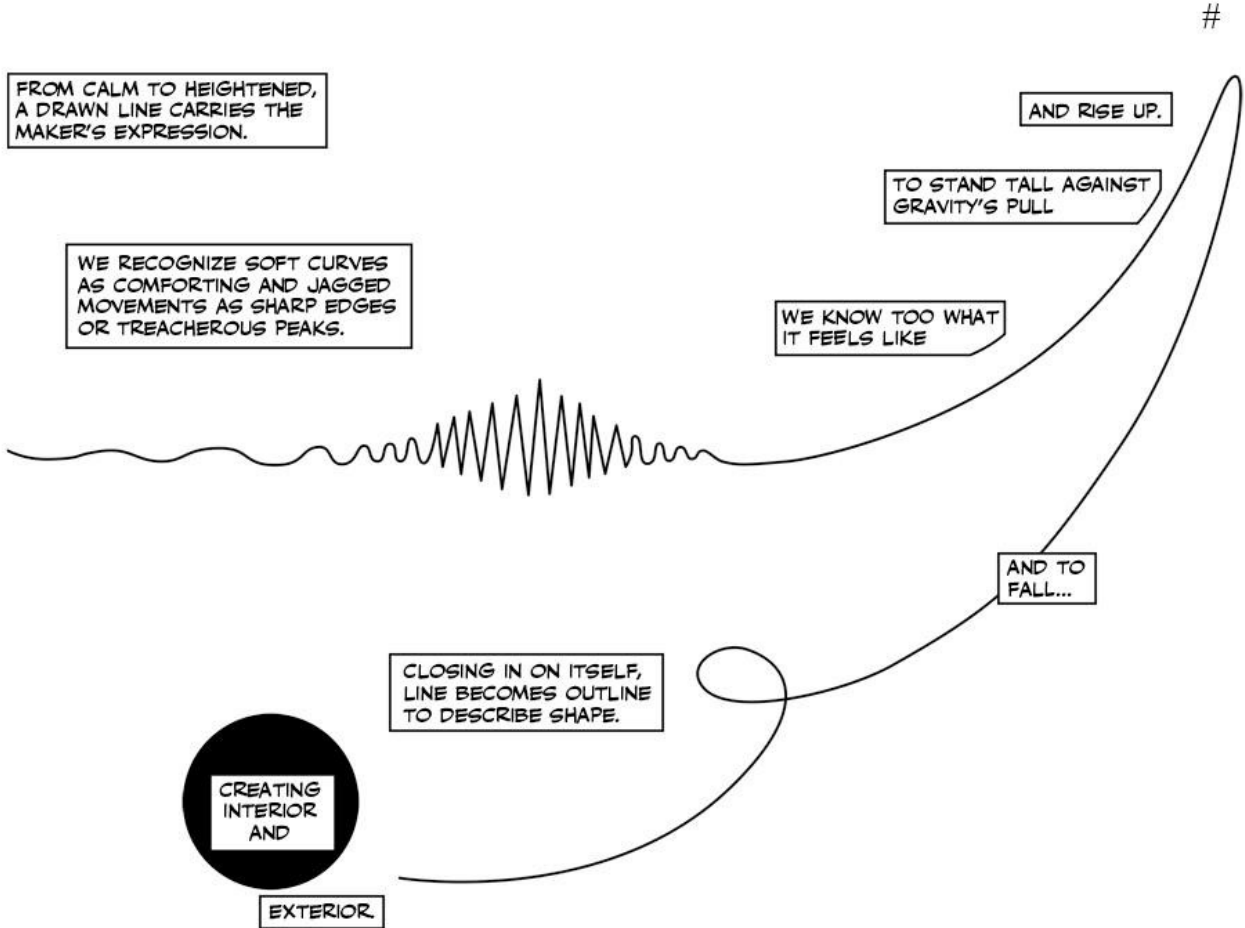


Cutout Activity, based off of ideas in Molly Bang's *Picture This*



“Picture This” by Molly Bang

2: Space & Form



HAPPY IS UP; SAD IS DOWN

I'm feeling *up*. That *boosted* my spirits. My spirits *rose*. You're in *high* spirits. Thinking about her always gives me a *lift*. I'm feeling *down*. I'm *depressed*. He's really *low* these days. I *fell* into a depression. My spirits *sank*.

