

THE LITTLE DICTIONARY

ATTRIBUTE : Clothes or accessories that never leave their owner in the images and that allow us to recognize them.
Example : The attributes of Saint Nicolas are his crook and mitre.

COPY : Number of times an object exists.
Example : There is one copy of the Mona Lisa, there are hundreds of copies of this notebook and popular images.

PRINTMAKER : A person who creates and produces popular prints.

SYMBOL : Simple image (object, animal, shape...) that represents an idea which is too complicated to draw.
Example : The dove and the white flag are symbols of peace.

POPULAR : Liked, enjoyed, but also in the case of popular prints, cheap and affordable for many people...



Conception du livret et images utilisées
© Musée de l'image | Ville d'Épinal, 2017.
Image de couverture inspirée d'un visuel de
Cyril Domingier. Traduction par Ilona Gruner,
volontaire en service civique, 2020.

DISCOVERY NOTEBOOK

IMAGE, DES IMAGES

MY VISIT TO THE "MUSÉE DE L'IMAGE" IN EPINAL

my name is

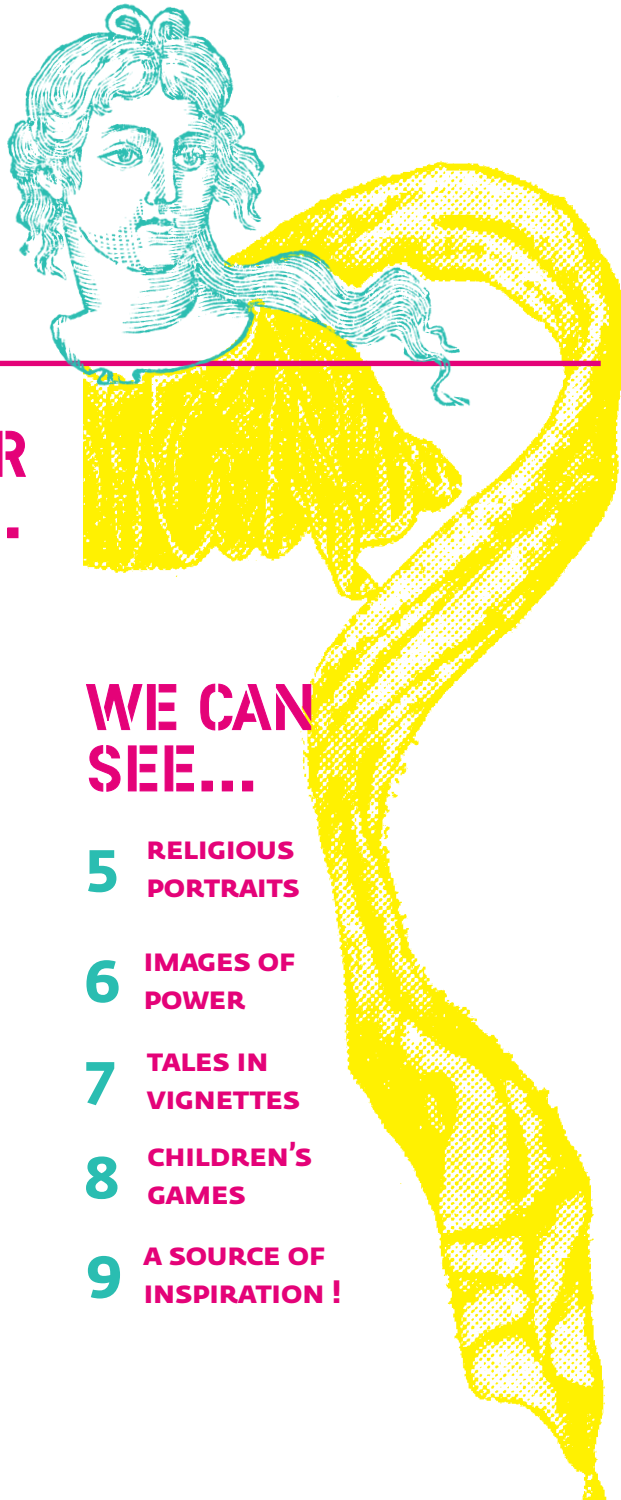
I'm years old

I am visiting the museum
with

on (date)



To help you in your visit, each page of this notebook reveals a clue to observe and understand the popular prints presented at the museum.



