

The Colville Drawing Dice

My painting occurs when I think of a way to combine two disparate elements.

—Alex Colville

The Colville Drawing Dice offer a playful new way to connect with the art of Alex Colville. Inspired by recurring motifs in Colville's paintings and prints, one die features elements of nature (cat, dog, bird, tree, water, and person), while the other highlights human-made elements (car, boat, house, window, bridge, and rail tracks).

Together, the dice act as prompts to consider the possible relationships between two very different things. Colville carefully constructed his works, and the "disparate elements" he brought together are often reflected in their titles, such as *Horse and Train* (1954), *Cyclist and Crow* (1981), and *Artist and Car* (2008).

The game is simple: roll the dice, reveal two elements, draw them together! As you draw, you might find, as Colville did, the extraordinary in the ordinary.

Materials

You will need paper and pencil or other favourite drawing tools.

How to Play

Roll the dice. Make a drawing that includes both elements. The setting you choose, and the details of your scene, are up to you!

If you are playing with a friend or as a group, set a timer for three, five or ten minutes and then share your drawings. It's amazing to see how the same elements can lead to so many different drawings. Take turns rolling the dice as you play.

Variation

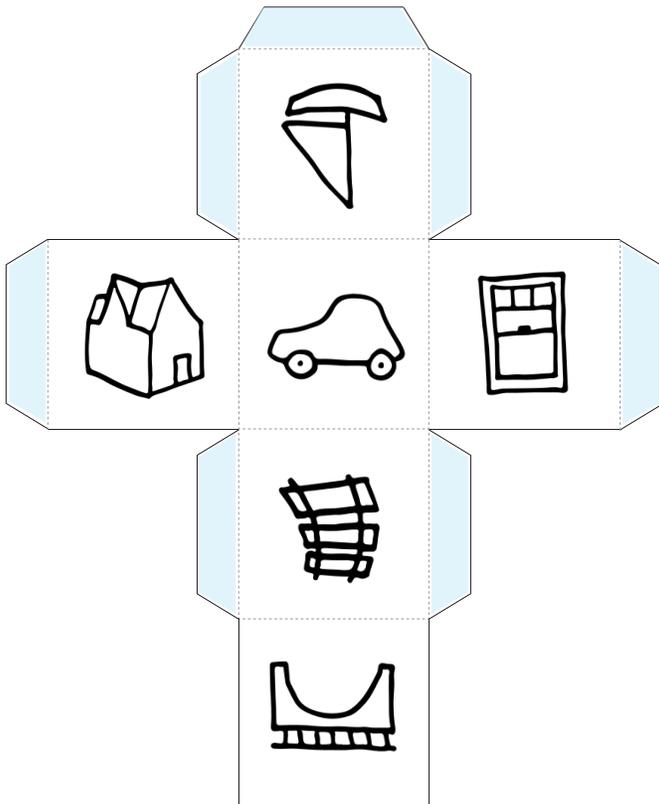
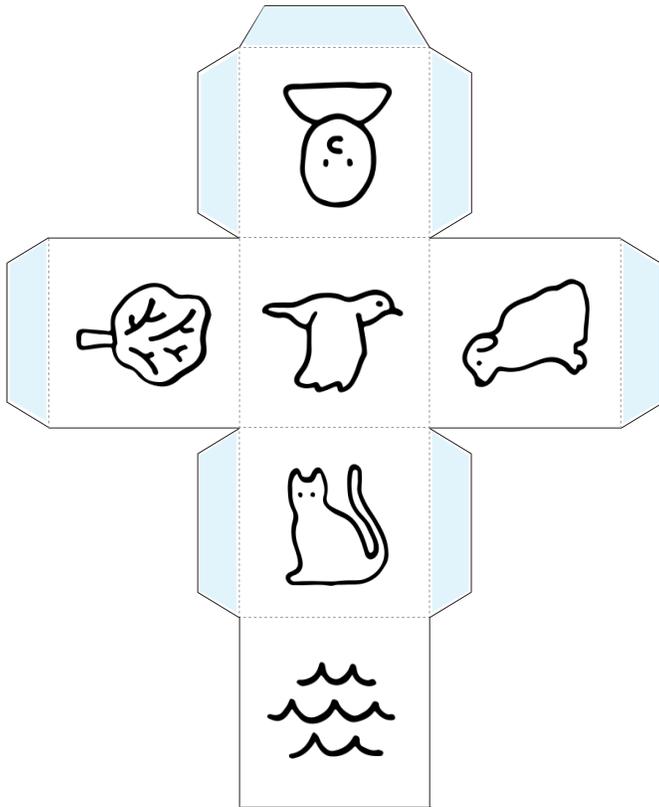
Roll one die. Make a drawing that uses this element and add a second contrasting element of your choice. You could continue to investigate nature/human-made relationships, or you might find another kind of contrast to explore.

Happy drawing!

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*Print on card stock