Simple Spirograph

Grades 6 – 8

Artist: Marsha Bhagwansingh
Here’s what you’ll need:

- A roll of masking tape 3” in diameter or larger
- A soft plastic cap from a spice or vitamin bottle
- A thumbtack or geometry compass
- A rubber band
- Paper
- Fine point markers or colored pencils

Step 1

Make 2 or 3 holes in the soft plastic cover large enough for the points of your markers or pencils to go through. Try to keep the holes at different distances from the edge of the cap. (Ask an adult for help with making the holes if needed).
Step 2
Double the rubber band and place around the outside of the cap.

Step 3
Place the cap inside the masking tape roll with the cap against the edge. Place your marker or pencil in one of the holes and begin moving the cover along the inside edge of the tape roll, making sure that the cover is always making contact with the tape roll.

Note: You may find that it is moving with a wobble, but that’s okay. It will still create a design.

Keep moving the cap on the inside of the tape as a design begins to form. You’ll probably want to make several attempts to observe the different patterns that can be created with the different holes.
Try overlapping two of the designs and changing the colors of your pens or pencils. Experiment with different size covers and tape rolls.
Alternatives:
As an alternative, you can use any round cover that can be easily cut (see photos below).

Experiment too, with different papers and types of pens.
Your spirographed mandalas can be used on greeting cards, bookmarks and to decorate just about anything!
Marsha Bhagwansingh is a Teaching Artist with Center for Creative Education in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Submit a photo of your finished work to Center for Creative Education via email, info@cceflorida.org, with your first name, age, and city or town in which you live, for a chance to have your work showcased on our website or social media pages!

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