A POPULAR IMAGE IS...

1 A SERIALLY PRINTED IMAGE

2 BRIGHTLY HAND-COLOURED

3 SOMETIMES PRODUCED IN ÉPINAL

4 SOLD ON LOOSE SHEET

WE CAN SEE...

5 RELIGIOUS PORTRAITS

6 IMAGES OF POWER

7 TALES IN VIGNETTES

8 CHILDREN'S GAMES

9 A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION !

A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

The "Musée de l'Image" often brings popular prints into dialogue contemporary works, to tell new stories... **Some artists are even inspired by old images to create their artwork today.**

THE ARTISTS CLARK ET POUGNAUD REINVENT AN IMAGE OF THE THEME "THE DEGREES OF THE AGES". DECODE THIS DUET OF IMAGES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY, THANKS TO THE ACTIVITIES YOU WILL FIND IN THE GALLERY...



SOME MYSTERIES PERSIST IN THIS PHOTOGRAPHY ! TRY TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ...

Why are the windows bricked up ?

Why is there a goat ?

Why aren't the moon and the sky illuminated on the same side ?

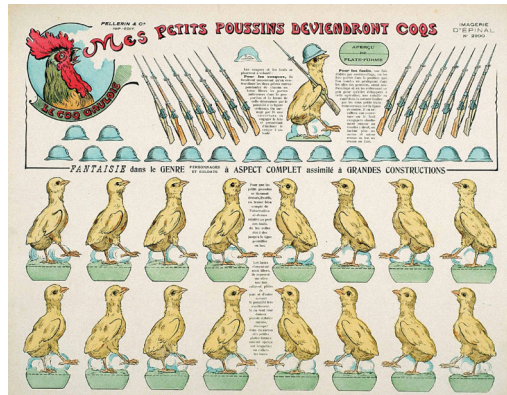
What are these women thinking about ?

WHERE ARE THE ANSWERS ?

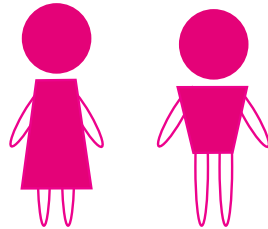
If in the old images it was necessary to understand a single message, today's artworks leave more freedom to the viewer. **So there is not a single right answer to give or one story to tell.** Everyone may have a different opinion about this image...

CHILDREN'S GAMES

In the 19th century, children's education and hobbies became more and more important in families. **The child becomes an ideal client** for the imagers who print images especially for them!



IN YOUR OPINION, ARE THESE THREE PLAYABLE IMAGES MADE FOR GIRLS, BOYS, BOTH ?



WHAT ABOUT TODAY ?

In the past, **toys for girls taught them to be good mothers and boys for be good soldiers...** Is that still the case today ? Do you have any examples ? Do you think it's fair ?

A SERIALLY PRINTED IMAGE

Thanks to printing techniques, printmaker* can get hundreds of copies* of the same image with a single surface. This is not expensive to produce it and most of people can buy it.

To produce popular* prints, printmakers need:
 > woodblock > paper > a cutter > ink

THE PRINTING RECIPE

1 Using a gouge (sharp tool), hollow out the undrawn parts in the wood. The strokes of the drawing must remain in relief!

Here, a photograph of a woodblock already engraved. >



2 Add text. Be careful, it must be written in mirror (upside down) because the image will be inverted when printed, as with a stamp...

WRITE YOUR FIRST NAME BACKWARDS :

EXAMPLE: YM ÉJRMAM

3 Put ink on the reliefs and press the inked woodblock against a white sheet of paper. This is the first printed image of a long serie !

4 Ink the engraved woodblock again before each print !

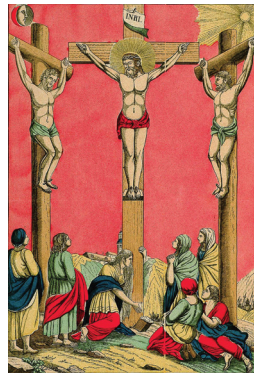
BRIGHTLY COLOURED

These images are made of very simple shapes and the printmakers use bright colours to make them attractive and decorative. The images must be seen even in the darkness of the old houses.

