

# CREATING A BIG RIDE



## JOSEPH'S BIG RIDE

By Terry Farish, illustrated by Ken Daley,  
and published by Annick Press

## THE FESTIVAL

Welcome to the Beautiful Blackbird Children's Book Festival! Where is the festival happening? Right here in your space, in your hands. By creating art based on *Joseph's Big Ride*, you are taking part in a celebration of books and book creators from across the African Diaspora. You are also telling *your own story*!

## THE BOOK

Look for the read aloud of *Joseph's Big Ride* on BeautifulBlackbird.com. In the Kakuma Refugee Camp, Joseph loves watching Daau ride and fix his bike. Joseph wants so much to ride that bike, but he is not big enough! When the wheels of an airplane leave Kenya and land in America, Joseph discovers a whole new bike to admire—this one *is* his size! He and his new friend Whoosh will go on many big rides on her small red bicycle. *What do you like to ride? Where do you want to go? What will you explore?*

## THE ART ACTIVITY

Whether or not you have a bicycle of your own, you can imagine what it feels like to make wheels turn, to ride, and to explore your neighborhood. Whether or not you have been in an airplane, you can imagine the plane rolling down the tarmac and taking off in the sky, letting you explore anywhere in the world. *What does your imagined ride look like? How does it move? Where is it going?* You get to decide! You will be making all the parts of your ride out of paper and using fasteners to make these parts move.

### Materials:

Sheets of Paper  
Thin recycled cardboard  
Scissors  
Fastener  
Drawing & coloring tools

### Watch a Video:

<https://beautifulblackbird.com/books/josephs-big-ride-by-terry-farish-illustrated-by-ken-daley/>

### Suggested Steps:

1. Using the white sheets of paper or a recycled food box, draw a handful of large shapes.
2. Draw the pieces of your ride that help it move, the wheels, steering, and seat.
3. You might try tracing one of the shapes you enjoy.
4. Cut these shapes out following your lines or cut free form shapes rotating the paper to connect your first and last cuts.
5. Choose and arrange your shapes to build your ride. Use the drawing tools to add details and color!
6. Build your ride, choosing which four pieces move and mark with a pencil where you want your holes for the fasteners.
7. Mark your holes on the body of your ride.
8. Puncture your pencil marks using a pencil or scissors to create holes.
9. Insert fastener through the pieces first and then the body of your ride.
10. Flip over and flatten the fastener pushing down loosely. Make adjustments if your parts are not moving by tightening and loosening the clasp.
11. Add any missing details now that your ride has been built using your drawing tools.
12. Take your ride for a spin!

**Share your Experience!** If your family, guardian, or teacher agrees and if you can protect your privacy, take a picture or video of your artwork and share it with the hashtag #BeautifulBlackbirdFestival.

Look for the next book about Joseph and Whoosh! Ask for *A Feast for Joseph* at your library.

Thank you to Mia Bogyo of the Center for Maine Contemporary Art for designing this activity as part of their support of the Beautiful Blackbird Children's Book Festival!