

**Part 8  
Royal  
Museums  
Greenwich**

# Welcome to the TfL Craft Club

Hello and welcome to our eighth edition of TfL Craft Club and we are delighted to work with our friends at Royal Museums Greenwich – who’ve just reopened their gates, hatches, galleys and messes once more – ‘hurray and up she rises!’

As London reopens, we remain committed as ever to crafting! In this edition, we’ve created a range of activities that will help keep sea-faring signallers, aspiring artists and amateur astronomers entertained at home in your craft corner, AKA the kitchen table, the garden, or further afield as you begin exploring London once more.



**MAYOR OF LONDON**

 **ROYAL  
MUSEUMS  
GREENWICH**



**TRANSPORT  
FOR LONDON**  
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS

# Get your creative on....

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In this edition, we've teamed up with our craft buddies at Royal Museums Greenwich, we have an activity for you to get creative with from each Museum site:

Go in search of new lands and find out more about life at sea on **Cutty Sark**. Use signal flags to send secret messages to your friends and family.

Explore Space with the astronomy team from the **Royal Observatory** and learn top stargazing tips.

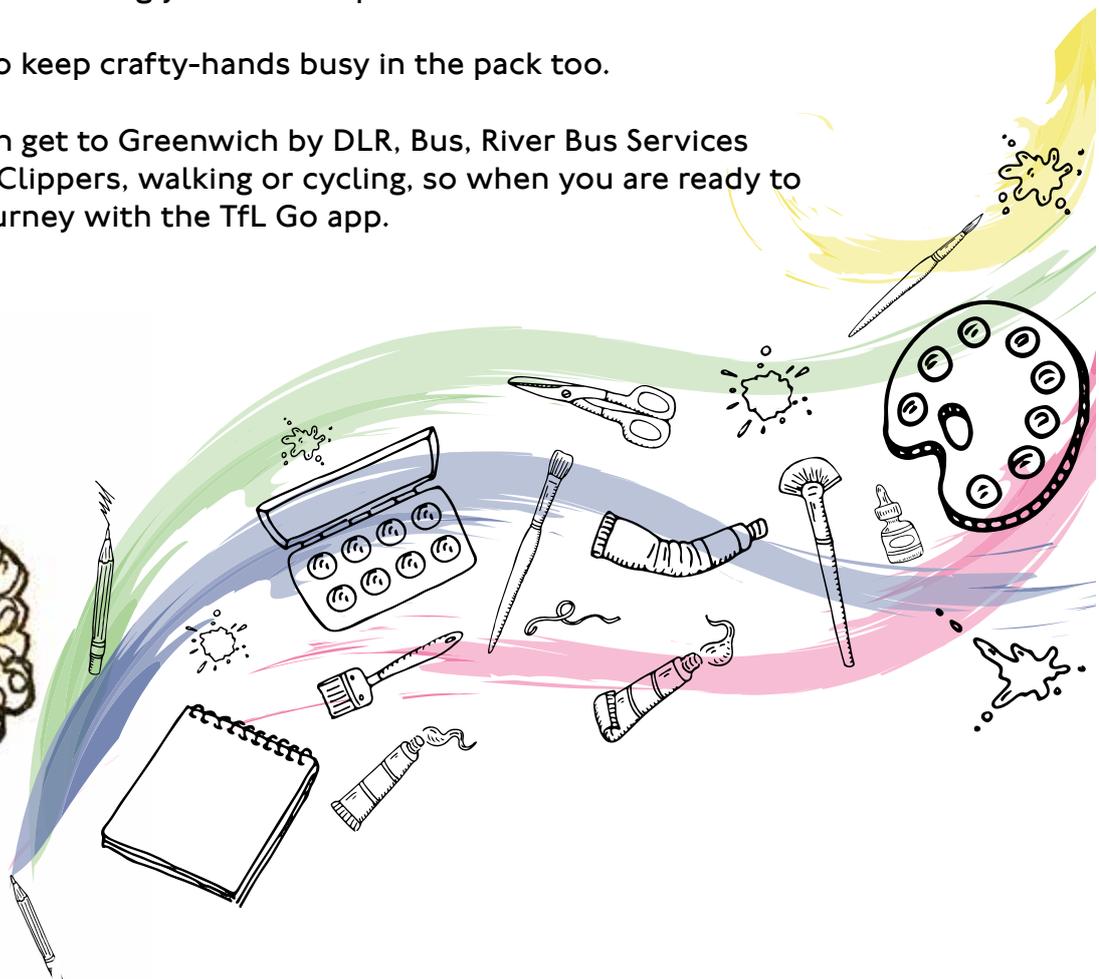
Discover monster maps with the **Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre, Kidbrooke**; let your imagination run wild with our step-by-step guide to drawing a monster. Will your monster takeover the Tube map?

