



# Perspective Squiggle

SLCSD Elementary Lesson at Home with Student & Family

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## Materials Needed:

Pencil, Paper & Colorful Markers or Crayons

**Family Discussion:** A way to build empathy and deepen our thinking is to take on the perspective of others. Perspective taking is the ability to look beyond your own point of view, so that you can consider how someone else may think or feel about something. To do this successfully, we must have some understanding of others' thoughts, feelings, motivations, and intentions. You must also have some background information about the other person or be able to make some smart guesses about their background and or how they experience the world.

**Directions:** Give each family member a copy of an identical, random, squiggle on an otherwise blank page. Using the art supplies available ask everyone to "complete" the squiggle, but they cannot look at others' papers. Set a time limit. When the countdown ends have each member of the activity share and describe their artwork.

## Discussion Afterward:

- What did you create?
- How did the different pieces differ among everyone?
- What inspired you to create the exact drawing that you made?
  - Was that idea from a past experience? From a value or favorite pastime?
- Why is everyone's squiggle different?
- What does this activity tell us about how everyone thinks and feels?

## The 4 Parts To Successful Perspective Taking\*

1. Set aside your thoughts, feelings, motivations & intentions, momentarily
2. Consider others' thoughts, feelings, motivations & intentions
3. Determine whether or not your behavior should change based on that information
4. Make any necessary changes

\* SOCIALLY SKILLED KIDS · Free online resource