



Gordonn Solomon, *Harold's Picky Head Boy*, 2010.

Inspiration Artist: Gordon Solomon

Age Range: Primary

Subject Areas: Art, Mathematics (geometry)

CUBISM AND GEOMETRY



**NATIONAL
GALLERY** | CAYMAN
ISLANDS

DART



In this Packet

In this lesson, students will learn about basic geometric shapes and how they are used creatively in Cubism, a style of modern art created by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque.

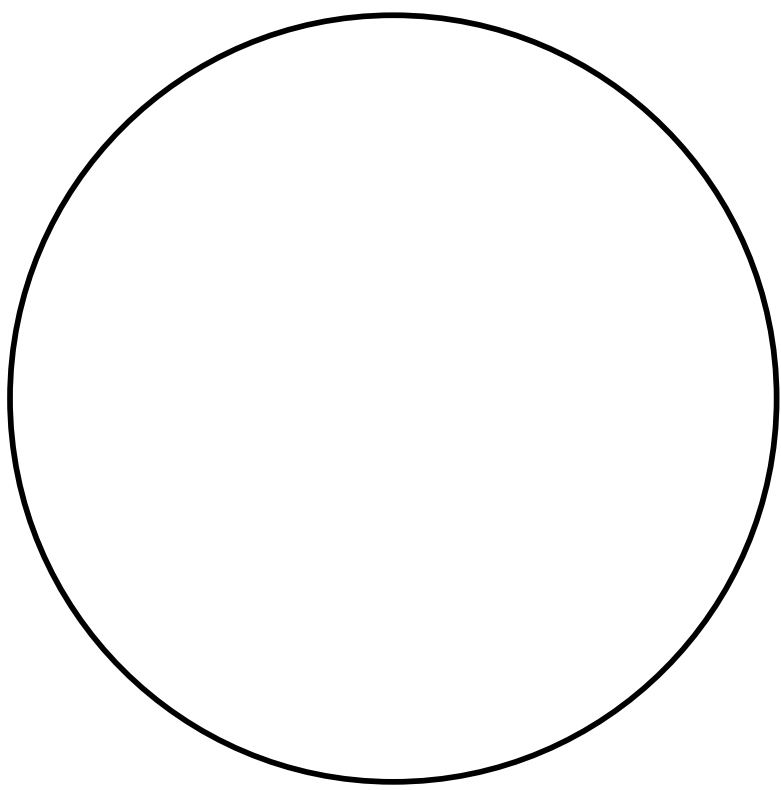
In a follow-up art activity, students will create their own Cubism-inspired art using geometrical shapes.

