



This weekend the team at Animate Arts Company are setting a new creative challenge for you and your family to have a go at! Anyone of any age can take part; you don't need to have done any of the previous three challenges. We've called this week's challenge **Wish we were here...**, and we would love you to make...

## A cardboard postcard!



### The challenge:

This week's challenge is to make a cardboard postcard featuring a place that you wish you were! None of us can go anywhere at the moment, so we'll have to imagine – take a paper aeroplane to somewhere you wish you were! It could be a favourite place that you've been to loads of times before, or a dream destination. We'd like you to collage a picture of the place on the front of the postcard, using scraps of paper and cut up bits of magazines, or newspapers.

Then we would like you to photograph the front of your postcard and send the photo to us, by email to [email@animatecommunityarts.com](mailto:email@animatecommunityarts.com) or by tagging us and using #CardboardCapers on social media.

Postcards are designed to be written and sent, so we are also inviting you to think of someone to send your postcard to - as an act of kindness in lockdown. Who could you post it to? Do you know someone currently isolating who would appreciate a piece of real mail? Perhaps you could send it to a school friend who you miss, or your grandparents, or a neighbour you haven't seen for a while. If you live near a care home, maybe you could drop it off for the residents. We're sure you'll have lots of ideas!

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Postcards have a long and fascinating history...

- Whilst postcards have been around for a long time – versions were around as early as the 18<sup>th</sup> century – the period between 1900-1915 is commonly considered the golden age of the postcard. Just like nowadays, they pictured scenery, architecture, funny cartoons and more. “With multiple daily pickups and deliveries (up to 12 times per day in large cities!), postcards were effectively the text messages of their time”. (Source: <https://150yearsofpostcards.com/history>)
- There is a grand tradition in the UK of the seaside postcard. In the 1930s cartoon-style postcards were popular – they were often funny and could be quite rude! In the 1950s, the new Conservative government tried to ‘crack down’ on this trend, but they were revived by the 1960s! (Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postcard#Golden\\_age\\_of\\_postcards\\_\(ca.\\_1890\\_to\\_1915\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postcard#Golden_age_of_postcards_(ca._1890_to_1915)))
- In 1913, famous artist, [Marcel Duchamp](#) stayed in Herne Bay in our very own Kent. He wrote several postcards during his time there, including one on which he wrote, “The traveller is enchanted. Superb weather. As much tennis as possible. A few Frenchmen for me to avoid learning English, a sister who is enjoying herself a lot.” (Source: <https://www.tate.org.uk/tate-etc/issue-7-summer-2006/looking-through-large-glass>)



One of the postcards that Duchamp sent from Herne Bay

## HOW TO BUILD

The lovely thing about this challenge is that postcards are quite a simple rectangular shape and 2D (it doesn't have to be, you're welcome to think outside the box!). With that in mind, we would suggest that:

- You find some cardboard for your postcard base. Gather up some old magazines, newspapers, leaflets and flyers from the recycling to use to collage the image on the front of your postcard. You may also want a some felt tips pens too. Importantly, find glue and some scissors (and whatever crafty bits you may have stashed at home).
- Think about where you wish you were! Did you have a Center Parcs trip that was cancelled because of the pandemic? Have you always dreamed of going to the Maldives? Do you wish you were back in Loch Lomond getting bitten by midges and drinking hot chocolate?! Anything goes! You could use your imagination, or if you prefer you could do a Google image search to get some images of your destination to copy.
- Get making!

Here are some we made earlier for inspiration:



### Where or who to send your postcard to?

We are inviting you to think of somebody you could send your postcard to during lockdown. We have been thinking about the importance of connection when we are all stuck in our homes. Zoom and FaceTime are great, but a proper hand written note can be so lovely to receive. So, let's make a cardboard connection! You might already have someone in mind, but if you can't think of anyone, there are lots of places you could go to for ideas. Here are a few:

- There are lots of Covid-19 Mutual Aid groups on Facebook for different areas. They coordinate local volunteers to support members of the community who are isolating during the pandemic. Your local group is likely to be helping a range of different kinds of people who may appreciate receiving a postcard. <https://www.facebook.com/CovidAidUK/>
- You could speak to your local branch of Age UK to see if they have any suggestions. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/discover/2020/03/ways-to-help-older-people-coronavirus/>
- Bright Shadow are an organisation based in Beach Creative, our partner this week. They run creative sessions for people living with Dementia, and might know people who would appreciate a postcard. <https://brightshadow.org.uk/>

## LET'S SEE YOUR CREATION!

Once you have made your cardboard postcard, you will need to photograph it (the front of it, the back is of course personal to you)!

