

a-AQ!N

Learning heritage languages through artistic and innovative approaches

Hidden words in drawings

In this creative and fun workshop, participants learn to draw animals using the Arabic letters that make up their names. Starting with a simple word (e.g., **جمال** - camel), they imagine how each letter can become an element of the animal's body (hump, legs, head, etc.). The activity promotes vocabulary learning, letter recognition, and develops artistic expression. Accessible to children, teenagers, and adults with beginner or intermediate Arabic skills, this workshop can be done on paper or on screen, in person or online.



ABOUT ALADIN

PROJECT NAME

Art Based Learning of Language of Origin through Didactic Innovation

PROJECT NO.

KA210-ADU-239BA964

COORDINATOR

COTA ONG (FRANCE)

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

**Comparative Research Network e. V. (GERMANY) KOOPKULTUR e.V.
(GERMANY) SINDIANE (FRANCE)**



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Participant Profile: From 12 years old

Number of Participants: 4- 20 Participants

Duration: 30 to 45 min

Materials: Blank paper or sketchbook, pens, pencils, markers, or colored pencils, projector/screen or computer to view the video, (Optional) graphics tablet or drawing application such as Sketchbook, Procreate, or Autodesk Sketchbook

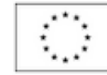
Language skills: written and oral comprehension, recognition of Arabic letters in different contexts, understanding of simple oral or written instructions (especially in easy Arabic), vocabulary enrichment, acquisition and memorization of concrete words (animals, body parts, shapes).

Other skills: creativity, artistic skills, concentration and fine motor skills

Levels: from A1 to A2

Developed by / Origin / Languages: Kata Keresztely, COTA NGO/Multilingual

Hidden Words in Drawings Step-by-Step Activity:



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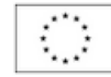
1. Introduction

Present the project: draw an animal from the letters that make up its name.

- Show some inspiring examples (captures from the video, or personal creations).
- Distribute a vocabulary sheet: 5 to 8 animal names written in Arabic + translation + vocalization.
- Watch the video (or excerpts) together to learn more about the context and comment on the steps.
- Pause to let students observe the transformation of letters into graphic elements.

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Hidden Words in Drawings Step-by-Step Activity:



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2. Choice of animal and sketch

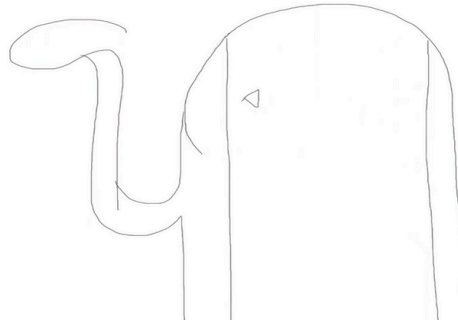
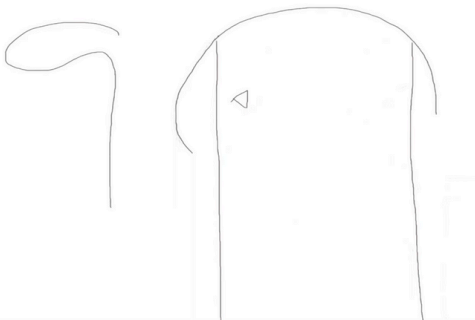
Each participant chooses a word (from those proposed or of their own choice).

Write the word in Arabic, analyze the letters, then start imagining how they could become a head, a leg, a tail, etc.

3. Artistic creation

Participants create their final drawing, stylizing or decorating the letters integrated into their animal.

Digital variant: creation on a graphics tablet or drawing application.



Mots cachés dans les dessins

Activité pas à pas :



a – A d ! N

4. Partage et discussion

- Chaque participant présente son dessin :
- Quel mot ? Quelles lettres ont été utilisées ? Quelles parties de l'animal ont été dessinées à partir de quelles lettres ?
- Donner un retour positif et ouvrir la discussion sur la beauté de l'écriture arabe.

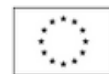
Variations pour apprenants plus avancés

- Ajouter une phrase descriptive sous l'image en arabe : « هذا جمل بني » (Ceci est un chameau brun.)
- Créer une série d'animaux ou un mini-alphabet illustré (ex. : un animal pour chaque lettre initiale).
- Introduire d'autres champs lexicaux :
 - Objets (ex. : باب, كرسي, كتاب...)
 - Fruits (ex. : موز, تفاح...)
 - Personnages ou professions (ex. : معلم, طبيب...)

