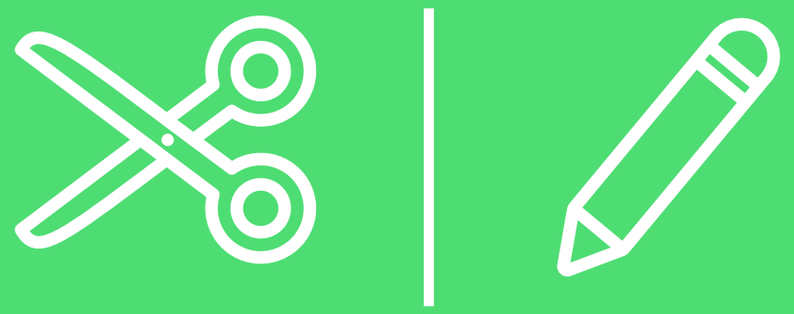
Print



03

THAUMATROPE

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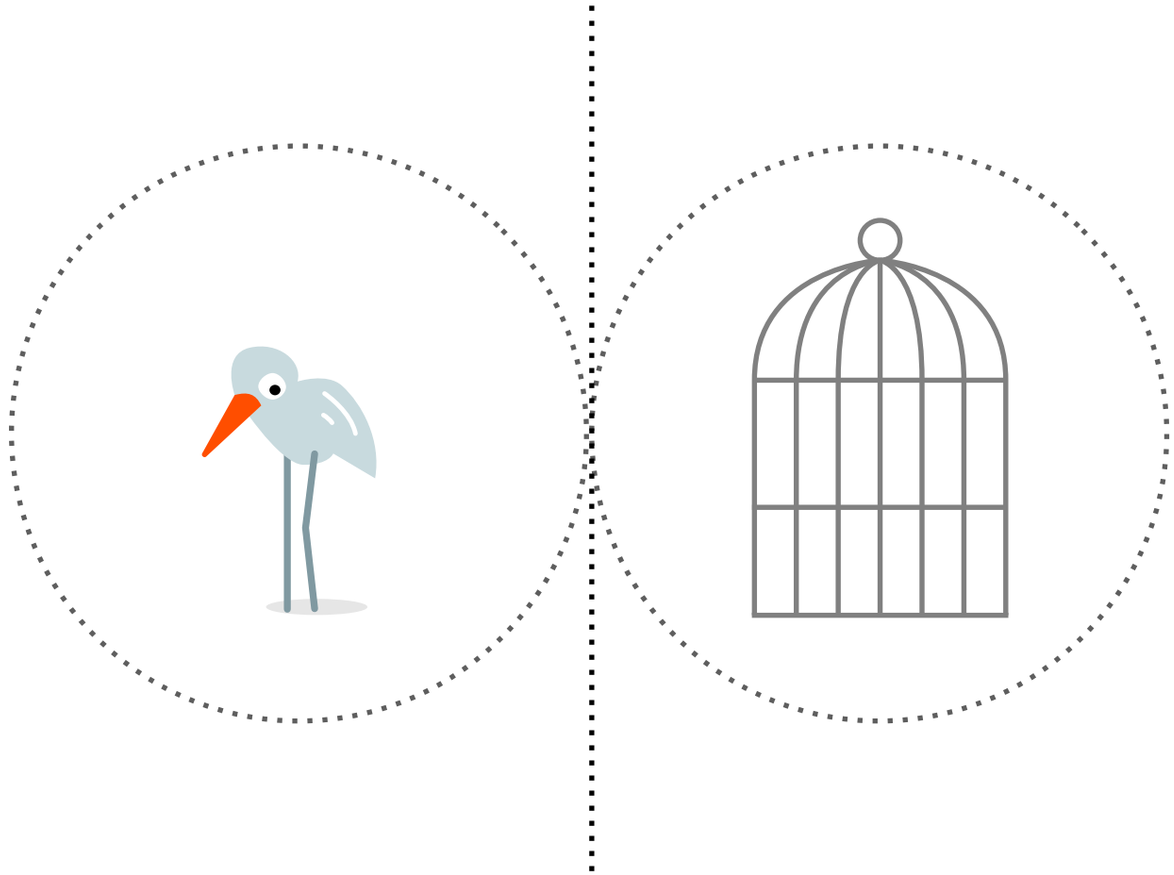
Calliope gGmbH

THAUMATROPE

Create your own thaumatrope. Cut the images on the black line. Fold them in the middle and glue a wooden stick in between. Turn the thaumatrope between your fingers.

