



Our Favorite Places

**All About
New York City
Landmarks**

**Classes 2-204 & 2-217 at
P.S. 125 Ralph Bunche School**

Inside front cover.

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P.S. 125 Ralph Bunche School**

Behind the Book / New York

Behind the Book's mission is to develop engaged readers and writers in underserved NYC public schools by designing and delivering programs that are multi-disciplinary, culturally responsive, and promote deeper connections to books and their authors.

Visit us at www.behindthebook.org

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Behind the Book

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Special Thanks:

Thank you to everyone who helped facilitate and create amazing workshops for this virtual program, especially our Winter 2020 / 2021 interns: Rachel, Iman, and Lancy.

Due to COVID all Behind the Book programs were provided virtually. We recognize and appreciate our teachers and students for persevering during this very challenging time.

In the interest of honoring student voice, Behind the Book presents students' work as received from the teacher.

This book was made possible by a generous grant from The Korein Foundation.

A special dedication to all the essential workers whose daily self-sacrifice make it possible for us to be safe as we live a healthy, safety and socially-distanced life.

We dedicate this book to our families, friends, teachers, The Ralph Bunche School and our principal, Mr. Reginald Higgins.

About the Program

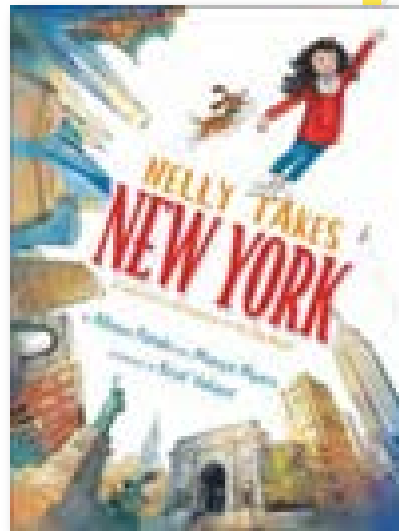
New York City is full of famous places to visit. Think of the Statue of Liberty, the Brooklyn Bridge, or the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The second graders in Ms. Flanagan's and Ms. Scoufaras' classes explored New York landmarks in a series of workshops centered on Allison Pataki's book *Nelly Takes New York*.

The students did extensive research on their favorite New York City places, from Coney Island to the Bronx Zoo and everything in between, collaborating with Behind the Book volunteers.

Author Allison Pataki visited the class during which she spoke about how New York City's history is preserved through landmarks. She explained that she selected her own favorite landmarks to display throughout the book *Nelly Takes New York*.

Following Allison's visits, students participated in a drama workshop with Behind the Book's drama teacher Karen Butler. They examined the characters in the book, giving voice to them, and bringing the pages to life. Behind the Book teaching artist Candice Humphries taught the students how to create pop-up cards of their favorite landmarks.

The final workshop combined all they had learned when they wrote informational essays about their favorite NYC landmark. Through this book, you too can experience some of the best parts of The Big Apple. We hope that our work inspires you to explore and learn about New York City's history.