Create great art with the **Queen's House**. Be inspired by the many portraits in the collection and, like us, you can have a go at making your own too.

Become a ship builder with the **National Maritime Museum**. Follow our step-by-step instructions for making your own ship in a bottle.

There's much more to keep crafty-hands busy in the pack too.

Did you know you can get to Greenwich by DLR, Bus, River Bus Services operated by Thames Clippers, walking or cycling, so when you are ready to explore, plan your journey with the TfL Go app.



# All aboard Cutty Sark



Built in 1869 to carry tea back from China, Cutty Sark visited nearly every major port in the world and gained fame for its record-breaking passages. Young sailor apprentices would set sail to places they had never been before, hoping for excitement and adventure, and that's exactly what they'd get!

These apprentices would often write home to loved ones, describing the strange and wonderful new things they would see on their journeys.

My Dear Mother,

We have arrived here all safe and sound having made a passage of 80 days from the Downs to the bay here.

I suppose you want to know how I am. Well I am alright and getting a muscle on me like a horse, and you will be glad to hear that I have not had a day's illness of any kind, not even a headache.

Now I must tell you something about the passage out. It began to get colder and colder till we got round the Cape of Good Hope, then we had 3 weeks very bad weather during which time we never had a dry deck. Then was the time to wish you had never come to sea! Hanging on to the wheel at night was the worst, with the seas (not the little sprays you see at Hastings) washing over us continually. Cutty Sark looked a perfect wreck on deck, the cabin was washed out, our door burst open (we saw this in the night, but no one dare go on the main deck to shut it) all the lower bunks were washed out. Mine being a top one did not suffer much, but all the things in my chest were more or less wet.

In my next letter I will give you a full account of this delightful country and our doings coming up the river and I will send a description of the strange houses, flowers, trees, birds, fish, sunsets, etc. for the dear Aunt.



I am your loving son,

*C. E. Ray*



P.S. Tell Spot I am going to bring him some sea crackers home.

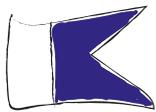


# Signalling on Cutty Sark

Cutty Sark's apprentices, like our friend C.E. Ray, would often sign off their letters home using signal flags for their initials.

Signal flags are used at sea for communication between ships. They can spell out short messages, and individual flags and combinations of flags also have special meanings.

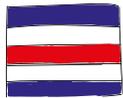
We have drawn all of the flags below so now you can have a go creating your own secret messages to friends and family. What will your secret message say?



A  
(Alfa)



B  
(Bravo)



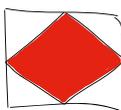
C  
(Charlie)



D  
(Delta)



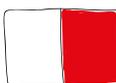
E  
(Echo)



F  
(Foxtrot)



G  
(Golf)



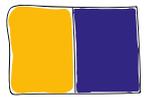
H  
(Hotel)



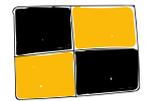
I  
(India)



J  
(Juliet)



K  
(Kilo)



L  
(Lima)



M  
(Mike)



N  
(November)



O  
(Oscar)



P  
(Papa)



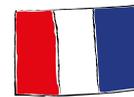
Q  
(Quebec)



R  
(Romeo)



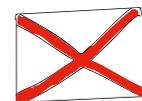
S  
(Sierra)



T  
(Tango)



U  
(Uniform)



V  
(Victor)



W  
(Whiskey)



X  
(Xray)



Y  
(Yankee)



Z  
(Zulu)

**Secret signals!**

Our crafting buddies over at Cutty Sark have put together some exciting crafts you can do to create your own secret messages. You will find some hidden messages too, can you work them out? [Click here](#) to reveal the secrets of the signals.



