

# Landmark Design



Every community has a landmark that everyone knows—a building, natural feature, or a park. The poster in the center of this issue celebrates two very different landmarks. On one side, the artist Hokusai illustrates Japan's Mount Fuji looming above the landscape. On the other, New York designer Anh Tuan Pham responded to Hokusai's painting by using Rockefeller Center as an icon that represents and celebrates the place where he lives.

## Design Activity: Local Landmarks

The artist Hokusai showed Mt. Fuji in different seasons, from different perspectives, and as a backdrop for everyday activities. Similarly, designer Anh Tuan Pham used a variety of images to depict the great urban space of Rockefeller Center. Have students design a collage to celebrate a local landmark.

1. As a class, select a building or feature in your community that everyone recognizes, such as a bridge, statue, or giant oak tree. Research this landmark's history and how it shapes your community.
2. Invite each student to photograph or draw the landmark. Encourage students

to expand on their first images: exploring points of view by depicting the landmark from different angles, during different seasons or times of day, alive with celebrations, or focusing on specific details.

3. Assemble the students' images into a visual quilt in which everyone's artwork contributes to a collective celebration of this favorite community icon. Through this experience, students will learn how ordinary things that we see every day can become special and meaningful.



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