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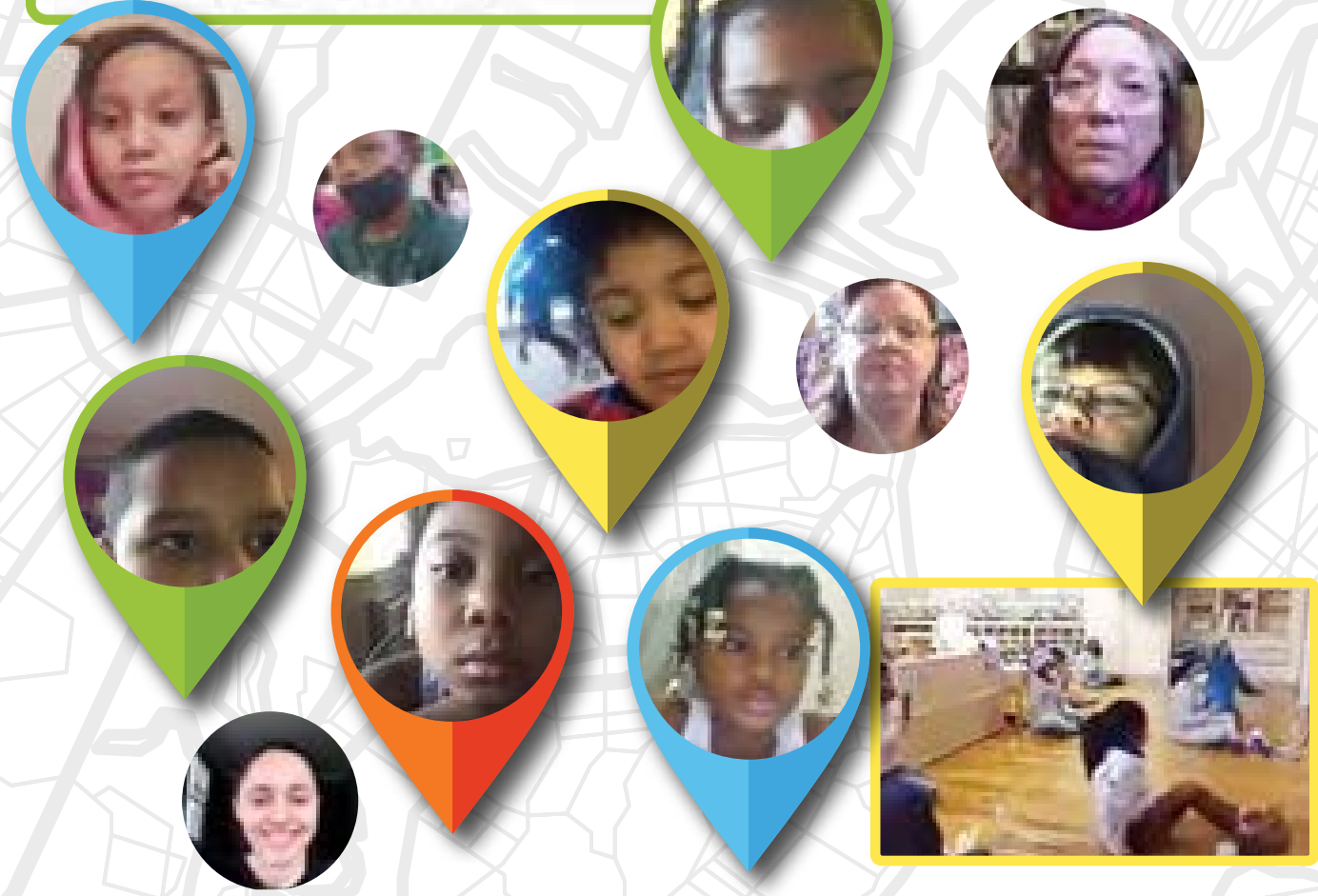
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Ms. Scoufaras' Class



Clay

Do you know about the Statue of Liberty? Read to find out more.