# Q&A with the astronomers at the Royal Observatory

This month at Craft Club HQ we caught up with the Royal Observatory astronomy team to find out more about the sky at night. Not only did they share some great tips and locations to do some stargazing in the Capital, but we learned about some of the wonderful sites we can all see in the night sky over London.



**Where in London is a great place for viewing the sky at night?**

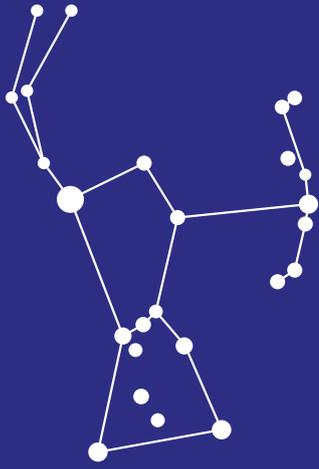
It will come as no surprise to those that live in London that light pollution can make observing the night sky more difficult but it's not impossible! The main thing is to cut out as much of that light as possible by heading to darker, open spaces. Even better, these spaces should have low horizons with few trees or buildings in the way or perhaps be on the tops of hills to stop things obscuring your view. Places like Regents Park or Blackheath are ideal - with fewer buildings and roads around and less direct streetlight, the sky and horizon will both be much clearer. If you aren't certain where would be suitable, consider reaching out to your local amateur astronomy society. You'd be surprised how many there are. Not only will they likely run observing sessions at nearby dark sites, they'll also be happy to help with any other astronomical questions you may have.

**What features in the night sky can be seen easily in London?**

Generally, only brighter objects will be easy to spot due to the effects of light pollution, but since London is a vast city with different levels of urbanisation, some areas will have darker skies than others. The time of year (and time of day) is also important for knowing where to look for specific objects in the sky.

The planets Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are bright and colourful and don't twinkle like stars. Search for recognisable constellations like Orion or Cassiopeia, or for patterns of several stars, called asterisms, which include familiar shapes like the Summer Triangle, the Plough and the Sickle. There are only a few deep-sky objects visible to the naked eye from London, but try to spot M45 (the Pleiades) and M42 (the Orion Nebula). If you're far enough out from the city centre to enjoy a relatively dark sky, you might even see M31, the Andromeda Galaxy! Finally, one of the most beautiful objects to sight, and the easiest, is of course our celestial neighbour, the Moon.





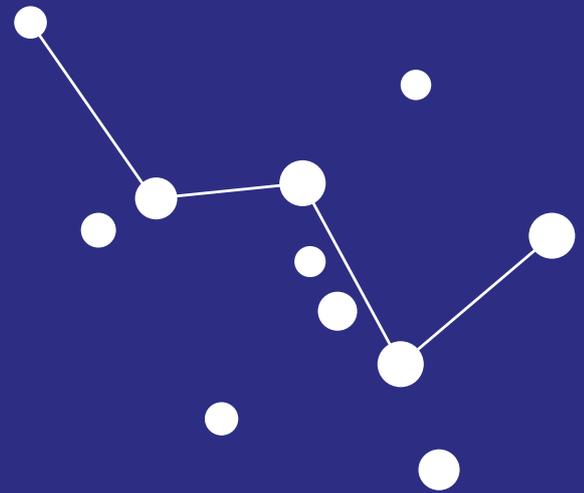
Orion

### What tips would you give to a budding astronomer?

Don't stop looking up! Clear skies can be few and far between, so take advantage of a starry night when there is one. There are many things you can see without using a telescope, so you can start by learning the constellations and how our night sky changes depending on the season. Also make sure to keep asking questions and learning about the things we can't see with our eyes, from distant planets to entire galaxies on the other side of the Universe.

