

Throughlines

BEAUTY CREATING

Beauty Creating

Learners engage in beautiful work that enriches the world and reflects God's heart for diversity, complexity, and creativity.

Greeting

Gather in the opening circle, and remind learners to greet and welcome each other by name. You can use this sentence stem or something similar: "Good morning [name]! We're glad you're here!" As part of his/her turn, invite each student to share a connection to beauty creating. Consider one of the following prompts to guide students' reflections.

- Tell about a time when you helped create something beautiful, big or small.
- If you could add one beautiful thing to our classroom or community, what would it be?
- Describe a moment when you felt inspired to create something—what did you make?

Initiative

Invite students to gather around a large poster paper. Explain that they will create one shared artwork and each learner may only add one line, shape, or mark at a time.

Offer these guidelines:

- It doesn't have to be perfect.
- They should add something that builds on or complements what is already there.
- They're not trying to draw their own picture—they are creating something beautiful together.

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To begin, choose one student to start with a single line (straight, curved, dot cluster, swirl—anything). The next student adds another mark, and on around the group, until each learner has taken a turn. Encourage learners to notice what is already emerging and contribute thoughtfully. If the group is large, you can have multiple simultaneous circles around different posters.

Once everyone has added their mark (or once the group feels the artwork is “full”), have the students step back and look at the completed creation. Invite students to reflect using one or more of the prompts below:

- What do you see?
- How did your contribution to the piece increase its beauty?
- What do you notice about how the artwork changed as more people contributed?
- Where do you see beauty that you did not expect?
- What word would you add as a title or a summary of the beauty we created together?