BLUE GRASS ? SPOTTED HORSE ?

The printmakers use a limited number of colours. They don't colour the image to make it close to reality, but to make it beautiful!

Here, the sky has been coloured in pink... >

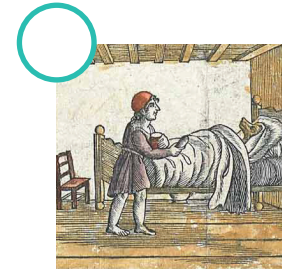
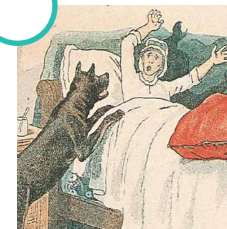
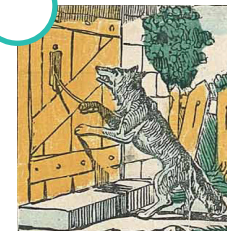
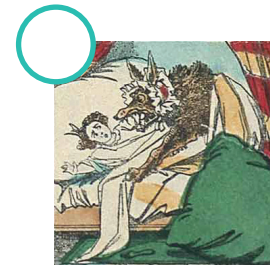


COLOUR THIS PICTURE TO MAKE IT AS JOYFUL AS POSSIBLE, WITHOUT NECESSARILY USING THE COLOURS OF REALITY.

TALES IN VIGNETTES

Long before comic books, these little stories are to be read with the family. Gradually, the child follows the adventures of fictional characters and, thanks to them, learns to become a responsible adult.

NUMBER THESE LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD VIGNETTES IN THE ORDER OF THE STORY.



FIND THE MORAL OF THIS STORY :

WHAT'S "A MORAL"?

Morality is the lesson to be learned from a story: what to do or not to do in life. In the stories of these images, terrible adventures often happen to disobedient children and good kids are always rewarded...

IMAGES OF POWER

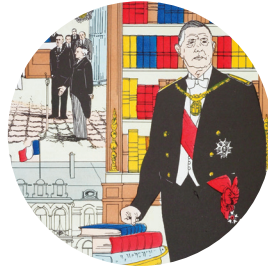
At every period of history, printmakers print portraits of those who govern them: kings, emperors or presidents ! **Surrounded by the symbols* of their power, all pose to amaze their people.**

ASSOCIATE EACH LEADER'S NAME TO THE IMAGE THAT REPRESENTS IT.

Louis XVI
King of France
from 1774 to 1791

Napoléon III
Emperor of the French
from 1852 to 1870

Charles de Gaulle
President of the French Republic
from 1959 to 1969



WATCH OUT FOR CENSORSHIP !
Until the 19th century, kings and emperors watch over keep a close watch on popular prints and prohibited the sale of those that did not