En ligne :

- Utiliser un tableau collaboratif comme Padlet, Jamboard, ou Canva Whiteboard pour que les participants postent et commentent leurs œuvres.
- Encourager les apprenants à partager une courte vidéo ou un enregistrement audio pour présenter leur création en arabe (ex. : « هذا جمل. كتبته ورسمته من الحروف ج, م, ل » - Ceci est un chameau. Je l'ai écrit et dessiné à partir des lettres ج, م, ل).

Hidden Words in Drawings Step-by-Step Activity:



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4. Sharing and discussion

Each participant presents their drawing:

What word? What letters were used? What parts of the animal were drawn from which letters?

- Provide positive feedback and open discussion on the beauty of Arabic writing.

Variations for more advanced learners

Add a descriptive sentence below the image in Arabic: “هذا جمل بني” (This is a brown camel.)

Create a series of animals or a mini-illustrated alphabet (e.g., one animal for each initial letter).

Introduce other lexical fields:

Objects (ex.: كرسي, باب, كتاب...)

Fruits (ex.: موزة, تفاح...)

Personnel or professions (e.g., طبيب, معلم, etc.)

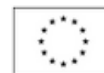
Online :

Use a collaborative board like Padlet, Jamboard, or Canva Whiteboard for participants to post and comment on their work.

Encourage learners to share a short video or audio recording to present their creation in Arabic (e.g.: هذا جمل. كتبته ورسمته من الحروف

ج, م, ل This is a camel. I wrote and drew it from the letters ج, م, ل.

Recommendations for educators

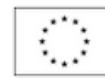


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- Prepare some examples in advance (simple drawings to show at the start of the workshop)
- Encourage students to work in pencil first, then go over it again
- Provide a reminder sheet of letter shapes at the beginning, middle and end of words
- Promote the diversity of creations, even if they are very abstract
- Incorporate words from the local dialect if relevant (Moroccan Arabic, Tunisian, etc.)

- **Recommendations for parents**

- Do the activity in pairs with the child, discovering words and letters together
- Suggest inventing imaginary animals with letters chosen at random
- Create a gallery at home with the drawings hanging on the wall



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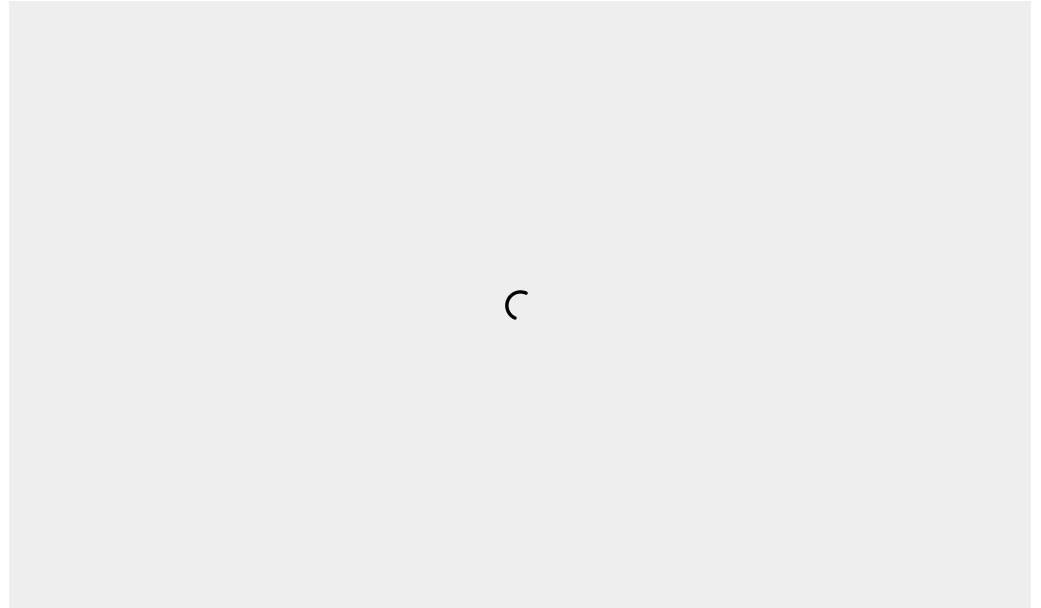
Online resources

Tutorials:

<https://apprentissagecreatifdelarabe.weebly.com/>

To work on the tablet or phone screen:

- <https://sketchbook.com/>





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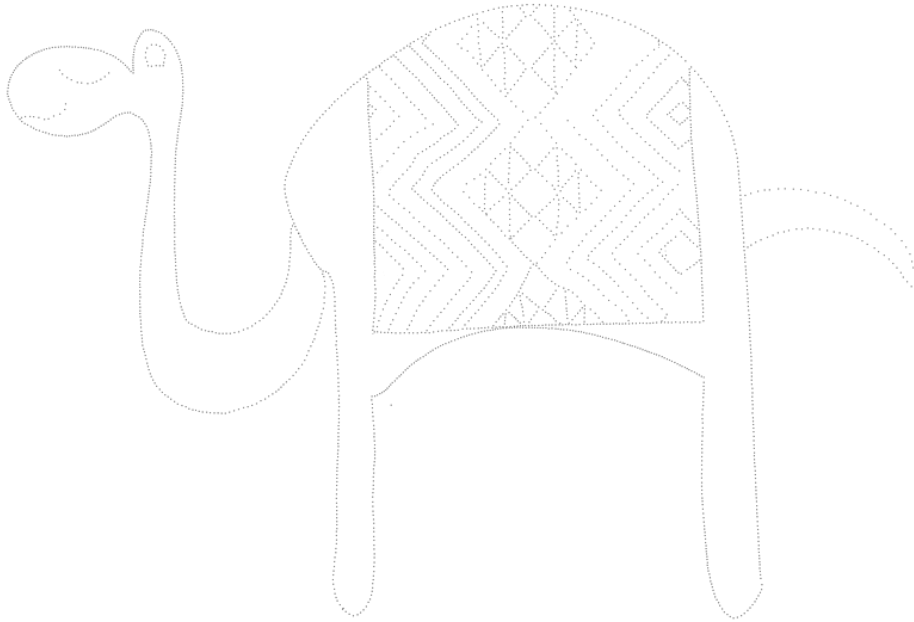
PRINTABLE WORKSHEETS

Hidden Letters

This is the camel, the ship of the desert... We have hidden its name in its image. Do you see where the letters jīm, mīm and lām are hidden?

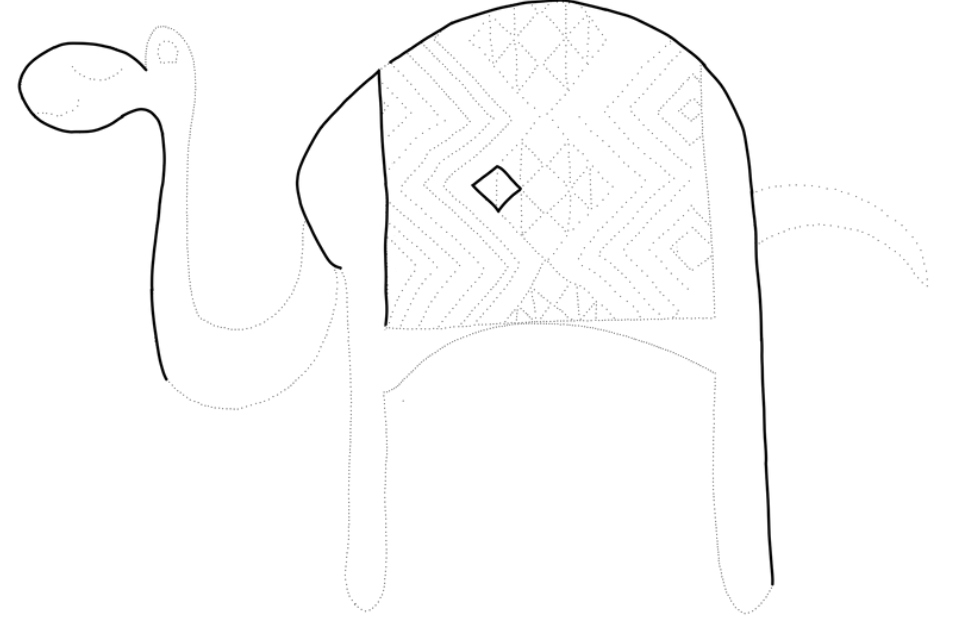
الحروف المخفية

هذا هو الجمل، سفينة الصحراء... لقد خبأنا اسمه في صورته. هل ترون أين تختبئ الحروف جيم، ميم ولام؟



Here they are:

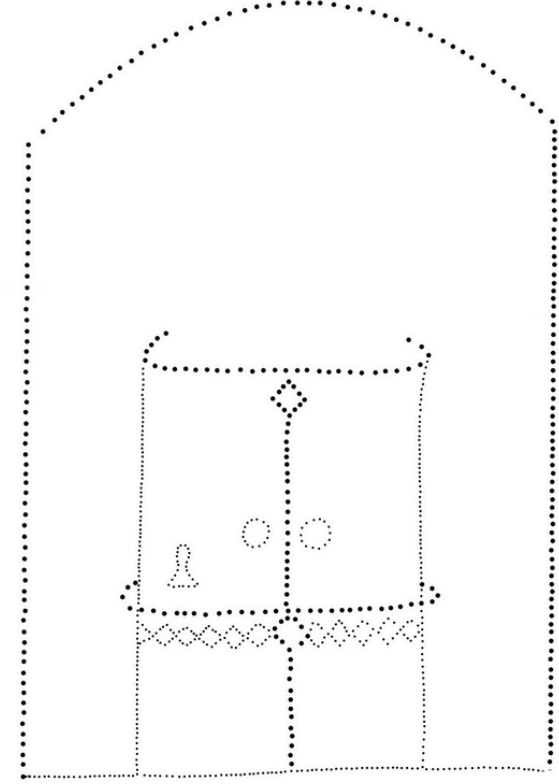
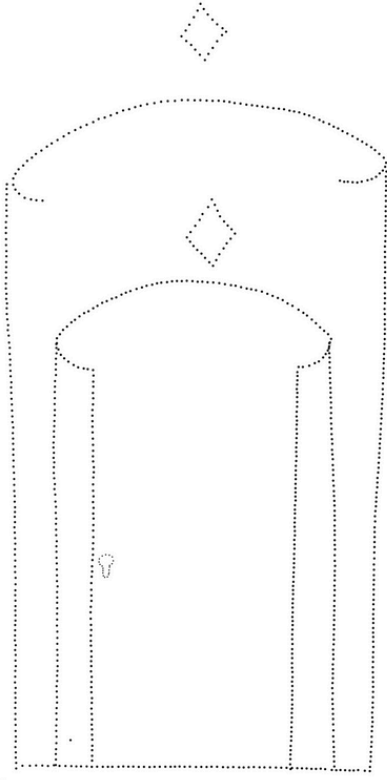
ها هي :



camel

C'est votre tour, cherchez les lettres du mot "porte" ("باب") dans ces deux dessins inspirés des portes des vieilles maisons de Damas.

إنه دوركم، ابحثوا عن حروف كلمة "باب" في هذين الرسمين المستوحين من أبواب البيوت القديمة في دمشق.

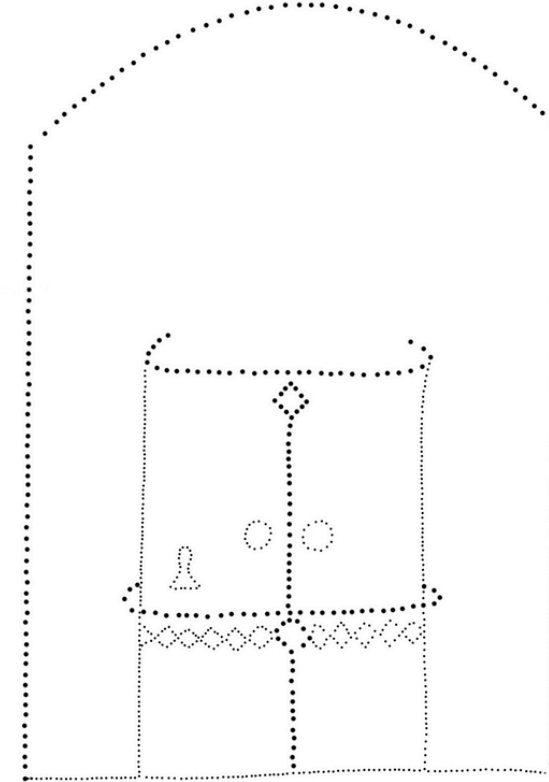
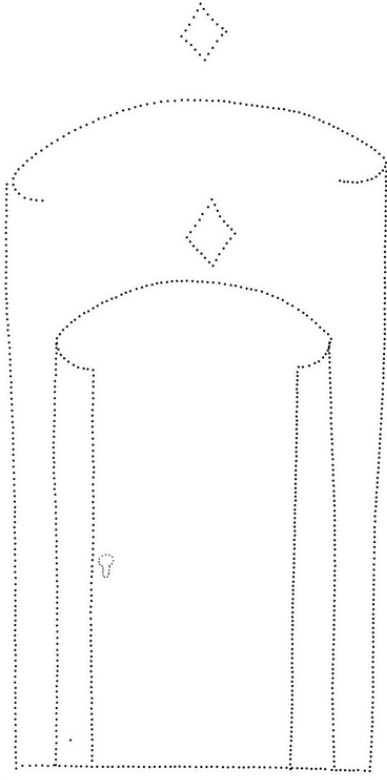