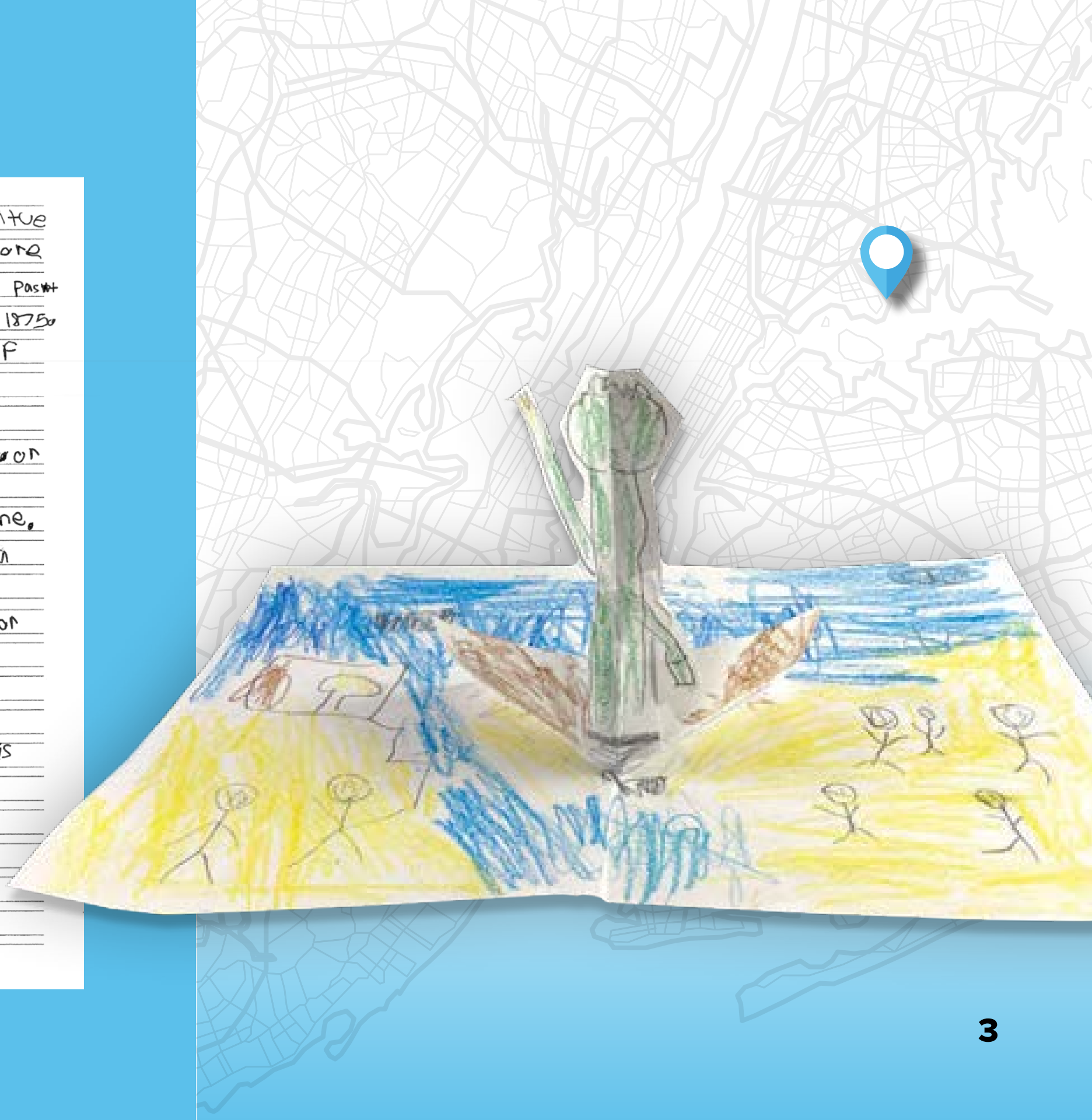
The Statue of Liberty in the past
The Statue of Liberty was built in 1875.
The architects of the Statue of Liberty were Frederic Auguste Bartholdi and Richard Morris Hunt.
The Statue of Liberty is located on Liberty Island.

The Statue of Liberty over time.
The Statue of Liberty became a NYC landmark in 1976.

It was built as a symbol of freedom.

The Statue of Liberty today.
4 million people visit the Statue of Liberty each year. It is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the United States.

Did you learn facts about the Statue of Liberty?



Jacob



Do you know what Central Park is? all about? READ to find out!
Central PARK in the PAST
Central PARK opened to the public in 1858. In 1853, the New York State government gave over 700 acre to build the park central PARK, was ~~but~~ built in ~~Manhattan~~ Manhattan and central park became a landmark on march 26th 1974 there were a total 11 decorative bridges and 22 arches built over ~~230~~ 230 different

species of ~~birds~~ birds have been spotted in central park over the years millions of people ~~visit~~ visit central park every-year. The park has been shown in many movies and television programs. Today, the size of central park has been extended to cover 842 acres the end

Iris

do you learn more about
the AmNH? AmNH in the
past The museum of Natural
History was originally built in
1874. The museum of Natural
History opened in 1874. The
first architects were Calvert
Vaux and J. Wrey Mould.

