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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  
Universal Suffrage or  
the Scum Uppermost,  
cartoon from 1819



Great for ages 5 to adults

People's History Museum, Left Bank, Spinningfields, Manchester M3 3ER



This cartoon by caricaturist and illustrator George Cruikshank warned of the threat of political reform to British institutions such as the monarchy, sports and the arts.

One month later, on 16 August 1819 in Manchester, 60,000 people who were peacefully protesting for political reform were met with violence from the authorities at an event known as the Peterloo Massacre.

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

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





What words would you use to describe this dragon like creature?

The creature is a symbol. It is used to represent people who wanted to change the voting system to make it fairer (reform). Just like a dragon, it suggests this is a threat to be feared.

## Doodle Challenge: back doodles

Find a partner and ask them to sit down in your den.

Tape a piece of paper to their back.

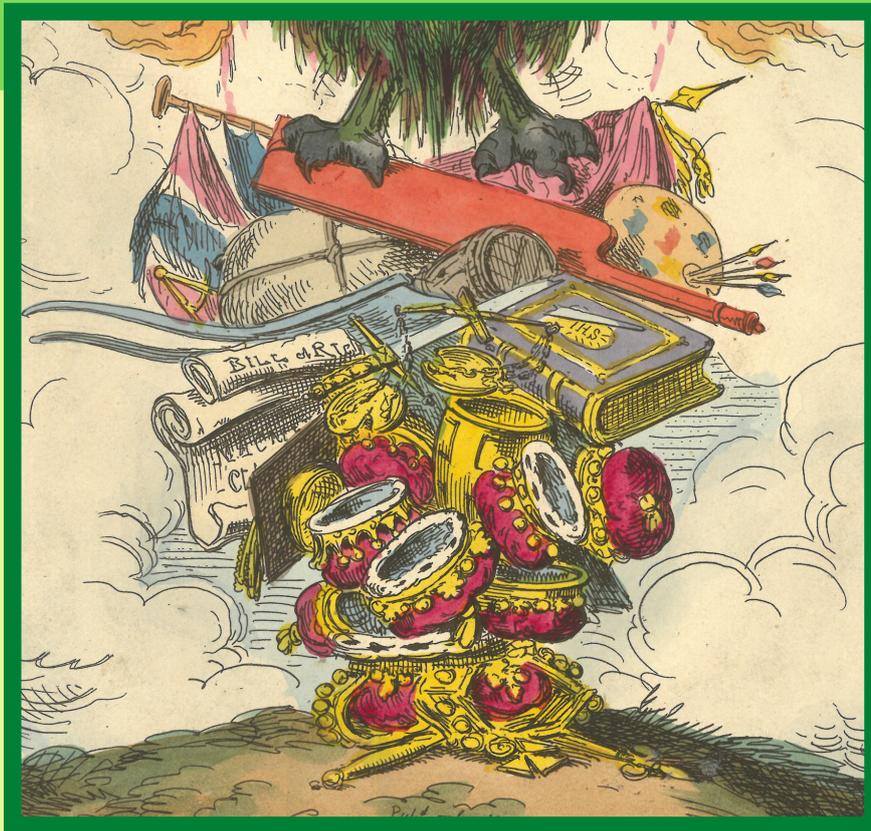
Without showing your partner the image, begin to draw a dragon on the paper stuck to their back.

Ask your partner to pay attention to what you are doing and copy the lines you are drawing onto a piece of paper.

Compare your finished doodles with each other and the original image.



We want to see your doodling!  
Tag us on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook  
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The creature is stood on top of items that symbolise different parts of British culture. How many can you name?

This suggests that reform would damage these institutions.

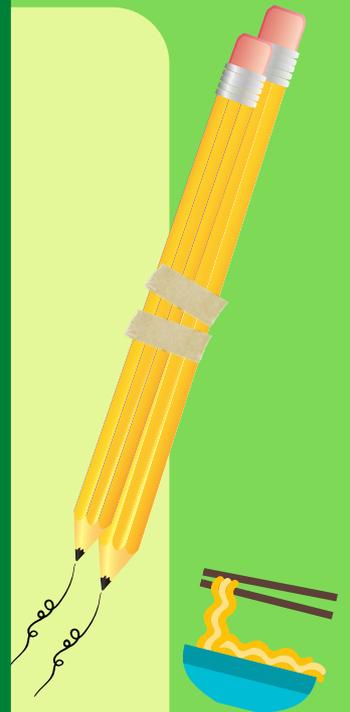
Who might have asked for a cartoon like this to be made?

## Doodle Challenge: double pencils

Stick two pencils together with tape.

Relax in your den and doodle pictures of what you believe are the best things about British culture today.

Notice how using the two pencils together creates a 3D effect.





At the bottom of the cartoon it says:

**Universal Suffrage or the Scum Uppermost!!!!!!**  
an allegory to demonstrate the fatal consequences of  
"Radical Reform" in plain English Revolution.

The message is:

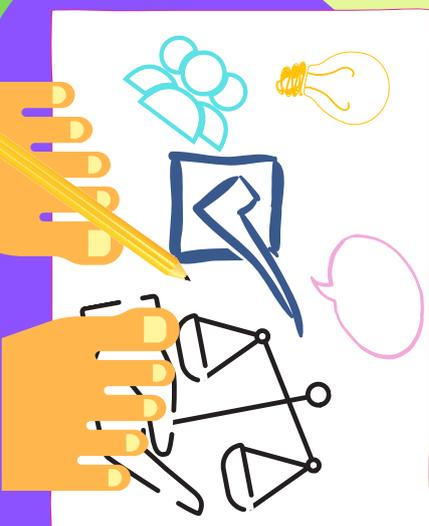
When a group of people demand change to a system they are not happy with, power will go to those who do not deserve it.

## Doodle Challenge: feet doodles

Lie back in your den with a pad of paper on the floor in front of your feet.

Hold a pencil between your toes.

Doodle with your feet an image or symbol to represent a world where nobody would demand change because everyone is treated equally.



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Cartoons have always been a popular way to tell stories.

They use images and symbols that are widely recognisable.

## Doodle Challenge: story stones

Go for a walk and collect smooth stones from your local area.

When you get home, paint them with bright colours.

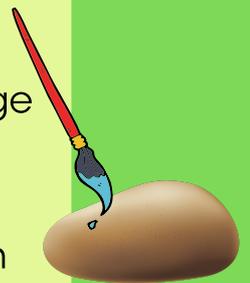
Unable to find any stones? You can complete the challenge on a piece of paper instead.

Once they are dry, relax in your den and use a marker pen to doodle a symbol on each one that represents:

- stop or go
- people
- time
- travelling
- a building
- love

Can you think of any more of your own?

You can now use these stones to create stories by placing them in different orders.



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