Imprimez les dessins, redessinez d'abord les lignes des lettres. Ensuite, vous pouvez repasser tous les contours et colorier le dessin.

اطبعوا الرسوم، وأعيدوا رسم خطوط الحروف أولاً. بعد ذلك، يمكنكم إعادة تحديد كل الخطوط وتلوين الرسم.

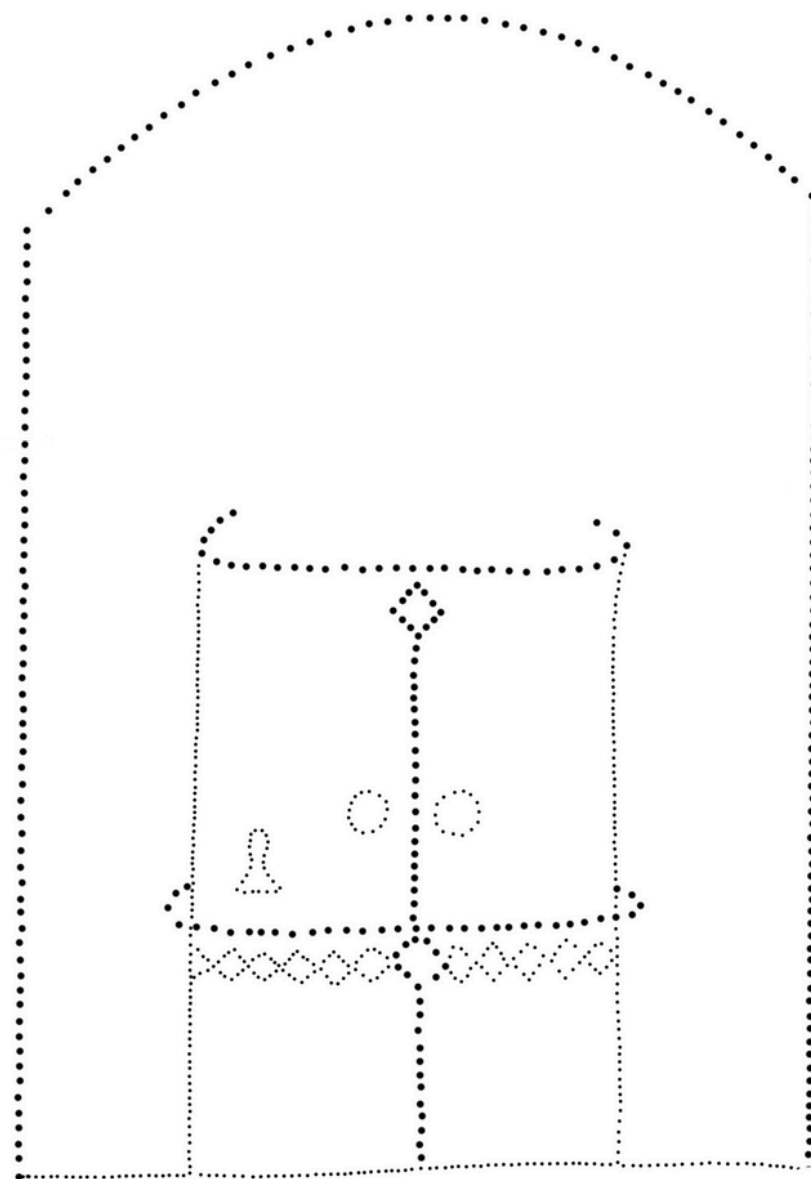
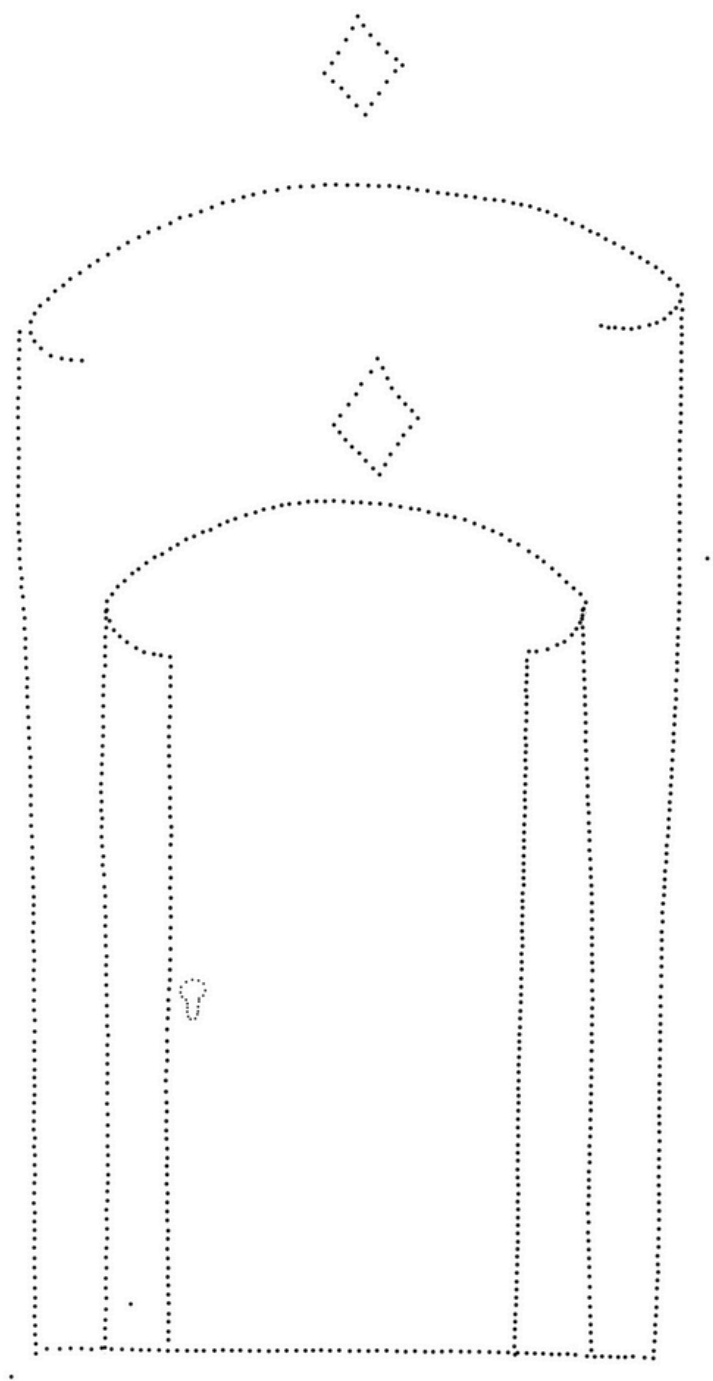
It's your turn, find the letters of the word "door" ("باب") in these two drawings inspired by the doors of old houses in Damascus.

