This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. As you spend your summer days walking around your community, you have many opportunities to see art in a new way. You may have seen “Urban sketching” on another artCart event, but let’s try it again. “Urban” means a town or city and sketching is simply drawing a picture. You may not believe yourself a true artist, but you are going to practice with a technique called “composite art”. We can use it in a new way to practice drawing circles, lines, and reproduce many other shapes and designs we see all around us.

1- Pick a picture from a magazine, cereal box, or even one you have around the house, of something that happens in a city or town. Cut the picture in half or multiple pieces. Now glue, tape, or staple a piece of the picture to the paper. Use a pencil to make a sketch of what the rest of the picture would look like. You can make a journal of urban sketching. Fold a piece of paper in half length-wise and then folding this in half. Try a different project on each page.

2- Take a walk around the neighborhood and sketch something you see, starting with simple lines or shapes. Later, you can add some coloring with the side of a crayon or colored pencil, to make the picture cartoon-like. You are now an Urban Sketch Artist!

3- There are a few other options. Make a collage by first arranging pictures of your favorite things on a piece of paper. Add more designs to the collage by using patterns of circles, squares, or lines. Add text or writing to your collage.

Be well and happy-exploring possibility!

Ms. Susan