### What is the most extraordinary thing you've seen in the sky?

Stargazing from a dark sky location, an area far away from cities and light pollution, will provide you with the best views of the night sky. Many years ago, I was on holiday in South Africa at a remote campsite and had the ideal conditions for stargazing as the night was clear and moonless. As my eyes adapted to the dark, I was greeted to a sight that I will never forget – a sea of twinkling and colourful stars stretching across the sky from horizon to horizon. There were so many stars visible that I was unable to find the Southern Cross, one of the most easily recognisable asterisms (pattern of stars) in the Southern Hemisphere sky!



Cassiopeia

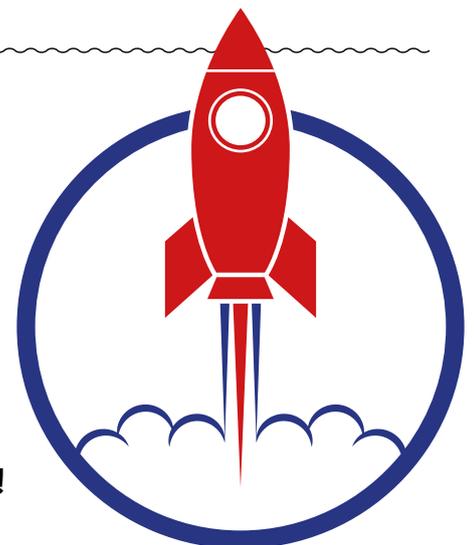
To find out more about astronomy, why not sign-up to the Royal Observatory's blog for lots of great tips, ideas, and news about all things astronomy, [click here to sign up](#)

### Make your own rocket

Our fellow crafters at the Royal Observatory have created this activity so you can make your own rocket to explore space! Why not include yourself in your rocket and blast off into the stars!



[CLICK HERE FOR LIFT OFF!!!](#)