*This lesson is best achieved with the guidance of a parent or guardian

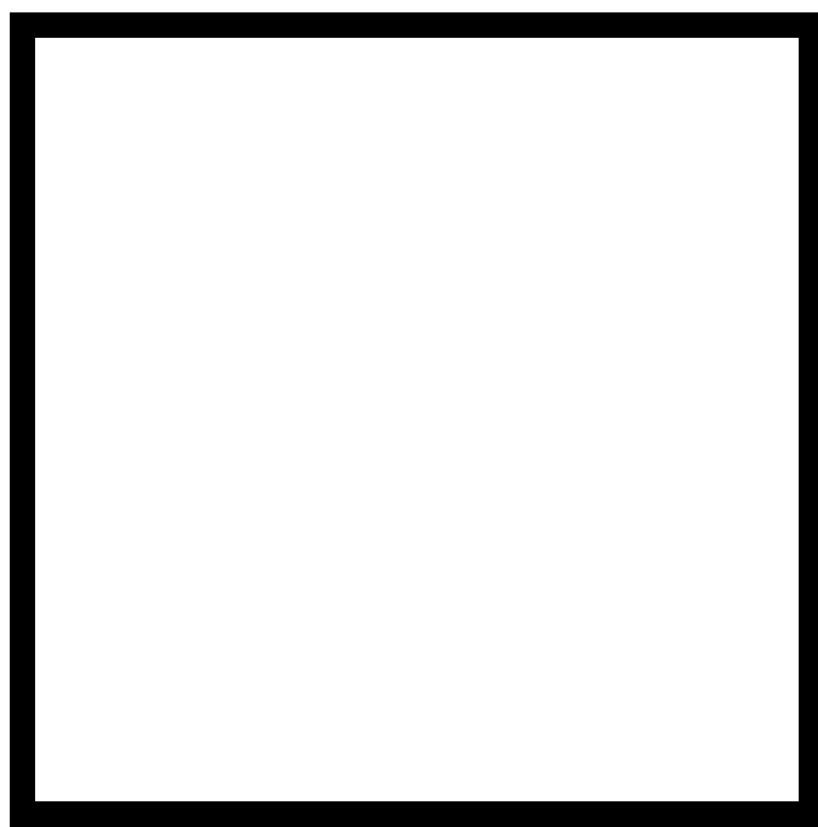
Geometry and Shapes

Geometry is a type of mathematics that looks at lines, shapes and angles.

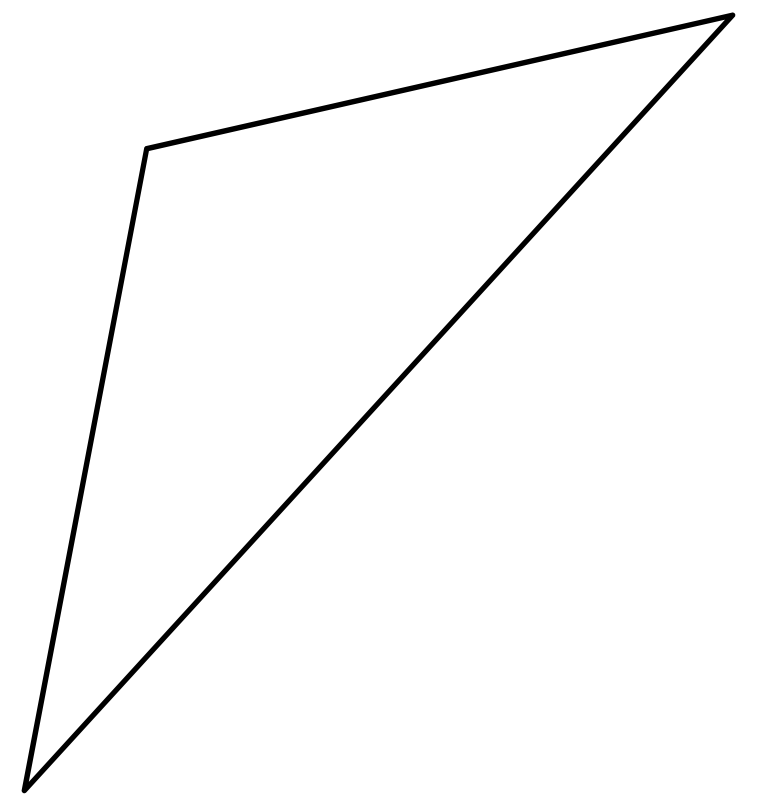
Here are some simple geometrical shapes that you may already know:



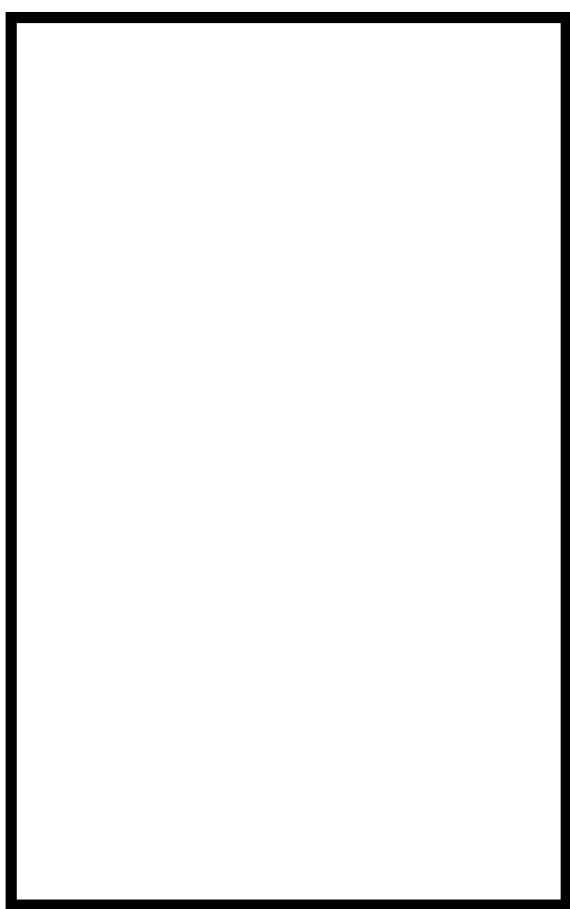
Circle



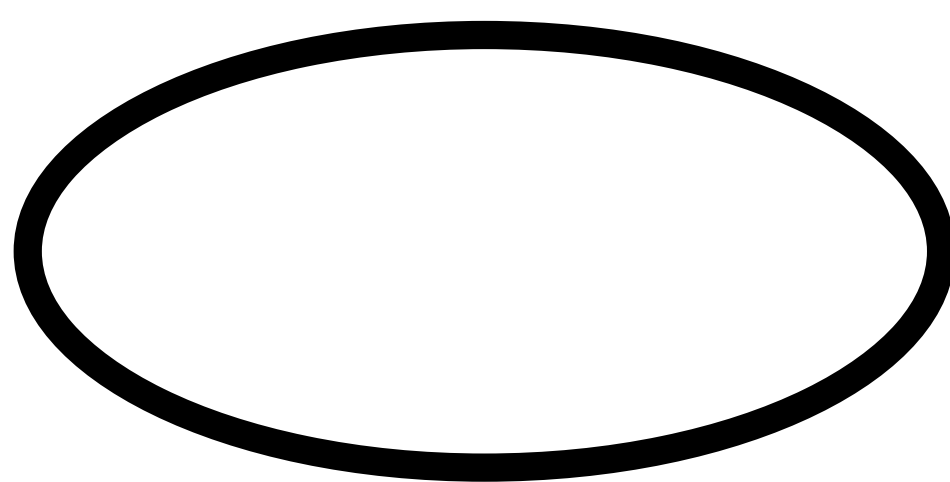
Square



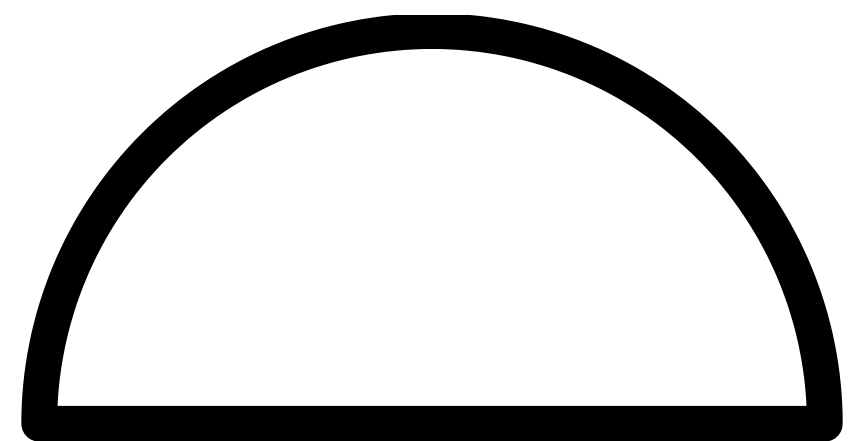
Triangle



Rectangle



Oval

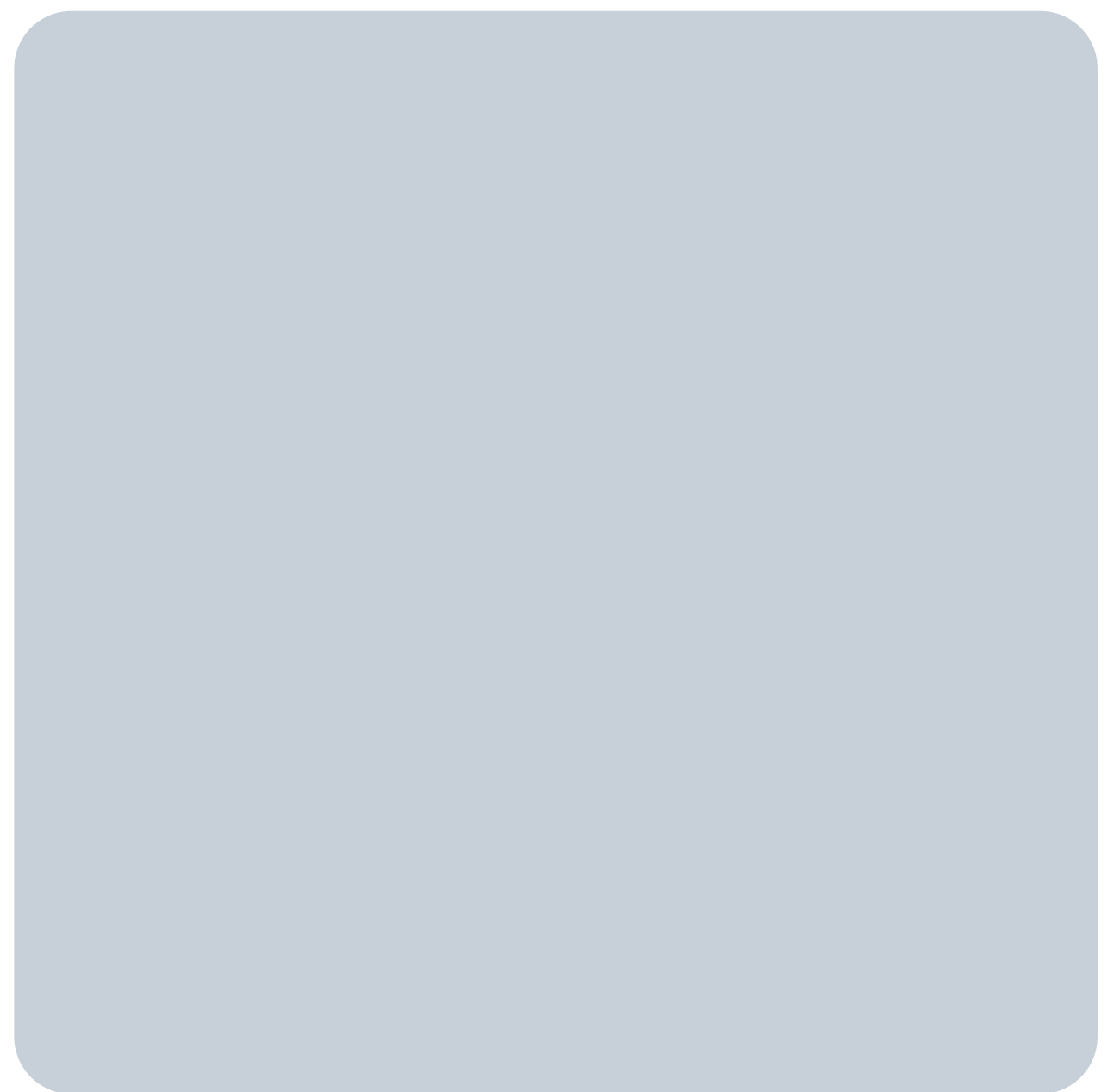


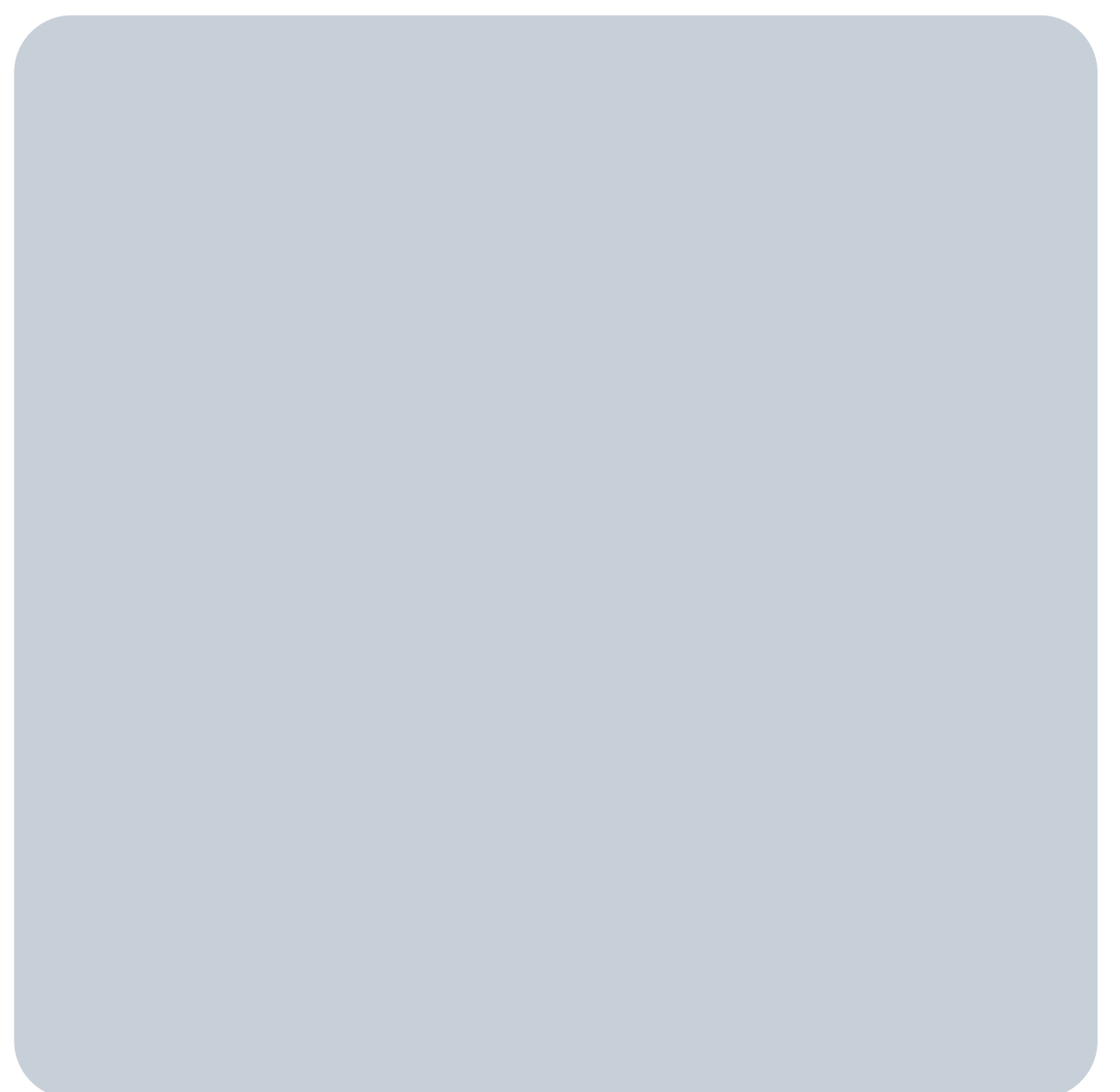
Semi-circle

Geometry and Shapes

Take a look around your house.

What shapes do you see? Write down the names of two shapes and draw them in the boxes.





What is Cubism?

Cubism was created by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque in 1907.

At the time, most artists were painting things realistically. Picasso and Braque decided to do things a little differently!

They used **shapes** like circles, squares and triangles to paint from unusual angles and viewpoints.

They would break what they were painting up into different parts then put it back together in a brand new way.

Cubism used imagination to help artists understand and paint the world around them differently.

Compare and contrast: Can you see the difference between these two paintings?

Realism



Cubism



Caymanian Cubism Art

There are many shapes in this Cubism painting by Caymanian artist **Gordon Solomon**.

