

ART · GRADES 2–3

# Symmetry in Art

Mirror, mirror — drawing one half from the other

## What is symmetry?

A shape has SYMMETRY if you can fold it in half and both sides match. The fold line is called the LINE OF SYMMETRY. Look for symmetry in real life: a butterfly's wings, a face, a leaf.

## Three activities to try

1. FOLD-AND-PAINT: fold paper in half, open it, drop blobs of paint on ONE side, fold and press. Open. You've made a symmetrical painting.
2. HALF-FACE: draw the OTHER half of a face in a mirror. Match position of eye, eyebrow, mouth corner exactly.
3. BUTTERFLY DESIGN: draw a butterfly's body down the middle. Decorate ONE wing with patterns. Then copy the EXACT same pattern on the other wing.
4. LETTER HUNT: which letters of the alphabet have a line of symmetry? Try them all.
5. FACE BAND: most human faces are nearly symmetrical, but not perfectly. Hold a mirror to one half of a face — what does it look like?