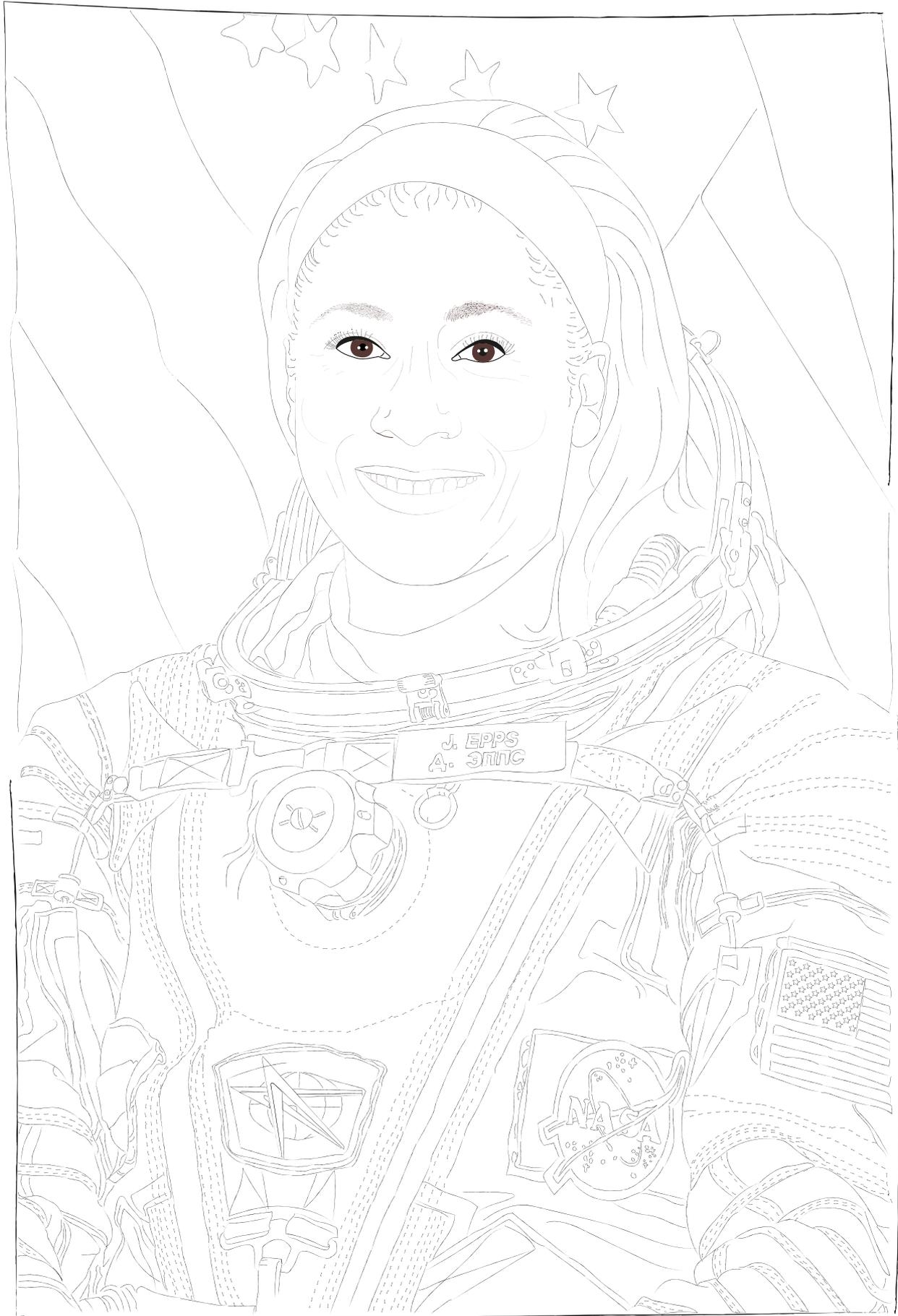


# Jeanette Epps



There have been many individuals who have journeyed into space to explore and discover. This year, Jeanette Epps will become the first black woman to live on the International Space Station. Jeanette was selected by NASA in 2009 as an astronaut. She completed astronaut candidate training which included scientific and technical briefings, intensive instruction in International Space Station systems, spacewalk training, robotics, T-38 flight training and wilderness survival training. To find out more about Jeanette check out her profile [here](#).

# Jeanette Epps - the brightest star



Have a go at colouring in or decorating this drawing of Jeanette in her NASA space suit. Better still, have a go at drawing your own portrait of Jeanette, maybe you could draw her in the International Space Station.

# Mind the map at the Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre

The Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre look after and care for a wide range of items, but it is the map and globe collection which is truly impressive, with more than 100,000 sea charts and maps dating from the medieval period to the present day.



Image reproduced by kind permission of Royal Museums Greenwich

This map showing Iceland is one of the finest maps created by the cartographer Abraham Ortelius in his legendary atlas "Theatrum Orbis Terrarum" in 1585. Although this map looks like it is full of fictional monsters, it actually contains animals we still have today. Can you find the following...