Physical basis: Drooping posture typically goes along with sadness and depression, erect posture with a positive emotional state.

CONSCIOUS IS UP; UNCONSCIOUS IS DOWN

Get *up*. Wake *up*. I'm *up* already. He *rises* early in the morning. He *fell* asleep. He *dropped* off to sleep. He's *under* hypnosis. He *sank* into a coma.

Physical basis: Humans and most other mammals sleep lying down and stand up when they awaken.

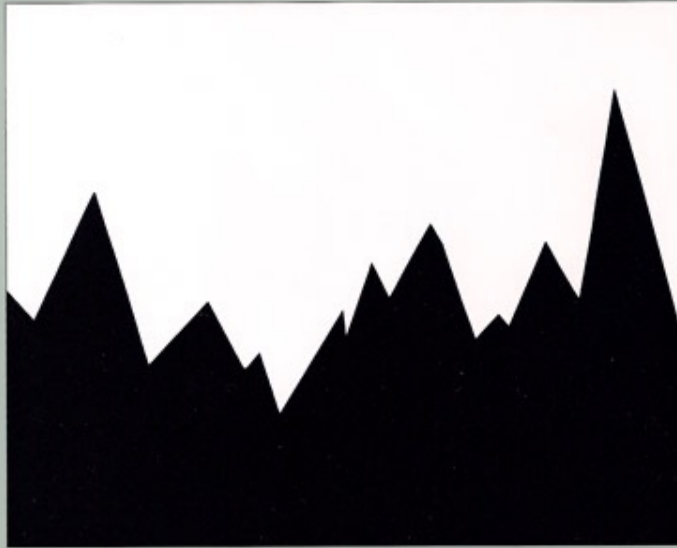
HEALTH AND LIFE ARE UP; SICKNESS AND DEATH ARE DOWN

He's at the *peak* of health. Lazarus *rose* from the dead. He's in *top* shape. As to his health, he's way *up* there. He *fell* ill.

He *fell* down with the flu. His health is

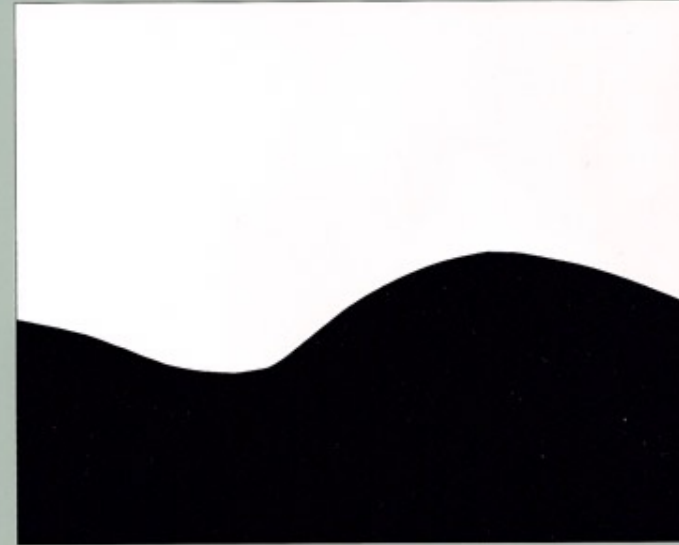
Lakoff & Johnson *Metaphors We Live By* d.

Physical basis: Serious illness forces us to lie down physically. When you're dead, you are physically down.



