

# ACTIVITY: CREATE A COSTUME FOR A CHARACTER YOU KNOW!

**RECOMMENDED AGE: 8 and up**

**TIME: 10 – 30 minutes**

**SET-UP: None**

**SUPPLIES:**

- **Something to write with (paper and pencil, or computer/tablet)**
- **Internet access or magazines (for inspiration)**

What does a Costume Designer do? A Costume Designer supports the story the director wants to tell through what the characters wear on stage. To decide what each character will wear, the Costume Designer first reads the play to understand the story. Then the Costume Designer will draw or create ideas for what each character will wear (sometimes, these are called renderings).

Try being a Costume Designer and design a costume for a character you know!

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Decide on a story. Is it your favorite book or one you've read recently? Is it a fairy tale?
2. Pick a character from that story. What do you know about this character from the story? Write down some of the personality traits of that character. How do they describe themselves? How does the narrator describe them? What do other characters have to say?
3. What time period is the story set in? What season is it? Is this somewhere in the real world or a fantasy location? If it is fantasy, is it based on something real/historical? Is it set in the past or the future? These things will influence what kind of clothes your characters wear. Write this information down so you can remember.
4. Some other things to consider: Do they like to show off? What kinds of things do they do for fun? Are they active or do they need to move quickly?
5. Using all of your notes, create a costume for your character! You can collect images you find online or in magazines around your home for inspiration. Look for different kinds of outfits and pieces of clothing that you think this character should wear. When you're ready, draw what the costume would look like on your character.



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