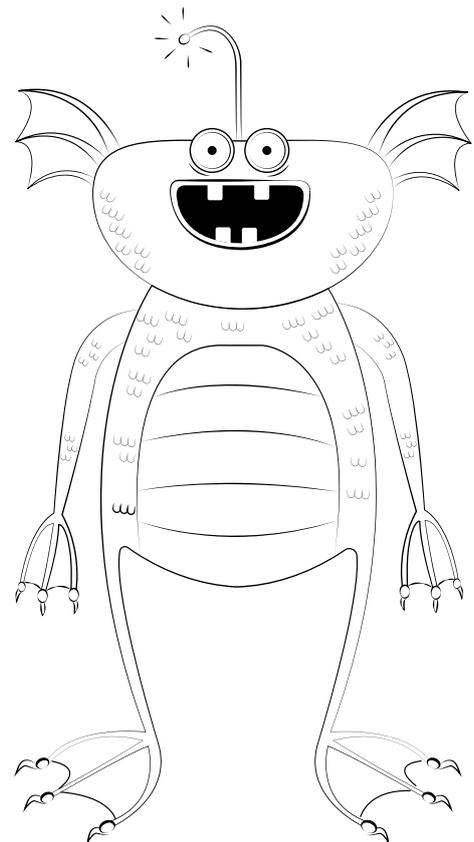
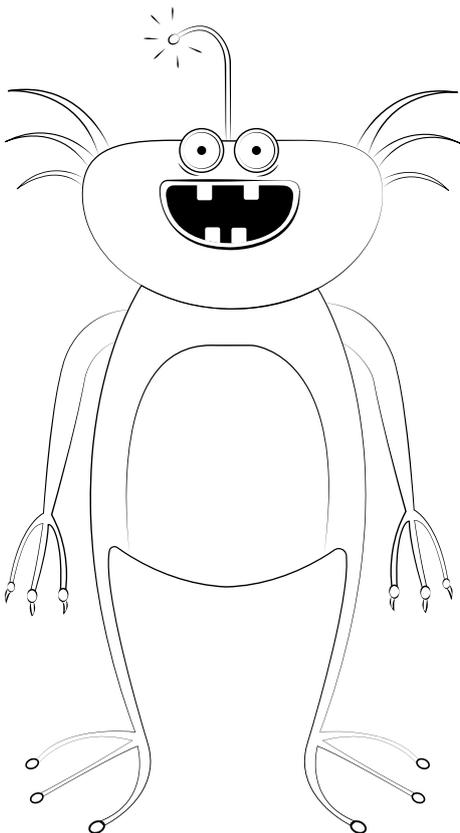
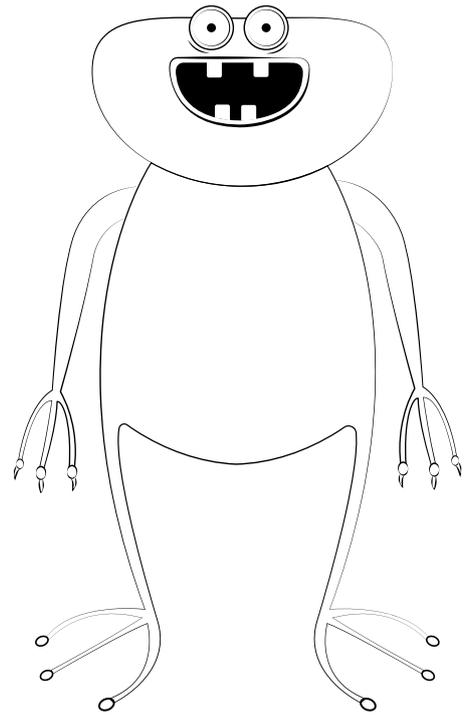
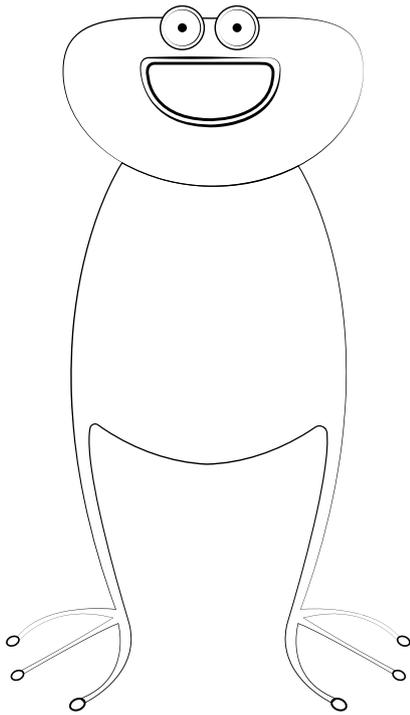
- A. Seahorse
- B. Walrus
- C. Whale