7. We feel more scared looking at pointed shapes; we feel more secure or comforted looking at rounded shapes or curves.

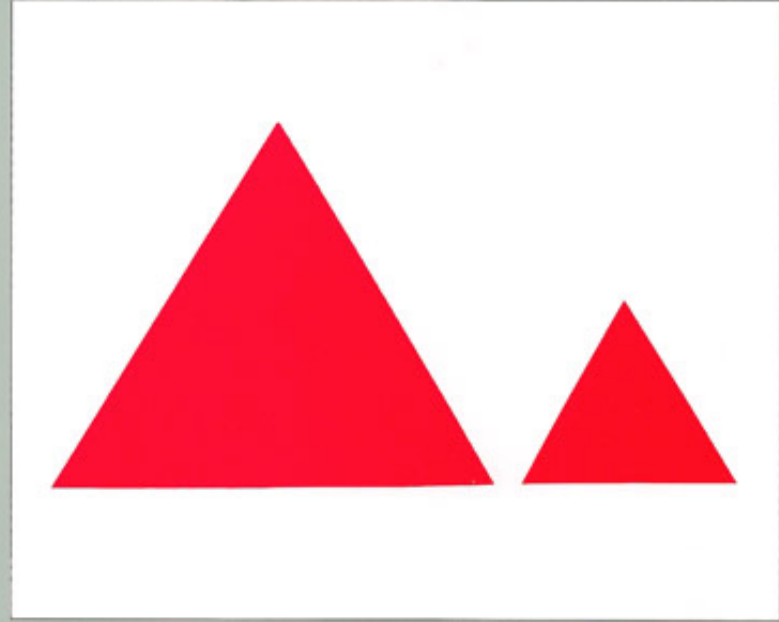
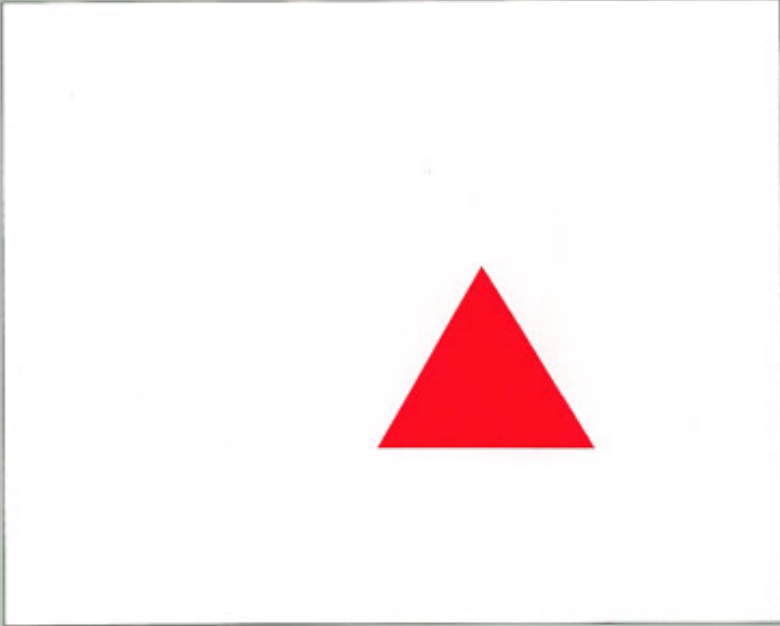
Our skin is thin. Pointed objects can easily pierce through to our innards and kill us. What do we know of that has sharp points? Most weapons are pointed: knives, arrows, spears, missiles, rockets; so are rocky mountains, the bows of boats that cut through the water, cutting tools like scissors and saw blades, bee stingers, teeth . . .



Curved shapes embrace us and protect us.

This picture of curves can't make us any safer than can the picture of points, and we know this, but the picture of curved surfaces makes us feel more secure than the one with sharp points, because of our associations with these shapes. What do we know of that is formed from curves? Rolling hills and rolling seas, boulders, rivers — but our earliest and strongest association is with bodies, especially our mothers' bodies, and when we were babies, there was no place more secure and full of comfort.

Because of these associations, pictures with curved shapes feel more secure and comforting than ones with sharp points, which feel scarier and more threatening.

