With his silly stuck-out tongue, this jaguar might look friendly but beware! The jaguar is the largest cat in the Americas and a dangerous predator. Rulers of ancient cultures like the Mayas would add “Jaguar” to their name and might even wear jaguar fur to show their power. This artifact comes from the Mixtec people of Mexico. It was made over 800 years ago around the year 1200.

What do you think this vessel held?

Imagine

What animals do you think are powerful? Can you find any animals on your cups, plates, or other items in your house? Why do you think people use animals to decorate things they own?

Create

Think about the animals you believe are powerful. Design a vessel like a cup, jar, or bowl in the shape of that animal.
Jaguar Head Vessel, Pre-Columbian, 1200,
Earthenware, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 78.525
A French artist named Émile Gallé made this delightful sculpture of a cat. Even though Gallé preferred to work from nature, he painted this cat bright yellow with blue spots. What colors will you use to color this cat? Will your cat be colored more realistically or fantastically?

Where would you put a cat sculpture like this? Where do you think it might have lived before it came to the Chrysler Museum?

Do you have a pet at home or a pet you dream about? Create a sculpture of that pet using something you can find around the house like crumpled paper or aluminum foil.
Émile Gallé (French, 1846–1904), *Yellow Seated Cat*, ca. 1880, Pottery, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 83.390
This is a portrait of a man from Florence, Italy named Michele Olivieri. He and his father had their portraits painted, but oddly, they were both painted much younger than they actually were at the time. Why do you think they wanted to be painted as they were younger?

What do you think Michele was like when he was alive? What clues does the artist give?

Draw a self-portrait, but draw yourself much younger than you are now. It may be helpful to look at a few pictures. What has changed about your face?
Master of the Castello Nativity (Italian, ca. 1445–1475). *Portrait of Michele Olivieri*, ca. 1450, Tempera on panel, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 83.584
This wooden cover would have contained a mummified Egyptian! Protecting the mummy was very important because the Egyptians believed the afterlife was very important. The cover was made to look like the person the coffin held.

Notice the scarab beetle on the top of the coffin. The scarab beetle was a good luck symbol to Ancient Egyptians. Why do you think that was? What are some symbols for good luck in our society?

Look for an empty box in your recycling bin. Decorate it using some of the same patterns you see on the sarcophagus cover. Then find something special to put inside!
Sarcophagus Cover, Late Period, 664–525 B.C.E.,
Cartonnage, gesso, and paint on wood, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 0.1977
The ancient Greeks and Romans loved to create marble statues and busts like this one to celebrate the beauty of the human body. When you come to the Museum, you will see many white marble sculptures—but they weren’t always like that! Researchers discovered that many of these sculptures were actually painted all over with bright colors that wore off over time.

What bright, wild colors could you use to paint this marble piece? What plain, white objects in your house could use some extra color?

The Greeks and Romans created very realistic portraits. One way to create realistic portraits is by using proportions. Use your thumb to measure the width of Diana’s eye. How many eye-widths are between each eye? How many on each side? Use these proportions the next time you make a self-portrait!
Head of Diana, Roman, no date, Marble, Gift of Mrs. W.W. Gwathmey, Sr., 28.2.1
A Dharmapala is a protector in the Buddhist religion. If he seems scary, he is supposed to be! A Dharmapala was meant to scare off danger and enemies of Buddhist followers.

This Dharmapala's mouth is open. What do you think he is saying?

Cut out this Dharmapala and place it somewhere you’d like to give someone a fright.
This lampshade is made from hundreds of pieces of glass that have been cut out and then stuck back together using metal. The lampshade is decorated with dragonflies. Have you ever seen a dragonfly? Their wings and bodies can look iridescent, which means they look like they change color in the light. It may have inspired the designer to use dragonflies in this design!

Imagine this lamp came to life. How might the dragonflies buzz around the room?

Use old magazines or catalogs to cut out different colors of paper. Glue the pieces onto a blank sheet of paper in a new shape like this artist did with glass. Use a black marker to create the lines where the glass is put together.
Tiffany Studios (American, 1902–1932), Clara Driscoll (shade) (American, 1861–1944),

*Dragonfly Library Lamp*, ca. 1905, Leaded glass with bronze base,
Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 71.8123
This artwork was made over 1,400 years ago! It’s amazing the piece survived. The Mayan people in Guatemala created this vessel using terracotta, the same clay material many flowerpots are made of and a material that is easily broken. Many smaller pieces of terracotta called appliqués are attached to this urn. Those pieces can easily break off.