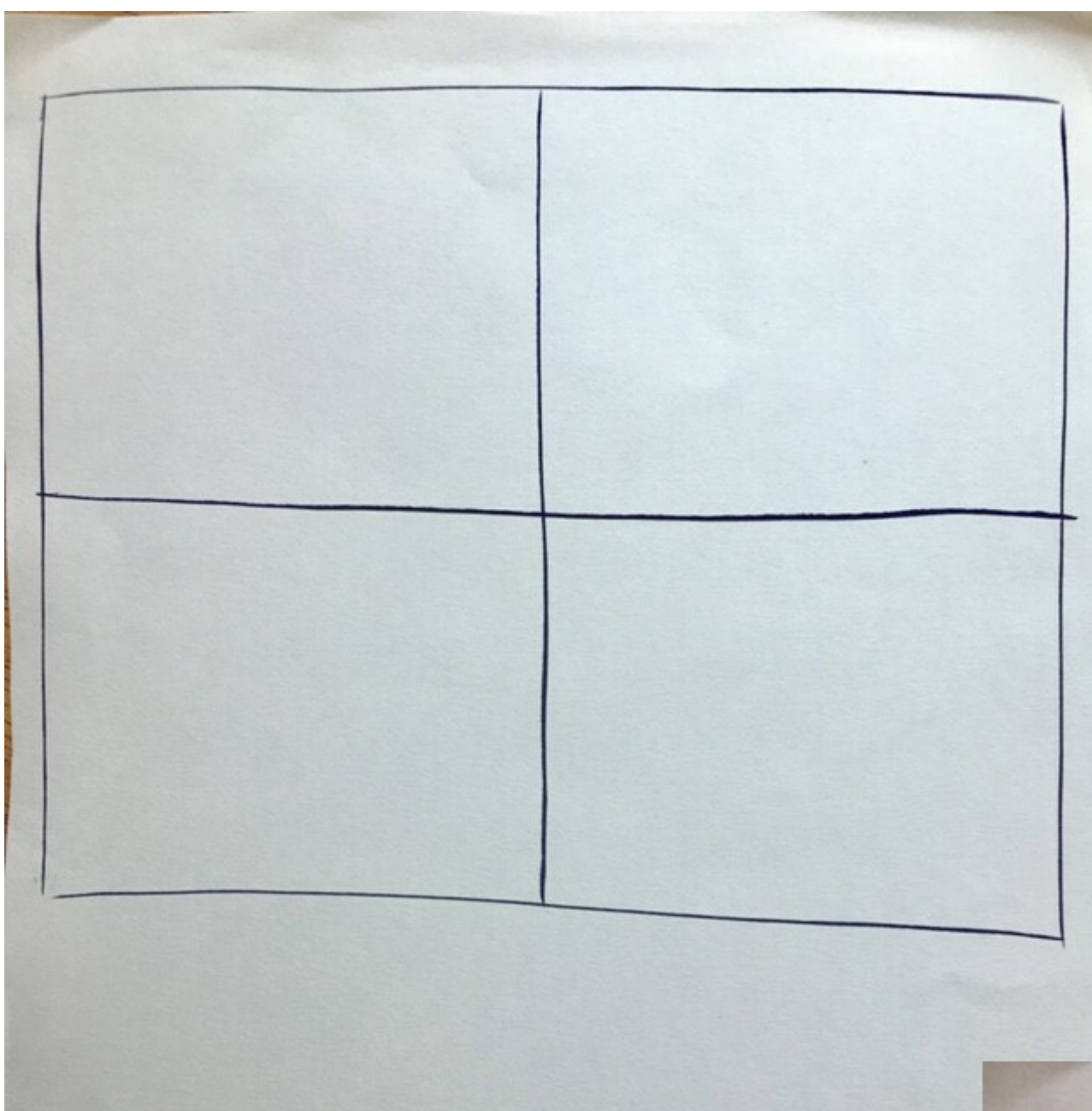


What shapes and colours can you see in the painting?

