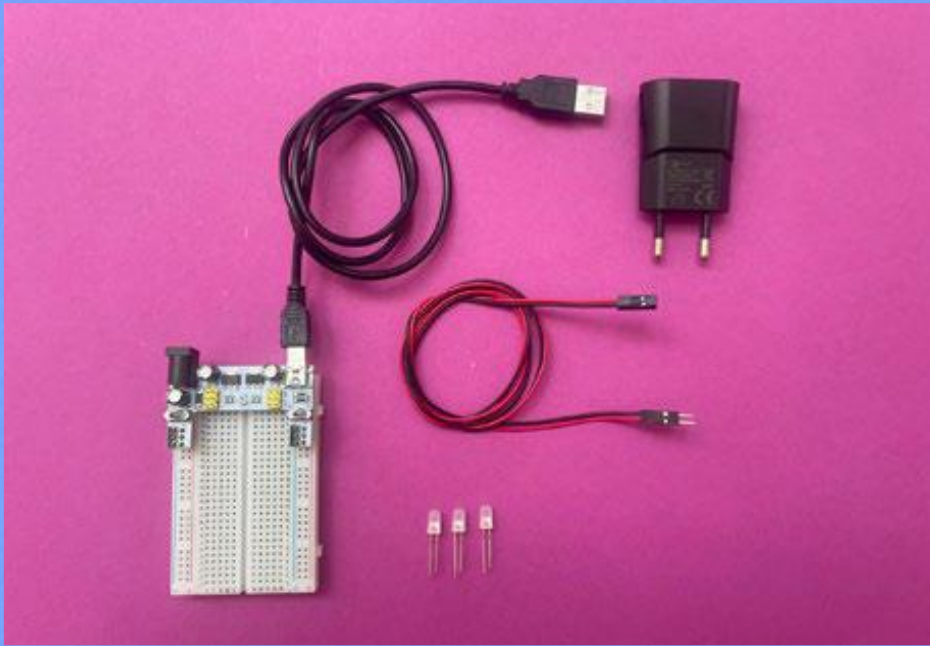


## **Your building is finished!**

If everything went well, you now have a white building with a round opening at the bottom.

# Aan de slag met de techniek!

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## Materials needed for the electronics activity:

### General (shared):

1 box, 1 breadboard, 1 USB cable, 1 USB power supply

### Per student:

1 LED, 1 red/black wire

## Precision matters when working with electricity

Even a small mistake — like a loose wire or an incorrectly connected LED — can disrupt the entire circuit.

Since all LEDs will be connected to one breadboard, one error can affect the whole setup.

So be sure to work carefully and accurately, so everything functions properly and we can be proud of the final result!



# Get started with technology!

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## City Planning

Together with the class, create a city map:  
Where will all the buildings be placed?  
Draw this layout on the flat box.

