

Create an Animal Companion

This activity is inspired by **The Great Big Art Exhibition** - a fantastic chance for the whole country to put their creative side on display. For more details of this and other ongoing creative ideas you can log on to <https://firstsite.uk> who are coordinating this extraordinary event OR **you can get involved through Arts Together!**

We invite you to create your own Animal Companion!



YOU COULD USE

- ❖ Scrap, found objects or papier-mâché
- ❖ Any painting or drawing materials
- ❖ Scissors, glue, tape
- ❖ Coloured pencils or pastels
- ❖ Fabrics, packaging, any type of collage

ACTIVITY IDEAS

Your companion can be 3D and made out of anything you have to hand! It could also be 2D if you prefer to paint or draw.

1. Is your companion going to be based on a real-life creature or something imagined?
2. If you are creating something 3D, gather up any objects that might be useful, for example a milk carton that would make a great elephant with a trunk or that fluffy jumper you don't want anymore that could become a cat.
3. If it is 3D, are you planning to put it into your garden or on your windowsill? Does it need to be waterproof? If you have no space for storing it long-term then don't worry think of it as a pre-recycling project!

Below are a few examples to get you thinking of different companions you could create. **Belinda's old jumper cat, Karolyne's friendly dragon and above, a lovable companion dog painted by one of our members.**



As you create your animal companion imagine its backstory and give it a name.

What sort of personality is developing as you create it. If you are drawing an animal from life how can you capture its character?