# Here be monsters!

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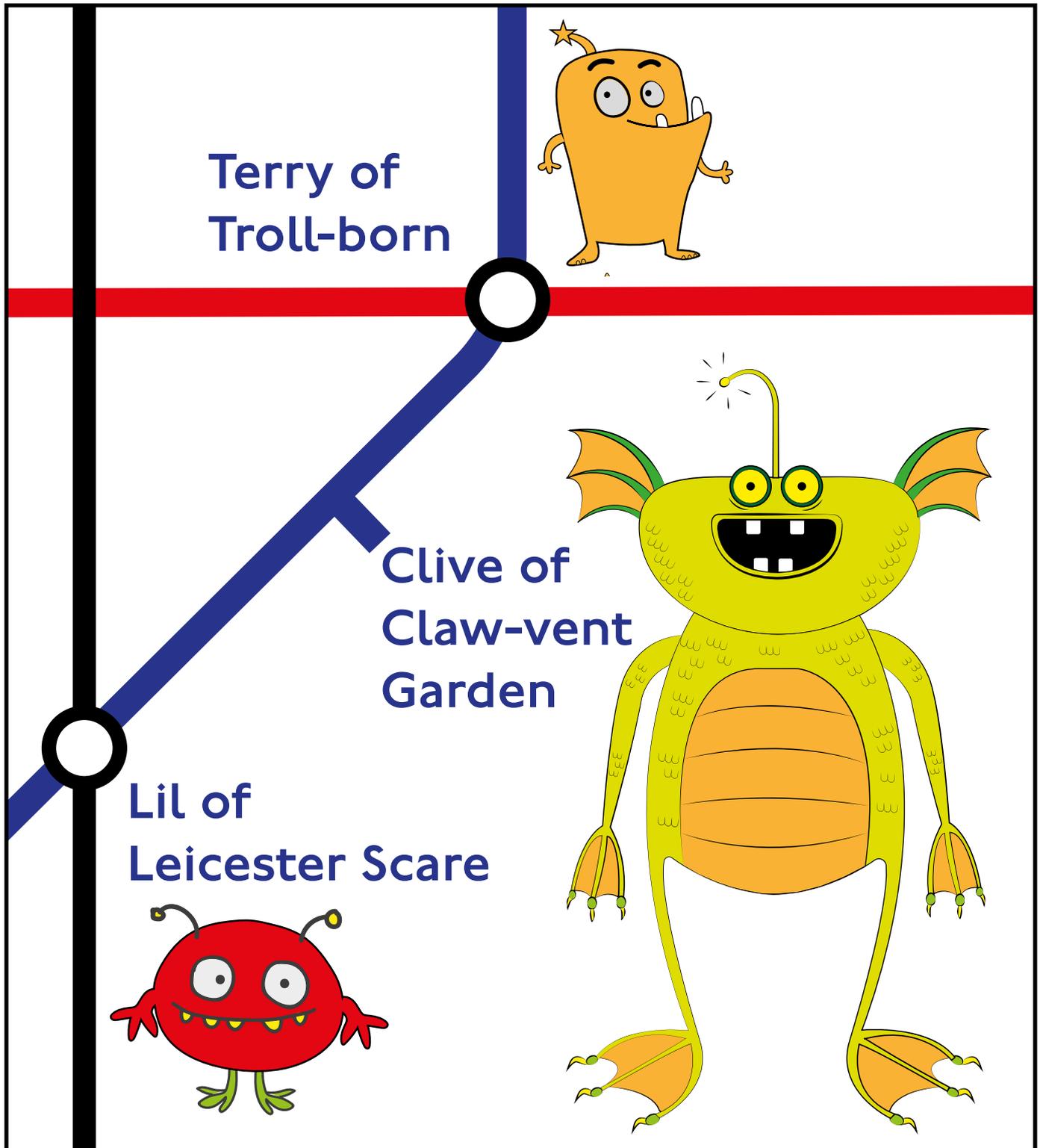
Abraham Ortelius never actually saw any of these animals and drew what he was told by others. The result was these amazing monsters.