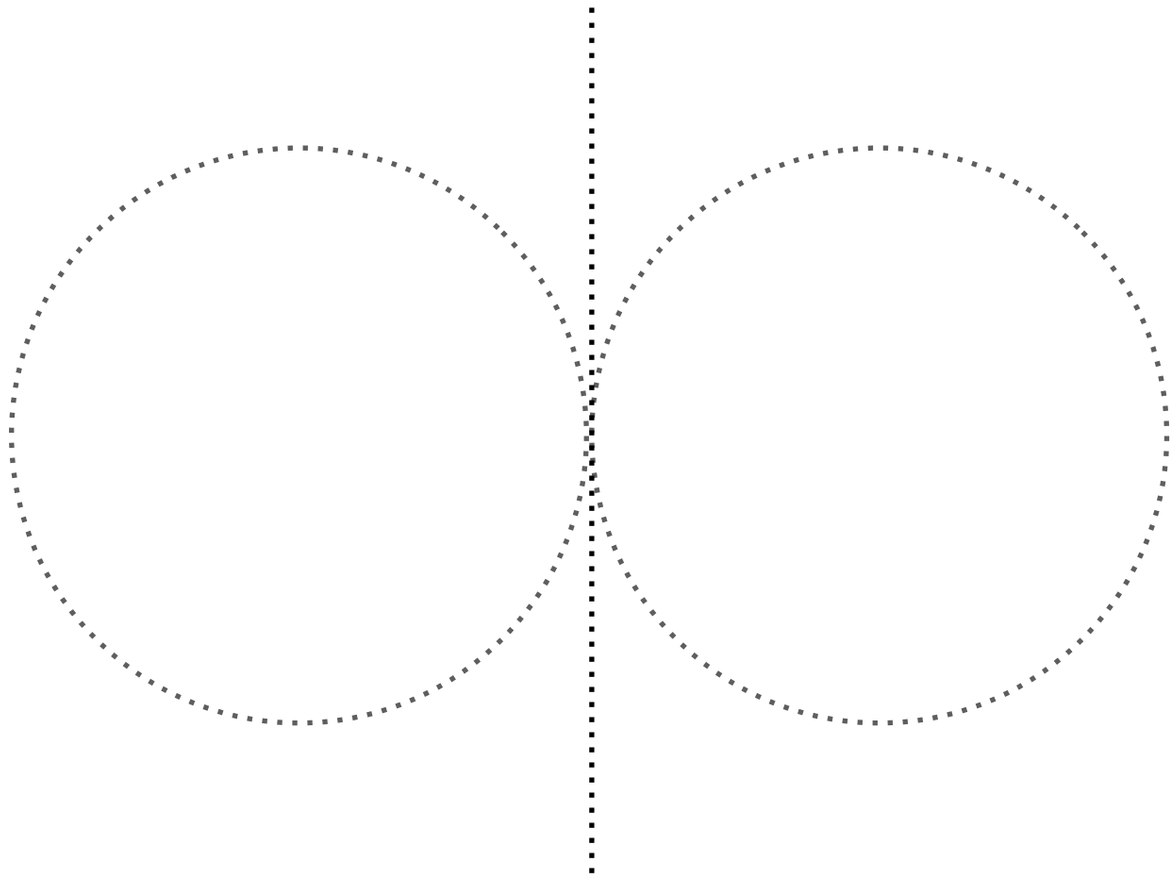
What do you see?
Why is that like this?



CALLIOPE mini

THAUMATROPE

Here you can draw your own bird or something completely different :)



CALLIOPE mini

Solutions

03

THAUMATROPE

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THAUMATROPE

If you twirl the thaumatrope fast enough between your fingers, it looks like it's just a single image.

But why is that?
This effect is caused by the so-called "sluggishness of the eye". The retina stores the image for a fraction of a second.

If the next image follows very quickly, the retina has not yet erased the old image.

By the way: this is exactly the effect cartoons make use of. Thaumatrope is therefore often referred to as the precursor of cartoons.