

PEOPLE'S
HISTORY
MUSEUM

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DOODLE DEN

Make a den, pick up a pencil and explore the museum's collections through scribbling, sketching and silliness.



Let's look at this
Dagenham Ford strike
and Equal Pay Act
commemorative plate,
from around
1984

Great for ages 3 to adults





This plate was made to commemorate a strike at the Dagenham Ford car factory in 1968, which is credited with helping to introduce the 1970 Equal Pay Act.

187 women went on strike (refused to work) for three weeks. The women were sewing machinists, making seat covers for cars.

They were paid less than the men who worked in similar jobs at the factory, and had been classed as 'unskilled' workers.

Make a den out of things you have around the house such as a sofa, dining room chairs, a bed sheet and blankets.

Fill with comfy cushions and settle in for some Doodle Challenges...



We want to see your doodling!

Tag us on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook
@PHMMcr #DoodleDen



The work the women did at the factory was classed as 'unskilled'. They believed this didn't reflect the hard work they did, that nobody else in the factory knew how to do.

Being 'skilled' means that you are really good at something that not everybody can do.

Doodle Challenge: show off your skills

Ask someone in your household to draw around your hand.

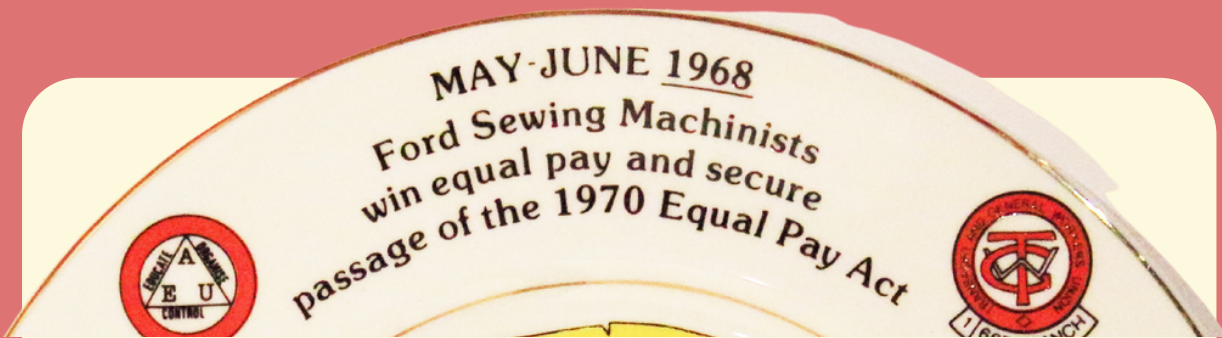
Fill the inside with doodles showing things you are skilled at, for example, swimming, painting or smiling.

Ask your partner to guess what it is you have drawn.

Then swap, and do the same for them!

Put your doodle up in your den using tape or sticky tack.





At the top of the plate it says: 'Ford Sewing Machinists win equal pay and secure passage of the 1970 Equal Pay Act'.

After the strike, more people started talking about the unfairness of men being paid more than women for doing similar jobs. This led to the Equal Pay Act in 1970.

This could be described as a [ripple effect](#), as the actions of a small group of women led to something good happening for ALL women.

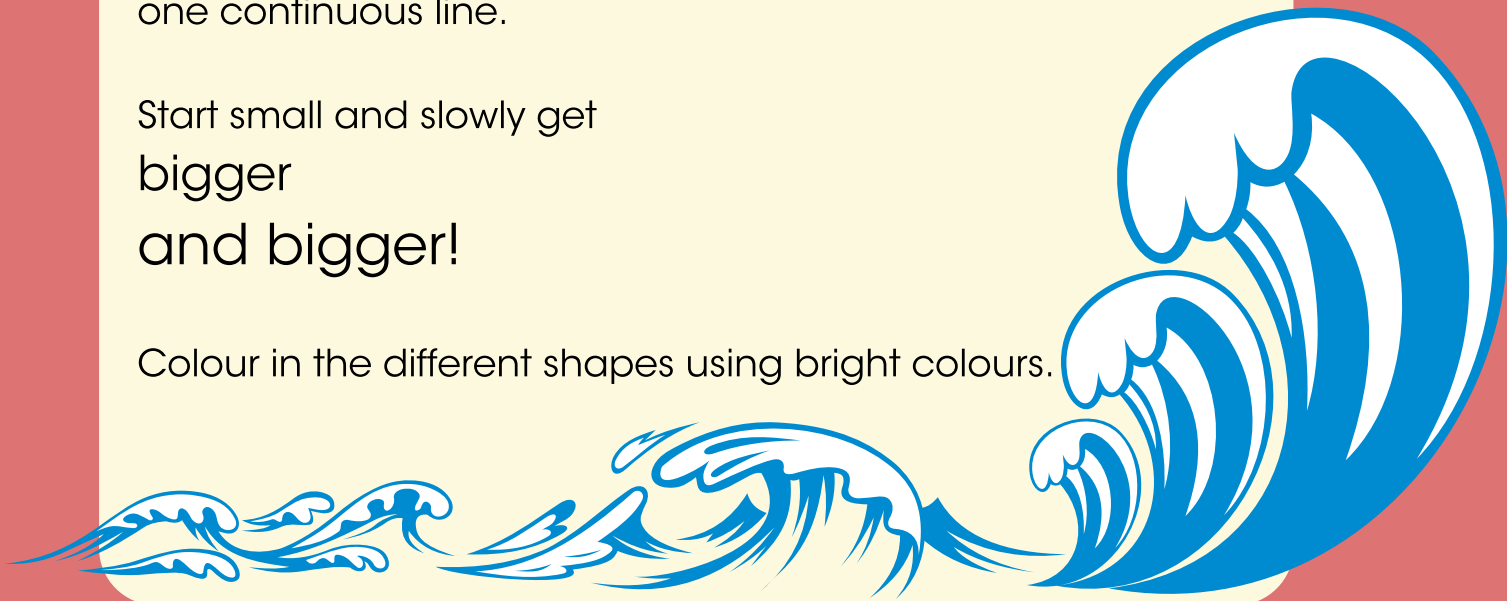
Doodle Challenge: ripples and waves

Settle into your den and get nice and comfy.

Begin to fill a piece of paper with ripples and waves with one continuous line.

Start small and slowly get
bigger
and bigger!

Colour in the different shapes using bright colours.





In the centre of the plate we can see an image of the women protesting. They are holding up placards that explain why they are on strike.

The women protested to make their cause visible.

Doodle Challenge: hidden doodles

Fold a piece of kitchen roll in half and in half again.

Copy the image of the women protesting on the inside with a felt tip pen.

Fold the kitchen roll so your doodle is hidden.

To reveal your hidden doodle . . .

Put the folded kitchen roll flat into a bowl of water.

When you take it out, your picture will be revealed.



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The plate was made around 16 years after the strike to commemorate the event.

Commemorating an event means that people will not forget how important it is, and shows respect to the people who were involved.

Doodle Challenge: design a commemorative plate

Think of an event that you would like to commemorate.

It might be an important event or date from your life such as the day you were born, or the first day you started school. Or you might want to choose a famous event or date in history.

Draw a circle on a piece of paper to make your plate and decorate it, making sure to include:

- the name and date of the event
- the people involved
- a picture of the event happening