إنه دوركم، ابحثوا عن حروف كلمة "باب" في هذين الرسمين المستوحين من أبواب البيوت القديمة في دمشق.



Print the drawings, first redraw the lines of the letters. Then you can go over all the outlines and color the drawing.

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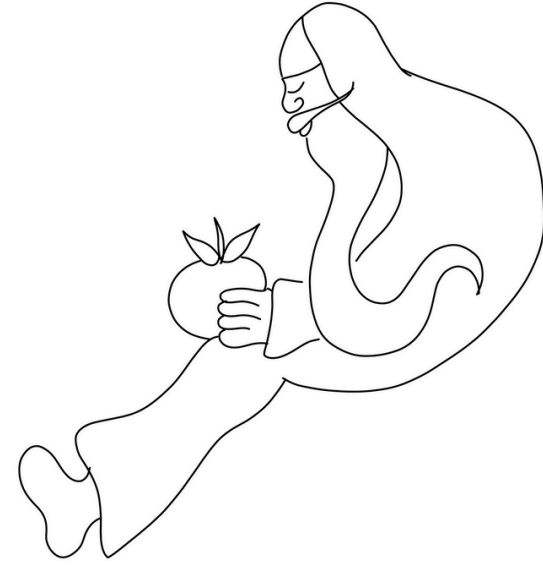
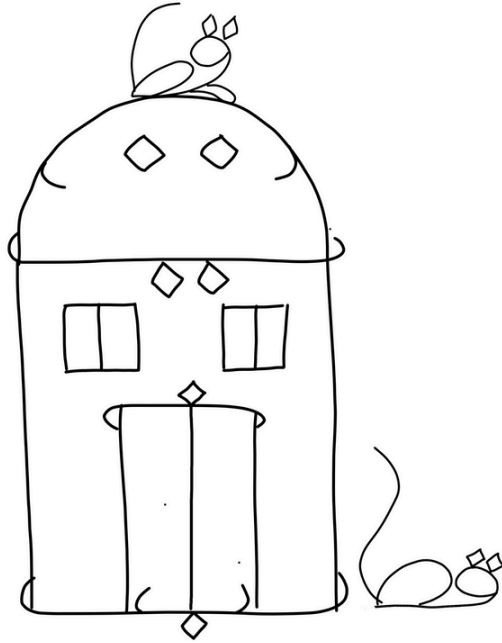


Cachez des mots dans vos dessins !

Maintenant, c'est à vous d'inventer des dessins d'objets, d'animaux ou de scènes, et d'y cacher des lettres ou des mots, comme dans cette petite maison avec deux chats. Retrouvez les lettres du mot "maison" (بيت), de la "porte" (باب) et du "chat" (قط).

خفوا كلمات في رسوماتكم

حان دوركم الآن لتخترعوا رسومات لأشياء أو حيوانات أو مشاهد، وتُخفوا فيها حروفًا أو كلمات، مثل هذا البيت الصغير مع قطتين. حاولوا أن تجدوا حروف كلمة "بيت"، و"باب"، و"قط".



Et qui est ce vieil homme, assis, le dos courbé, tenant un fruit à la main ? On ne sait pas vraiment, mais c'est lui. Est-ce que vous voyez le mot "هو" (huwwa) dans le dessin ?

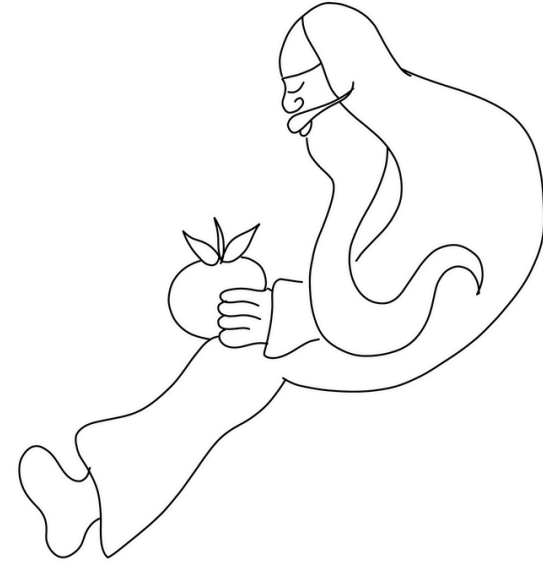
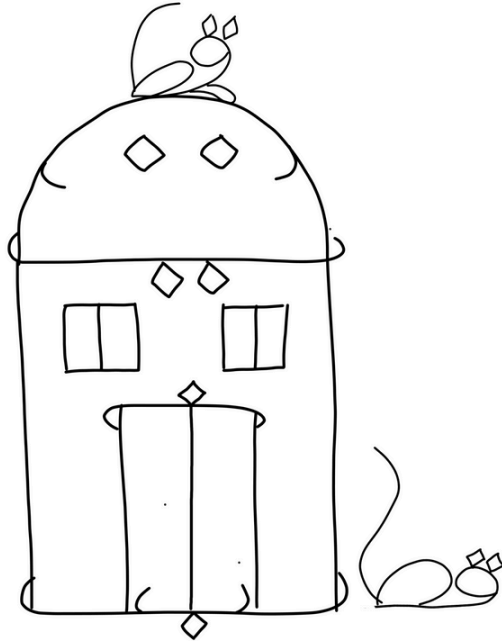
ومن يكون هذا الرجل العجوز، الجالس، منحني الظهر، ممسكًا بثمره في يده؟
لا نعرف تمامًا، لكنه هو. هل ترون كلمة "هو" في الرسم؟

Hide words in your drawings!