Imagine you are in charge of moving this piece to another museum. How would you hold it? What would you do to protect it from breaking?

Cardboard is the perfect material to practice using this appliqué technique. Use layers of cardboard to create height and depth as you create a face like the one on this vessel. How many layers do you need to make a nose?
Appliquéd Ceramic Urn, Mayan, 300–600, Terracotta, Anonymous Gift, 78.644
The Suku people from the Democratic Republic of Congo made this mask. They used wood to create common items like combs and special items like this mask. The Suku people’s religious ceremonies mostly revolved around their elders and their ancestors. How do you honor your ancestors? How do you honor people older than you?

Imagine you have to make something special to honor an older person you know like a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or neighbor. What would you make them?

Create a mask! Use a paper plate or piece of cardboard. Cut out holes for the eyes and decorate it to create a character. Who will you become when your mask is on?
Mask, Congolese, Early–to mid-20th century, Wood with pigment, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 71.2392
SO MUCH TO SEE.

Flower-Form Vase

Look
Tiffany Glass and Decorating Company
(American, 1892–1902)

*Flower-Form Vase*, ca. 1899–1900
Blown glass
Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 71.6320

Discover
This beautiful vase is made of glass and made to look like a flower. Does this look like a real flower to you? Why or why not?

Imagine
Imagine you found this flower on a walk in your neighborhood. How would it smell? Would you pick it?

Create
Flowers inspire lots of artists. Go outside, pick a flower, and practice drawing it from real life. How does your flower look compared to the flower vase?
Tiffany Glass and Decorating Company (American, 1892–1902), *Flower-Form Vase*, ca. 1899–1900, Blown glass, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 71.6320
This bulldog was made to decorate someone's home and was probably chosen to match the room. The bulldog may have been selected because it was the same color as the owner's carpet, sheets, or couch. If this bulldog came into the room you're in right now, what would it match?

This puppy has a big frown. What could be making this puppy so sad? How would you cheer him up?

One way to make this pup happy might be to give him a fabulous work of art to look at. In the background of the coloring sheet, create a work of art from your imagination or based on a famous painting you know. A bright, cheery picture is sure to make this dog smile!
Émile Gallé (French, 1846–1904), *Yellow Bulldog*, ca. 1889, Faience, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 77.768
SO MUCH TO SEE.
Ruby Overlay Compote

Discover
Wow! What a fancy dish! A long time ago, the French used this type of bowl to hold expensive desserts like fruit with nuts and syrup drizzled on top.

Imagine
What other fancy food could this dish hold? Could it hold your favorite dessert? What other special meals could you eat out of this dish?

Create
Find a recycled plastic cup and use markers to color the outside. Then put your favorite snack inside and enjoy!

Look
New England Glass Company
(American, 1818–1888)
Ruby Overlay Compote, ca. 1855
Blown, cased, and cut glass
Bequest of Florence L. Smith, 52.18.43
What do you think this jar is made of? Did you guess stone or clay? It’s actually made of glass! William Morris, the artist who made this, has learned how to make glass look like different materials. What materials do you see?

When William Morris saw Ancient Egyptian canopic jars, he decided to make this vase. The Ancient Egyptians put mummy body parts in the canopic jars to keep them safe for the afterlife. William Morris created this vase 25 years ago. What do you think he wanted to put inside?

Do you have an important item that is special to you? Find a pot or a vase and put that special object inside for safekeeping!
Blown glass with hot applications, Gift of the Mowbray Arch Society, 1995, 95.41
© William Morris
Bactrian camels are originally from Central Asia. They are great to take on adventures because they can withstand desert heat and freezing temperatures and go for months without water. Also, their two furry humps make them extra cozy travel companions. The United States Military even had nearly 200 camels enlisted before the Civil War!

Imagine you are packing for a long trip by camel. What would you bring along?

Use two pillows or cushions to create the two humps of the camel. Then climb aboard and enjoy your imaginary ride!
Funerary Sculpture in the Form of a Standing Bactrian Camel. Chinese, late 6th–7th century A.D. White earthenware with cold-painted pigments over a thin layer of pale yellow glaze, Gift of Dr. James C. Perry in Memory of Nancy Nash Perry, 36.8.109