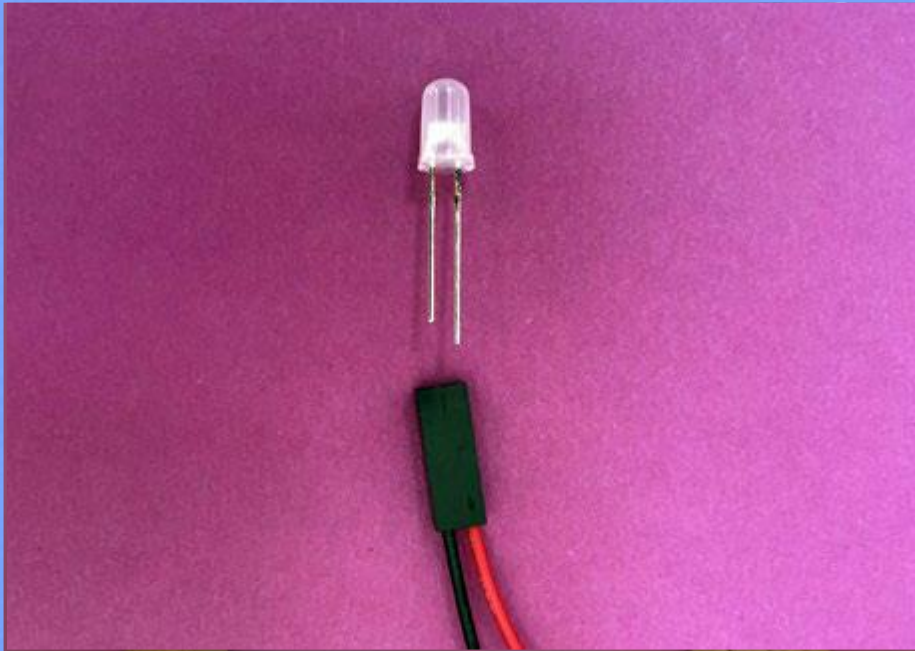


## Adding light

Insert an LED light in the center of where each building will be placed.  
If inserting the LED directly doesn't work well, use the wire legs instead. Make sure the two legs do not touch each other and each goes through its own hole.

# Get started with technology!

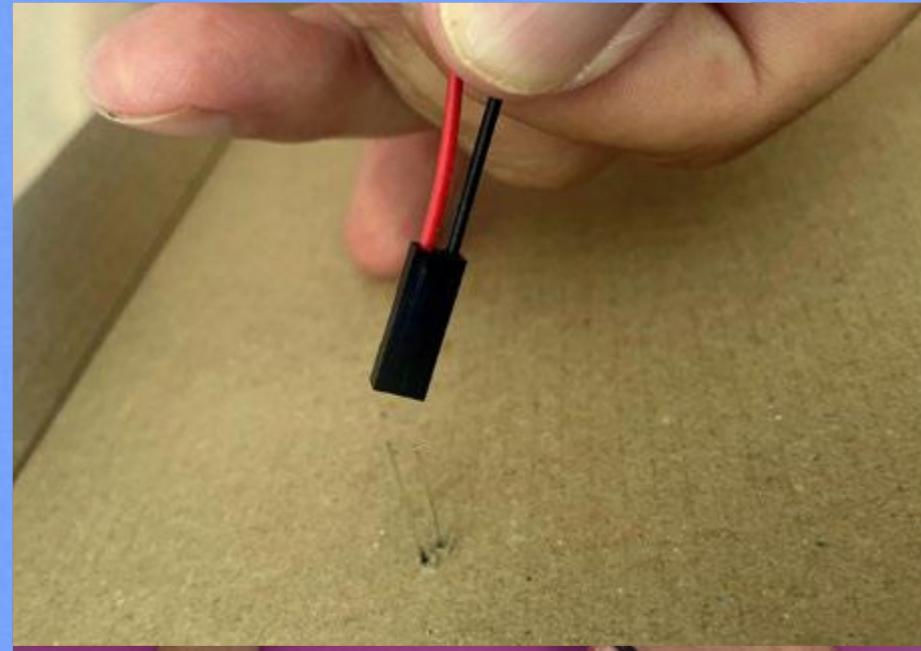
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## Connecting the LED

An LED light has two legs:

- The long leg goes into the hole with the **red** wire.
- The short leg goes into the hole with the **black** wire.



## Connecting the LEDs

Attach all LEDs to the lid of the box, with the light pointing upward.