Share your photos on social media and make sure you tag Animate Arts and [#cardboardcapers](https://twitter.com/cardboardcapers) so that we can see your amazing work! It's really helpful if you can send photos to [email@animatecommunityarts.com](mailto:email@animatecommunityarts.com) too.

On Thursday 28th May, all creations tagged correctly on social media pages will be shared online by Animate to 1000s of viewers as part of our 'Wish we were here...' postcard gallery. We will endeavour to include as many as possible (subject to volume of response). For your creation to be part of the video, images must be shared with us before Tuesday 26th May at 6pm.

## KEY DEADLINES

Friday 22nd - Tuesday 26th May  
By Tuesday 26th May, 6pm  
Thursday 28th May  
Friday 29th May

Create your cardboard postcards  
Send photos of your creations by email or on social media  
The results go online!  
Get ready for the FINAL Cardboard Capers Challenge No.5!

**SUBSCRIBE to our mailing list to get all our news and updates:**  
<https://mailchi.mp/3401086afe61/animatemailinglist>

## SOCIAL MEDIA



Use our pages to follow the weekly challenges, view the art gallery and share your creations:

Facebook [www.facebook.com/animateartscompany](http://www.facebook.com/animateartscompany)  
Twitter @animate\_arts  
Instagram @animate\_arts  
YouTube [www.youtube.com/animatearts](http://www.youtube.com/animatearts)

## EARN LEARNING CREDITS



If you are registered with [Kent Children's University](http://www.kentchildrens.ac.uk), each of our weekly challenges could earn you **2 learning credits!** To receive your credits, send evidence of your creations by email to [kcu@theeducationpeople.org](mailto:kcu@theeducationpeople.org) or by post to:

Kent Children's University,  
Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ.

## ABOUT US AND PARTNERS

**animate  
arts  
company**



**beachcreative**

### About Animate Arts

Cardboard Capers has been created and offered to you as a FREE online project by Animate Arts Company. We want to support you to stay safe by staying at home during the pandemic. We also think that our Cardboard Capers will help you to have some fun as a family, get your creative brains working and make people smile when you share your creations.

Animate Arts Company makes high-quality participatory art projects, working creatively with people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. We bring people together through projects and workshops, led by professional artists. We encourage participants and audiences to find their creative voice and bring their imaginations to life. We passionately believe that the arts are a powerful tool to engage, empower and motivate people, and our projects raise self-confidence, develop life-long skills, connect with others and positively *animate* your day.

[www.animateartscompany.com](http://www.animateartscompany.com)

### About Beach Creative

Beach Creative is a creative hub for the local community of Herne Bay. Since it opened in 2012, it has made a dramatic and important contribution to creative life in the town, providing a hub that includes studios, galleries, meeting rooms, and workshop space. It is a convenient and convivial place for professionals, local groups, enterprising initiatives, students and social entrepreneurs to work, meet, sit, study, educate, share and network in our galleries, rooms and the friendly independently run cafe, Toast. They host a brilliant blog, which is well worth a visit. It has lots of posts from creatives, and there are some really lovely posts written in lockdown.

[www.beachcreative.blogspot.com](http://www.beachcreative.blogspot.com)

[www.beachcreative.org](http://www.beachcreative.org)

## SUPPORT US

All arts organisations have been hit hard by the impact of Covid-19, and Animate Arts is no different. At the heart of all our work is contact with schools, families and communities. Cardboard Capers is our way of trying to continue the work which we are so passionate about. The arts are a force for positivity and resilience in challenging times. If you enjoy Cardboard Capers, please consider a small donation to support our work in schools and communities.

As a charitable organisation Animate Arts continues to champion and campaign to bring more art experiences to our local communities and schools.... such as Cardboard Capers. This is given to you entirely FREE but if you enjoyed this experience, then please support your work. We are currently fundraising for 'Art Builders' which is our arts-in-schools programme that promises more creative learning opportunities direct in the classrooms of primary schools across the region. In 2021, we aim to engage over 15,000 young people and their teachers in arts activity. To support us, go to <http://easydonate.org/AB2021> or pledge a small donation by SMS text:

**To donate £5, text AB2021 to 70970**  
**To donate £10, text AB2021 to 70191**

*Fundraising, payments & donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No. 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For terms and conditions, see [www.easydonate.org](http://www.easydonate.org)*