Art Activity: Option 1

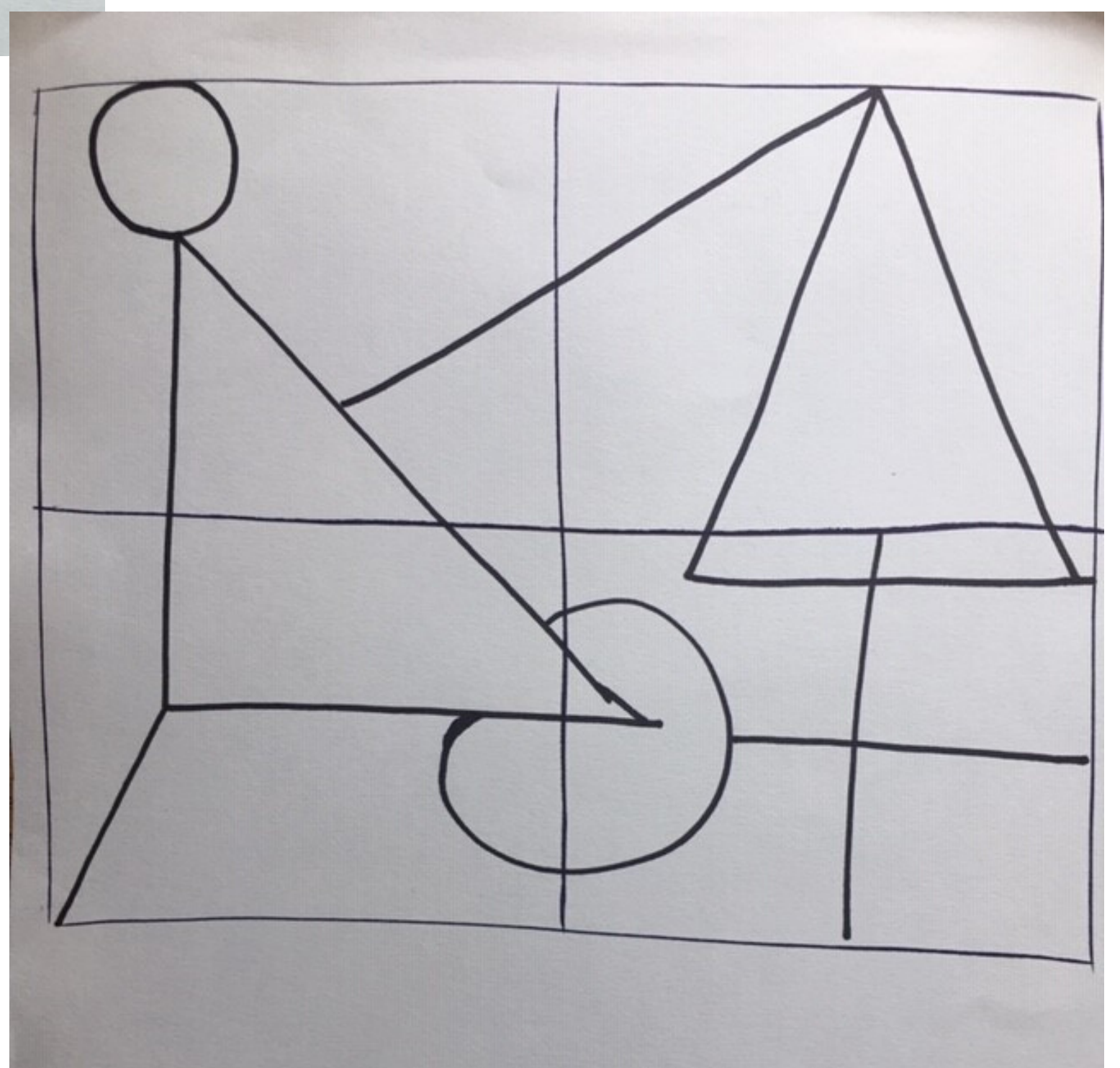
Materials:

- Drawing paper (regular printer paper also works fine)
- Crayons, coloured pencils or markers
- Pencil



1. Draw a square and make a cross through it so you have four squares.

2. Draw different shapes into your first square in any way you like.



A hand-drawn geometric composition on a grid. The drawing includes a red circle in the top-left, a blue triangle in the top-right, a green circle in the bottom-center, and a red rectangle in the bottom-right. Four colored pencils (red, purple, green, blue) are placed diagonally across the bottom of the page.

Art Activity: Option 2

Materials:

- Drawing paper (regular printer paper also works fine)
- Crayons, coloured pencils or markers
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Mirror (or photograph of yourself)

Using a mirror or a photograph of yourself, draw a picture of your own face.

Colour in your picture - don't be afraid to choose bold and bright colours!

Cut your finished picture up into different shapes of different sizes. As you cut, can you name what shapes you are creating?

Now, put the picture back together in a new way by gluing them onto a new sheet of paper.