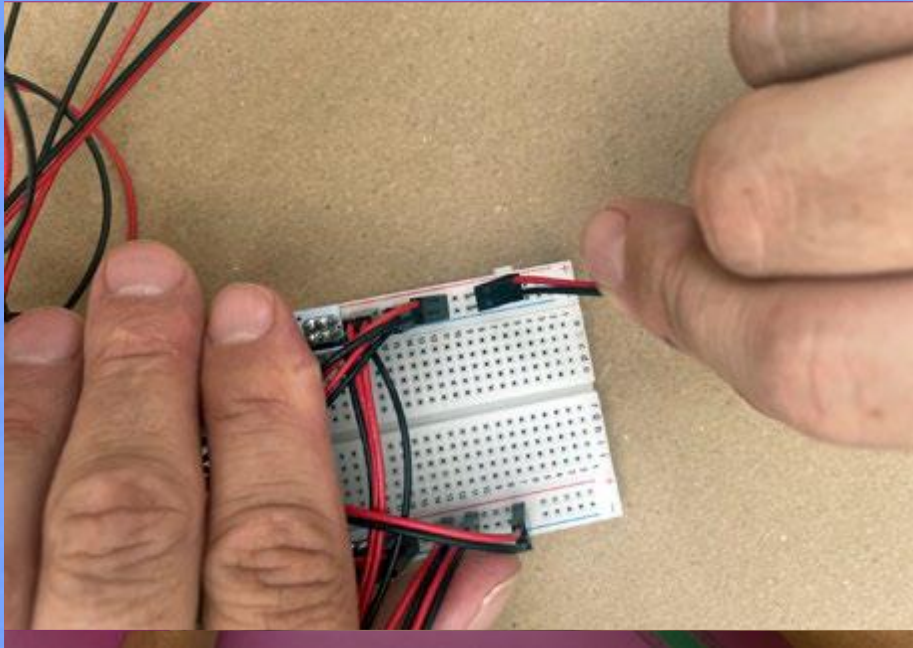
Each leg should go through its own hole.

Connect the wires to the LEDs from the inside of the box.



# Get started with technology!

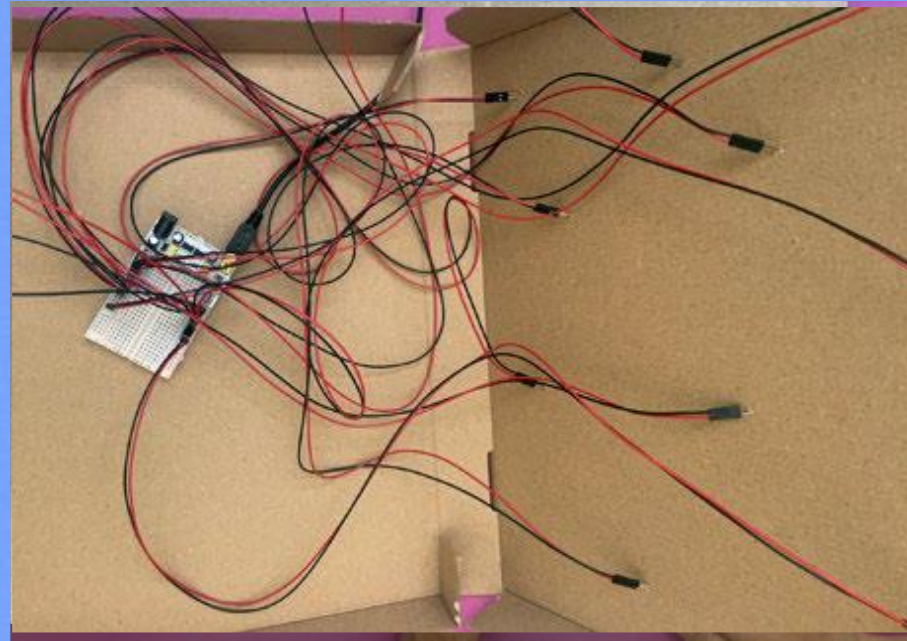
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## Connecting everything

Insert the LED plugs into the breadboard.  
Look at the colored lines on the side:

- **Red wire** = next to the **red line**
- **Black wire** = next to the **blue line**



