

# Create Your Own Chimera Activity



MELBOURNE WINTER MASTERPIECES

## ITALIAN MASTERPIECES

FROM SPAIN'S ROYAL COURT, MUSEO DEL PRADO

**Jacopo Ligozzi** (attributed to)

Italian 1547–1627

*A chimera (La chimera)* 1590–1610

pen and brown ink and brush and brown ink over  
black chalk,

gold paint and white bodycolour

32.3 x 42.4 cm

Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid (D01657)

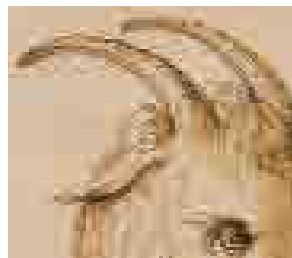
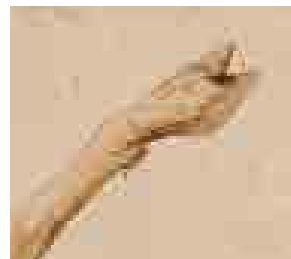
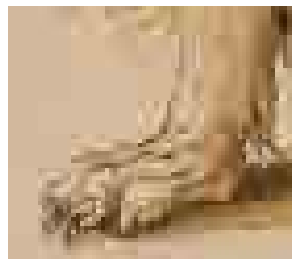
Spanish Royal Collection

# How to create your chimera

- Look at works of art or photographs of animals for ideas about how to depict different animal parts.



- Notice how Ligozzi has made the chimera look three dimensional by using light and dark tones. Use your pencil in different ways to create light and dark areas. Try soft lines, heavy lines, lots of lines, using the side of your pencil or smudging with your fingers or an eraser. Have fun experimenting!



- Look at the fine lines Ligozzi has used to create the texture and detail of fur, scales, claws and horns. Use the pointed end of your pencil to create some interesting textures on your chimera.



# Create your chimera

*Create your own chimera using the body parts of three animals.*

## Chimera

**1.** In Greek mythology the chimera was a monstrous fire-breathing creature made up of a lion, a goat and a serpent. **2.** Today the word chimera is used to describe a mythical creature made up from the parts of different animals.



## Write about your chimera

Give your chimera a name.

Use descriptive words to describe the appearance of your chimera? What does it eat? What type of habitat does it live in? How does it behave?

Write a short story that features your chimera as main character.