

Jacob Lawrence–Inspired Collage

Supplies

Construction paper
in various colors

Patterned paper
(optional)

Scissors

Glue or tape

Colored pencils, crayons,
or markers



Ashley and Marcus are brother and sister. They are packing up their room. They are moving out of their apartment because it's too small.

Instructions

1. Jacob Lawrence told stories through his paintings. Decide which story you want to tell. It can be a true story, or you can use your imagination to make up a story. Choose one scene from the story to illustrate.
2. Choose a piece of paper for the background.
3. Remember that Jacob Lawrence used shapes and blocks of color to create the objects in his pictures. Think about which shapes and colors can be used to create your scene. A house or building could be a large rectangle. A tree could be a circle on top of a rectangle, or a triangle.
4. Use the other pieces of construction paper to cut out the shapes you need.
5. Lay them out on the background paper. Don't glue them in place until you know where you want them.
6. If you like, you can write a sentence or two to describe what is happening in your collage.
7. Jacob Lawrence often made several paintings to tell a story, one scene in each painting. This is called a series. If you like, you can illustrate more scenes from your story and create your own series.



Mom, Dad, Ashley, and Marcus are driving away from their old apartment. Their neighbors are waving goodbye.



Mom, Dad, Ashley, and Marcus are at their new house. They miss their neighbors, but they are happy to be at their new, big house!