AmNH over Time

The Museum of Natural
History became a NYC landmark
in 1967. In 2001, the Judy
and Josh Weston pavilion
opened. In 1998, the Hall
of Biodiversity opened on the first
floor.

AmNH Total

The Museum of Natural
History has 5,000,000 visitors
every year.

Today, The Milstein hall
of Ocean Life is most famous
for 94-foot-long blue whale
model.

but you have fun learning
with me!



Jayden



AMNH in the Past
The museum's first architects were Calvert Vaux and J. Wiley Mouldy
The Museum of Natural History was originally built in 1874. It opened in 1877. ~~AMNH~~
AMNH over time ~~the~~
the Museum of Natural History became a NYC landmark in 1967. In 1942, the Hall of North American Mammals opened
AMNH Today Millions of people visit the museum per year. Today, the great dinosaur fossil collections are on the fourth floor of the museum.

Journey

Have you ever gone to the AM of NH?
Well if you haven't gone we can peek
in my story to learn about the mus-
eum!

AMNH in the Past

In 1871 a series of exhibits of the
museum's collection went on view for the
first time in Central Park. The Mus-
eum of Natural History was built in 1874
and it opened in 1877.

The museum had many architects
but its first architects were two men -

Calvert Vaux and J. Wrey Mould.

AMNH Over Time

Overtime in 1895 President Jesup hi-
red Franz Boas to be the assistant
curator in the department of
ethnology.

Overtime in 1896 the Hall of
Northwest Coast Indians now called
the Northwest Coast Hall opened
on the first floor.



Journey continued...

Overtime Boas organized the Jesup North Pacific expedition where they found an unparalleled record of life and culture of the North Pacific.

AMNH Today

Today, The Museum of Natural History has new world mammals birds and oceanic also the big whale.

Today the upper level of the hall exhibits the vast array of ecosystems present in the ocean.

Well, you learned so much in my book! I think you should ask your parents to go to the

Museum of Natural History.

Minka

Do ~~ya~~ you want to learn more about Coney Island? This book is all about The Fancy Coney Island. Coney Island in the Past ~~is~~ Coney Island was built in 1895. Nathan's Famous Original Hotdog Stand opened on Coney Island in 1916 and quickly became a landmark there. Three rides, The Wonder Wheel, The Parachute Jump and The Cyclone were all landmarks.



Minka continued...

Coney Island over Time
Coney Island burnt down
Three Times one Time in
1907, in 1908 and i 1911. The
Cyclone roller ~~co~~ coaster Was
built in 1927 a Minor league
baseball Stadium Was built
in 2002.
Coney Island For Today
Today you can ride bumper
cars on Coney Island in 2011 scream
zone another amusement park
opened. In ~~2013~~ 2016,
Seaside Park and community
Arts center, featuring a
5,000 seat amphitheater
opened. The End

Dillon

This book is entertaining and all about The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Enjoy the book!

The MET in the past
The MET's earliest roots date back to 1802 in Paris. The MET was built in 1871.

The MET over time

The MET became a landmark on November 19, 1977. In 1998 the Arts of Korea gallery opened to the public, completing a major suite of galleries devoted to the arts of Asia.

The MET today
Millions of people visit the MET each year. Today tens of thousands of objects are on view.
I hope you had a good read.



Cameron



this book is all about The Statue of Liberty.

The Statue of Liberty in The Past

The Statue of Liberty was built in 1875.

The architects of the Statue of Liberty were Frederick Auguste Bartholdi and Richard Morris Hunt.

The project to build the Statue of Liberty was announced in France in 1875.

The Statue of Liberty over Time

The Statue of Liberty became a NYC landmark in 1976. The Statue of Liberty is a monument that is admired throughout the world. The Statue of Liberty stands on Liberty Island

in New York Harbor

The Statue of Liberty Today

Millions of people visit the Statue of Liberty per year. Today, the height of the Statue from the base to the tip is 151 feet.

Hope you liked reading this book.