Here's how to draw our Craft Club monster, Clive of CLAW-vent Garden. Share your monster with us @TfL, @RMGreenwich on Twitter, or @royalmuseumsgreenwich on Instagram.



# Let's do the monster map

Using our imagination, let's create our 'Monster Map'. Draw your own monster just like the weird and wonderful monsters created by Abraham. Give them a name and let us know where on the Tube map you'd like them to live - we'll give them the monster Tube map treatment. Here are some of the Craft Club monsters we've been drawing, we're looking forward to seeing yours. Share them with us @TfL, @RMGreenwich on Twitter, or @royalmuseumsgreenwich on Instagram.



# The Queen's House

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The Queen's House is home to an internationally renowned art collection. As you wander around the House, you can explore historic and contemporary art, portraits and seascapes and so much more.

One of its treasures is the iconic Armada Portrait of Queen Elizabeth I.



Image reproduced by kind permission of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich

Elizabeth I is one of the most famous Queens of England. She was the last Tudor monarch and the 44 years that she was Queen became known as the Golden Age.

You can find out more about the Armada Portrait [here](#).

# Gallery of inspiring women

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Our partners in all things craft at the Queen's House have created some beautiful portraits inspired by the many amazing women you can see in their collection. You can create your own gallery of amazing women. We've had a go creating our own collage, and who better to start with than Elizabeth I.

We made ours from pages of an old interior design magazine, but you can chose whatever you like. We also popped a frame on ours for some royal glitz.

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To create your own portrait click [here](#) and follow the steps provided.

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# A ship in a bottle at the National Maritime Museum

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The National Maritime Museum is the home to one of the most popular artworks in London: Yinka Shonibare CBE's Nelson's Ship in a Bottle.

The work is an incredibly detailed, scaled-down replica of Nelson's flagship HMS Victory.

Yinka's work sits in a large bottle on a plinth outside the museum. The artist has used colourful Dutch Wax Fabric to make the sails.



## Yinka Shonibare CBE

Yinka Shonibare CBE is one of Britain's best-known artists. He was born in London and raised in Nigeria before returning to the UK to study fine art. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2004, the same year in which he was awarded an MBE. In 2019, he was made a CBE. He has exhibited at the Venice Biennale and internationally at leading museums.

Nelson's Ship in a Bottle was commissioned by the Greater London Authority for the Fourth Plinth project and was unveiled in Trafalgar Square in May 2010. It now has a permanent home at the National Maritime Museum.

# Build a ship in a bottle

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Our friends at the National Maritime Museum were so inspired by Yinka's beautiful ship in a bottle that they have made their own. Using a few household items, you too can make your own ship in a bottle, and decorate the sails to reflect your own identity.

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To create your own ship in a bottle [click here](#) and follow the steps provided.

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Royal Museums Greenwich comprises Cutty Sark, the National Maritime Museum, the Royal Observatory, the Queen's House and the Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre. Together we are dedicated to creating a place where visitors can discover sea and space exploration, pioneering architecture, art and British history.

Whether a wannabe astronaut or budding explorer, there is so much for families and children to do onsite and online. Check out all the latest events and activities at [rmg.co.uk/families](http://rmg.co.uk/families) or subscribe to our latest news at [rmg.co.uk/newsletter](http://rmg.co.uk/newsletter).



We have really enjoyed working with our craft buddies at Royal Museums Greenwich on this edition of the TfL Craft Club. We hope you have as much fun with the creative projects and enjoy the wonderful collections too.

Don't forget to share your amazing creations with us on social media. We are really looking forward to seeing your Tube map monsters, ships in a bottle, and inspiring portraits, you could even send us a secret signal!