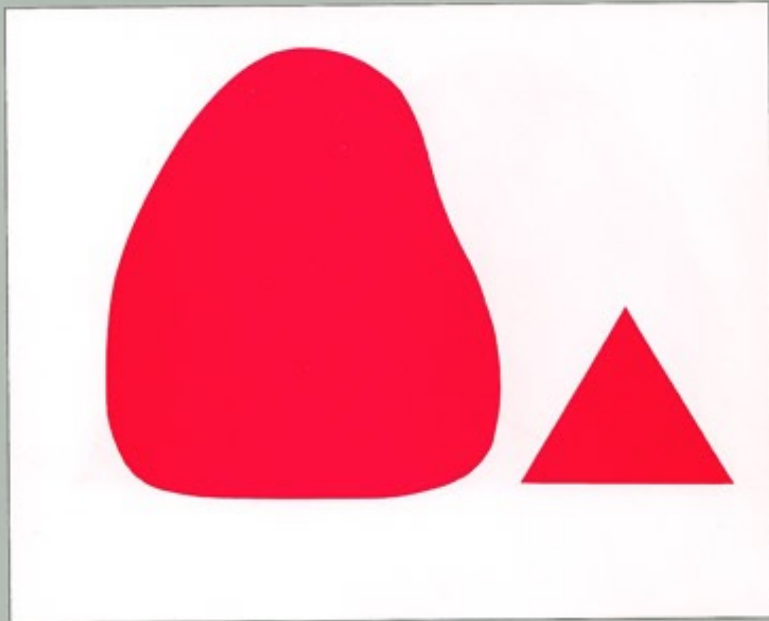


I could simply show her mother as a bigger red triangle, a bigger version of Little Red Riding Hood.

But what has happened?

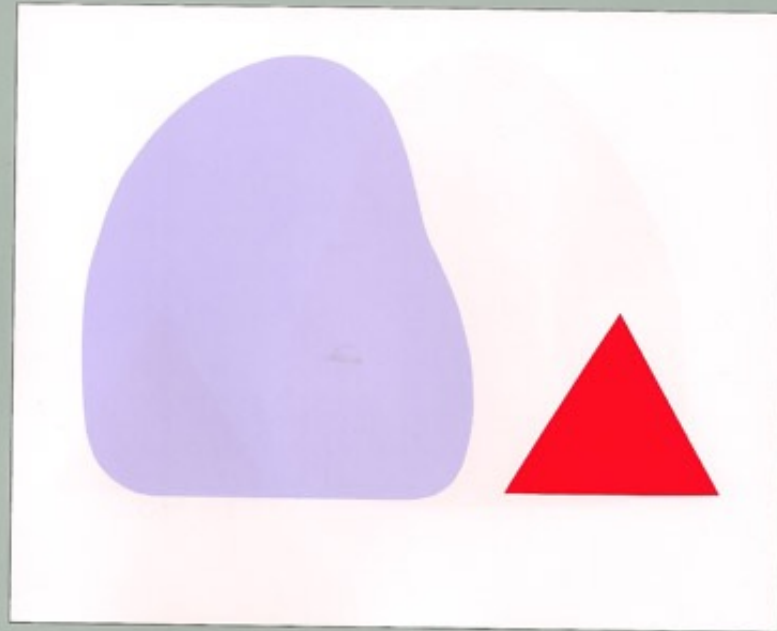
The mother has become the more important object in the picture and has overwhelmed her daughter. Little Red Riding Hood no longer appears to be the main protagonist. In addition, though this shape implies a mother who is warm and strong and vital, she is also overbearing and decidedly not huggable.

How can I make her feel less overwhelming and more huggable?



If I keep her triangular shape but round off her corners, she does seem softer. But she still takes over the picture. She draws attention away from the heroine, Little Red Riding Hood, because she is a bigger mass of red.

How can I keep her large (since mothers are larger than their young daughters) but give Little Red Riding Hood prominence in the picture?



If I make her a pale color, she and her daughter are more equal in the picture. Little Red Riding Hood feels comparatively perky and bold.

The mother could just as easily have been made pale blue or pale green, but then her color would not be at all related to that of Little Red Riding Hood. Since purple has red in it, the mother and daughter are related by color as well — as they would have been if the mother had been pink or pale orange.

What do I feel about the mother now?

She seems huggable and stable, though less strong and less warm than before. But she is still motherly, and the emphasis of the picture is now on Little Red Riding Hood as much as if not more than on her mother.

Cutouts!

Relationship cutout: Using cutout shapes as you choose – present a relationship that is of some significance to you through the shapes, color, and relationships you've arranged with the different elements...

Student examples

This relationship is between my femme and masculine side, with pink representing the first and yellow the later of the two. I've been a tomboy my entire life, ...