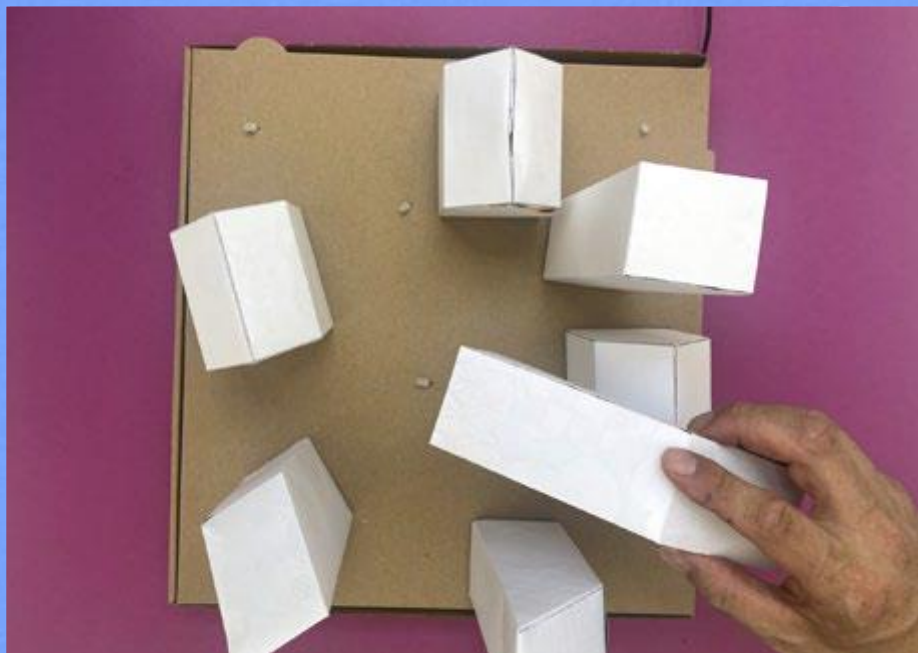
## Installing everything

Plug the USB cable into the breadboard.  
Place the breadboard and wires neatly inside the box.  
Let the plug stick out from the back of the box.

Run a test: Do all the lights turn on?

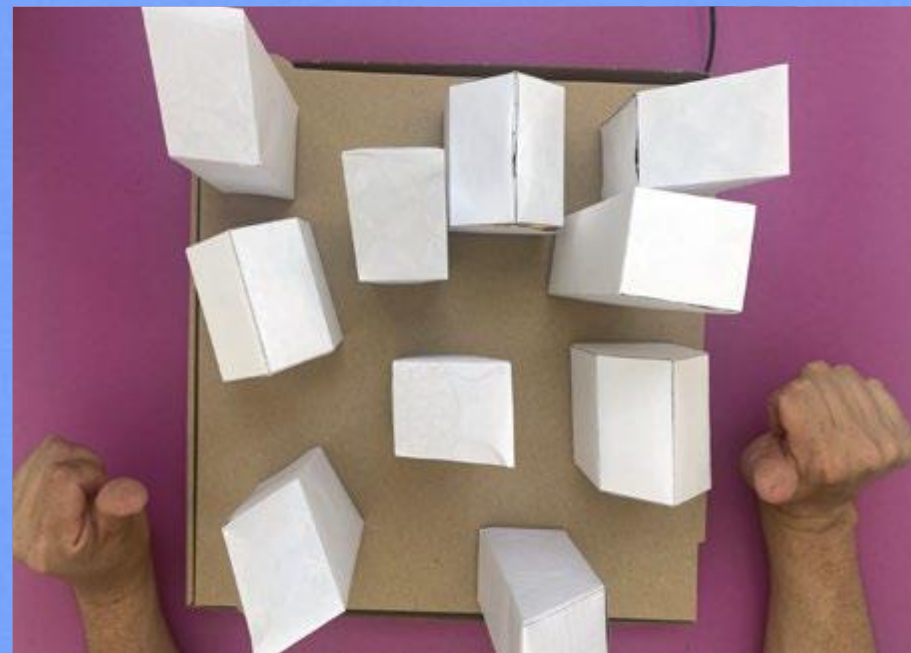
# Get started with technology!