Now it's your turn to invent drawings of objects, animals, or scenes, and to hide letters or words in them, like in this little house with two cats. Find the letters of the word "house" (بيت), "door" (باب), and "cat" (قَطّ).

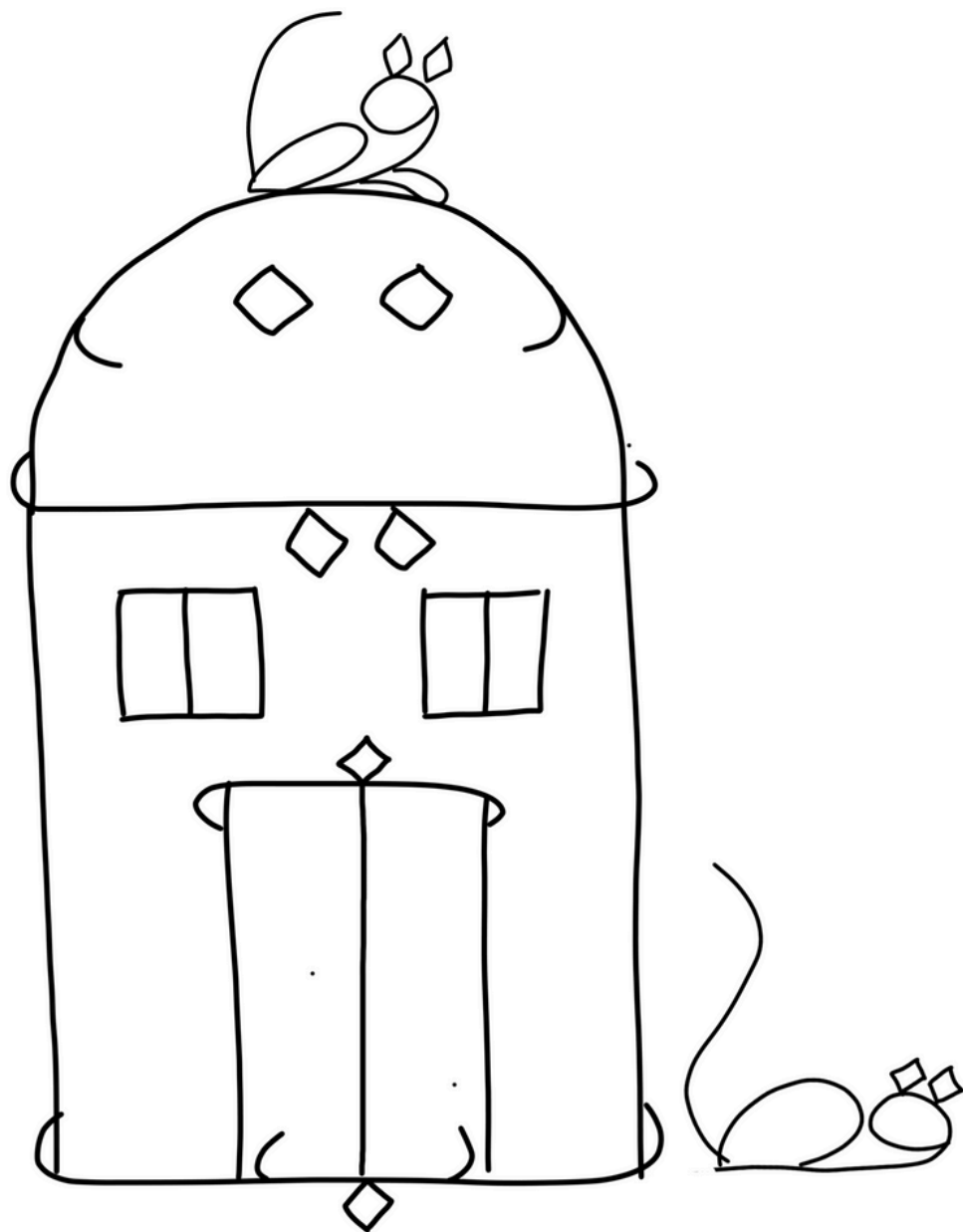
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And who is this old man, sitting with his back bent, holding a fruit in his hand? We don't really know, but it's him. Do you see the word "هو" (huwwa) in the drawing?

ومن يكون هذا الرجل العجوز، الجالس، منحنى الظهر، ممسكاً بثمره في يده؟ لا نعرف تماماً، لكنه هو. هل ترون كلمة "هو" في الرسم؟



بيت

باب

قط

