**Fifth Grade Art Project NFCSD Art Educators**

**Create a Character with Proportion Distortion**

Supplies: Paper and any of these: pencils, crayons, colored pencils, markers, pen or paint made for young artists.

**\*Artists draw upon observation (what they see), their memories, and their imaginations to express their ideas.**

**\*For this lesson, you will use your imagination to create a fictional character for a video game, comic strip or cartoon.**

\*You will distort one or more of your character’s body features to show it has superpowers, strengths or weaknesses.

\***Body proportions** refer to how the sizes of body parts relate to one another. Fictional characters’ bodies are often out of proportion. Think about the size of a minion’s head compared to the size of its legs.

\***Distortion** means to change something from the way it would normally look. For example, Manga characters may have abnormally large eyes or big hair shaped like flames.

**\*What kind of character will you create?**

\*Have you ever exaggerated or distorted part of a story to capture your listeners’ attention?

\*An artist might start with realistic body features and stretch, shrink, enlarge or change them to give new meaning. Think about Popeye’s forearms. Artists often design their superheroes with extremely exaggerated muscle tone.

\*Think about characters that you are familiar with. Draw several sketches of your own original character. Try distorting one or more body features to show off your character’s superpowers or personality.

\*Name your character.

**\*Share your character.**

\*Describe the body feature you distorted. Explain how you decided which feature to distort. What special traits does your character possess? Make up a story about your character.

\*Discuss how people use their imaginations in their everyday lives.