

# MAKE A MINI PLAYGROUND SCULPTURE



Mark di Suvero is an American sculptor who creates giant works of art from industrial materials. To build the sculpture *Sister Lu*, the artist and his team used a crane to attach huge pieces of steel together. The result is a big, playful structure with dramatic angles like a seesaw. One side of the sculpture stands firmly in the ground. On the other side, a bucket-shaped form with a hole at the end swings in the air from a beam overhead. You can look through the hole, but make sure you don't touch the sculpture if you come to see it!

The artist found joy in making this playful sculpture with moving parts after his recovery from a severe accident in the 1960s. He named the sculpture after his sister, Marie Louise, who introduced him to the world of art.

In this activity, we'll use bold colors and shapes to create a miniature playground sculpture. What colors are playful to you? Which shapes bring you joy? What is your favorite part of a playground? Think about these details as you create your sculpture.

## LISTEN

Learn more about *Sister Lu*  
[artbma.org/SisterLuMaterial](http://artbma.org/SisterLuMaterial)

Hear the artist talk about *Sister Lu*  
[artbma.org/SisterLuArtist](http://artbma.org/SisterLuArtist)



**Above:** Mark di Suvero (American, born China 1933). *Sister Lu*. 1978-1979. Painted Steel. 186 x 336 x 204 in. (472.6 x 853.8 x 518.4 cm.). The Baltimore Museum of Art: Gift of Ryda and Robert H. Levi, Baltimore, BMA 1987.219. © Mark di Suvero



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We'd love to see your work! Snap a picture of your final creation and share with us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter using the hashtag #ArtBMAFromHome for a chance to be featured.

## MATERIALS

Paper, scissors, glue, tape, cardboard, crayons or markers

1



Cut out a base for your sculpture to stand on. A cardboard base will make your sculpture stand firm; paper will make it more flexible.

2



Cut long rectangles out of the paper in any colors you like. Vibrant colors make your sculpture bright, dark colors make it bold, and white adds a reflective feel. Experiment by decorating with crayons or markers or cutting out other shapes like circles, triangles, and diamonds.

3



Move the paper to create curves, angles, and shapes on the base. When the paper is in a position you like, fold down the ends of the paper and then glue or tape them to the base.

4



After your first piece of paper is attached to the base, get creative: add as many pieces as you like to your sculpture.

Artist Mark di Suvero uses steel to make sculptures that create feelings of joy; you can do the same using paper and your imagination.

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