



STEM Challenge: Make Your Own Collage Story Book Science at Home Activity

What you need

- Paper for the background of the collage and paper scraps, including newspapers, magazines, and construction paper, to create components to build your collage
- Scissors
- Adhesives like glue or tape
- Other art materials like paint, markers, or crayons

Preparation

Step 1. Gather materials.

Step 2. Think about the design of your collage. Use the art materials (i.e. paper scraps, scissors, glue, etc.) to make elements to attach to the background to create a collage that represents the responsibilities of a good citizen and the actions they take as a member of a community.

What to do

Study your collage. What does your collage state are the actions that a good citizen must take, and what community is this good citizen a part of? Is this collage about you or someone else?

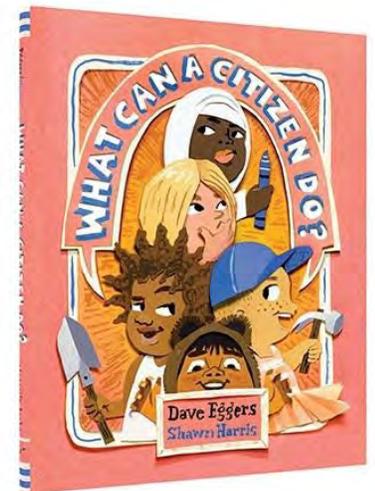
Now make observations about your design. What shapes appear in your collage? Is the collage two-dimensional, or does the collage have components that are three-dimensional? What patterns do you notice in your collage?

Activity modified from *What Can a Citizen Do?* Discussion Guide from Chronicle Books

What is happening?

A citizen is a member of a community. The community can be small, like a family or group of friends, or large like a country made up of many different people! A citizen has important responsibilities that require taking action, and a citizen is defined by the things they do.

Shawn Harris is an artist that created collages to illustrate a book about citizens, *What Can a Citizen Do?* Collages are a form of art where an artist arranges paper and other materials onto a background. Collages may contain artistic elements that are related to science and math: shapes, forms, and patterns. Shapes are flat, two-dimensional areas that have height and width like circles, squares, and other areas with clear boundaries. Forms are three-dimensional objects that have height, width, and thickness like balls and cubes. Patterns are repetitions that appear over and over again in an artwork's design. These repetitions may include colors, shapes, or other repeated elements.



Shawn Harris illustrated *What Can a Citizen Do?* using collages. Image from Chronicle Books.