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## Reattaching the buildings

Glue all the buildings back in place on the box.



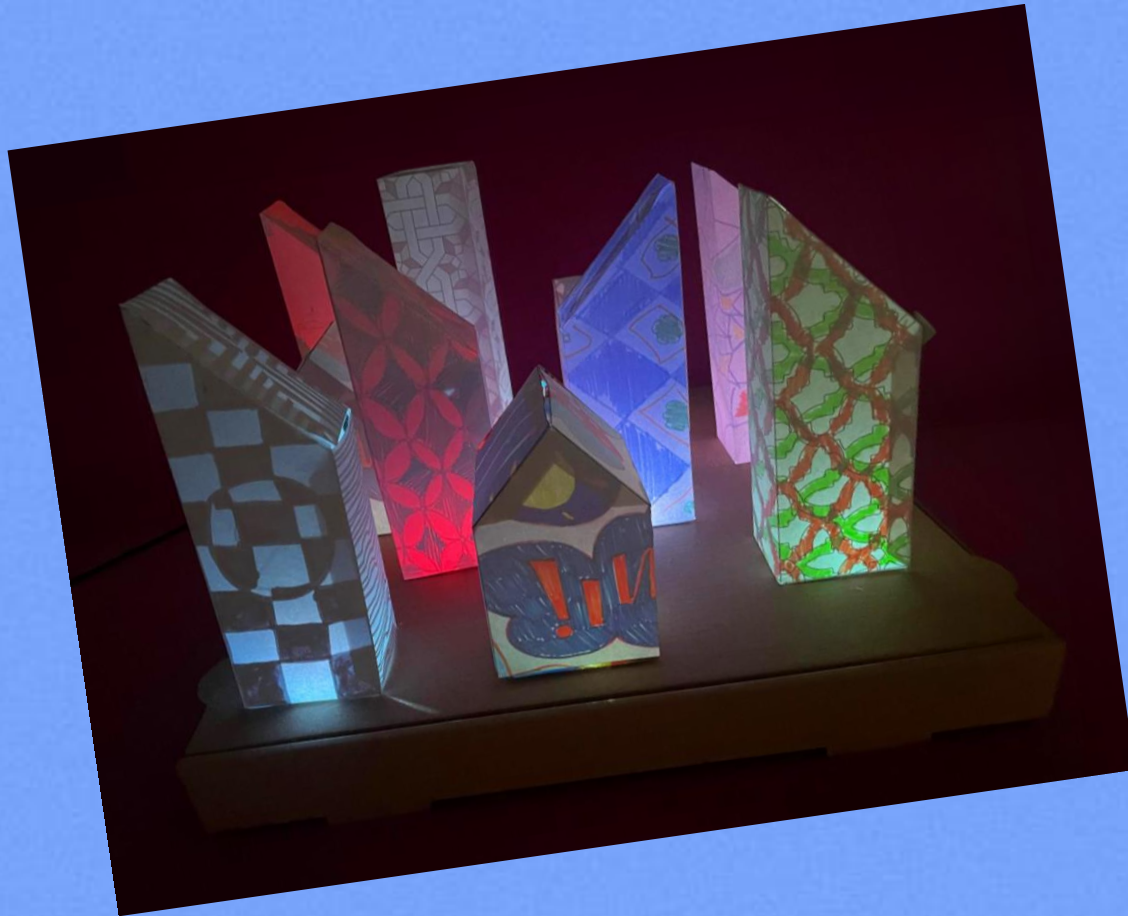
## Ready? Time to test!

Plug the connector into the power outlet.  
Do all the lights turn on? Congratulations!

Your city is ready to shine at GLOW!



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- *Why this design?*
- *What will your city be called, and why?*
- *What changes when the lights turn on?*