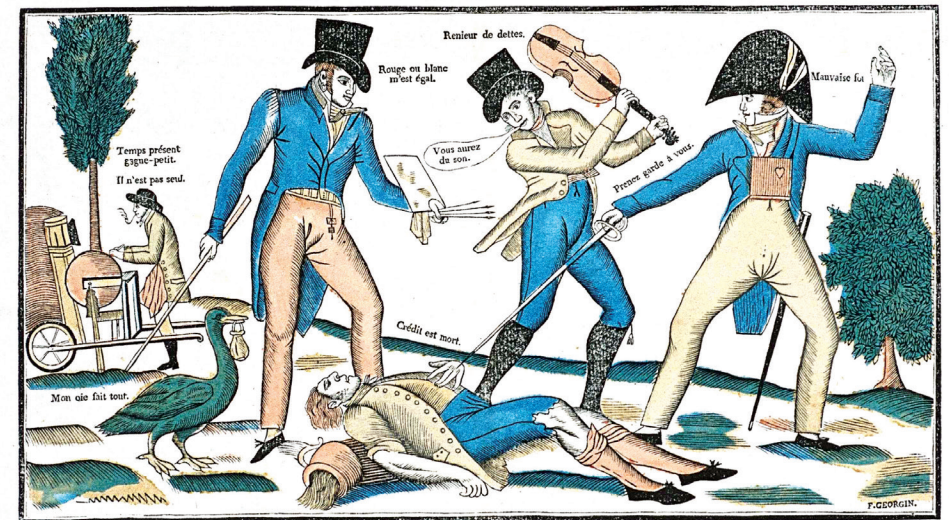
SOMETIMES PRODUCED IN ÉPINAL

In the 19th century, many printmakers produce images. The Pellerin Company in Epinal is one of them. Throughout its history, it has become a reference : we sometimes say "image d'Epinal" in French to mention any popular print...



ALL COPIERS ?
Whether they are from Metz, Epinal or abroad, the image producers copy each other and put into images the same themes, which are already well known. The colours change, the faces change but the **resemblance is striking !**

FIND THE "CREDIT IS DEAD" THEME SHOWCASE : WHO WILL BE ABLE TO FIND THE MOST DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE IMAGES ?

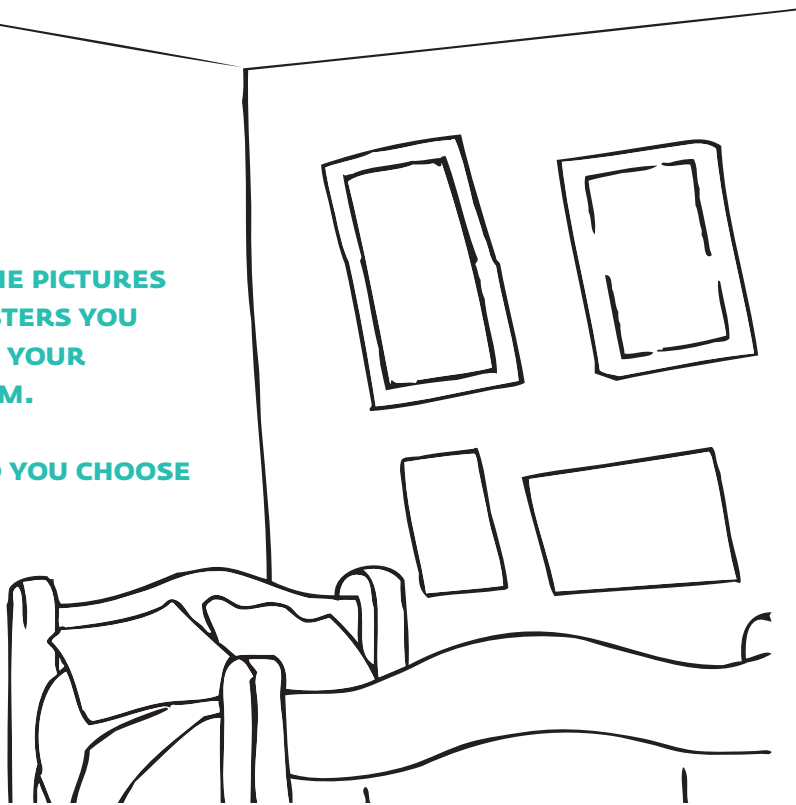


4 SOLD ON LOOSE SHEET

Popular prints are **sold in separate sheets** like today's posters. Everyone can then buy a picture of its patron saint, or its favourite story and hang it on its walls.

DRAW THE PICTURES
AND POSTERS YOU
HUNG IN YOUR
BEDROOM.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE
THEM ?



TO DO WHAT ?

These images are used **to decorate the walls of the houses** or to **protect its inhabitants**, they can also show **important characters of the story** or be useful **to amuse and educate children...**

NOW FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN SEE THERE !

5 RELIGIOUS PORTRAITS

Originally, popular prints illustrate Christian history. All religious figures are depicted, each of them with their own objects and accessories. **In this way, we can differentiate all the characters and recognize them !**

FIND ALL THE
ATTRIBUTES* OF
SAINT NICOLAS THAT
MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO
RECOGNIZE HIM FOR
SURE.



DID YOU KNOW ?

In religious images, the bigger the character is, the more important it is! This way, we can quickly identify who is the hero of the picture...