Janella

Welcome to reading about
central park!

central park in the Past

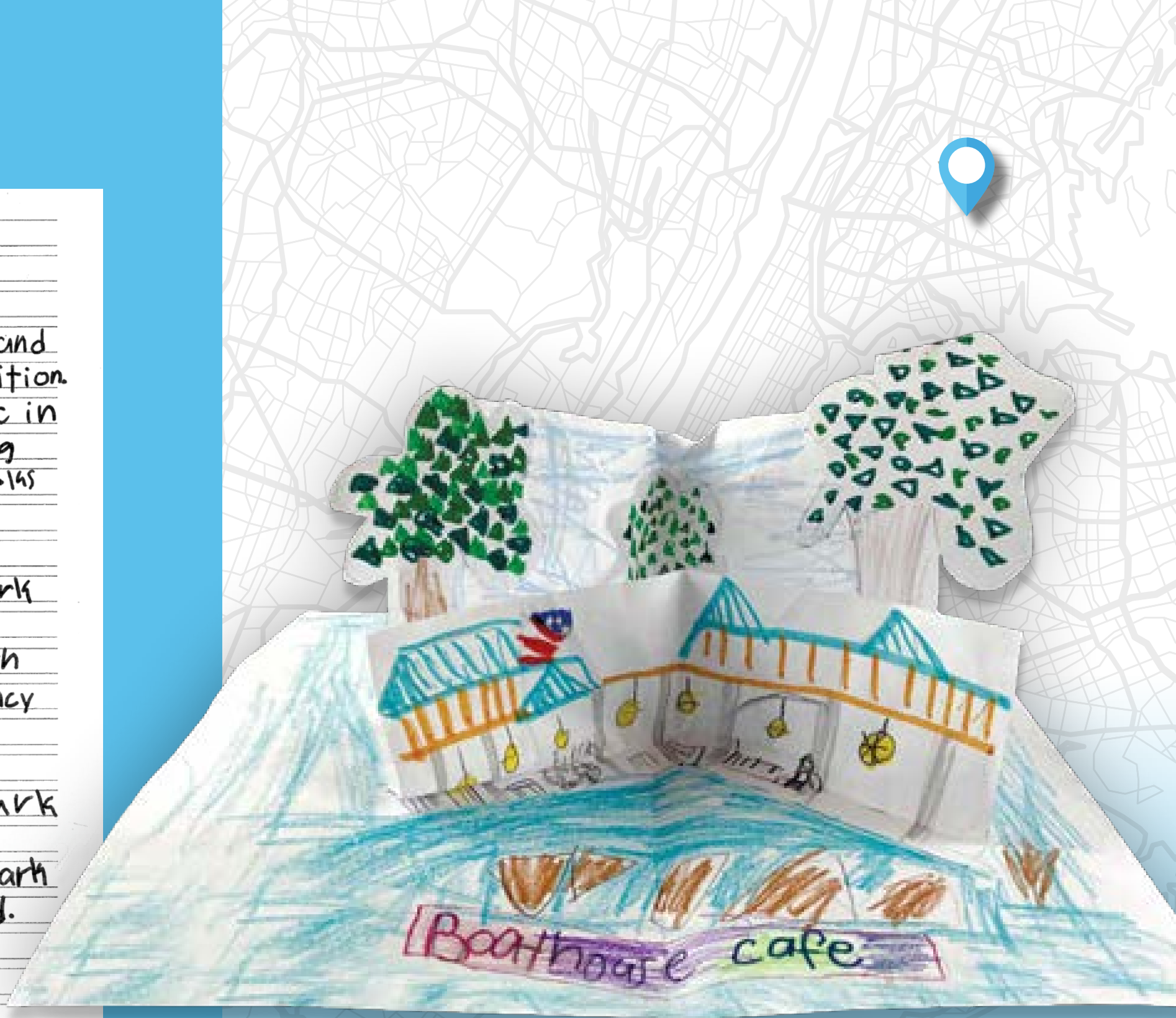
In 1857, Fredrick Law Olmsted and
Calvert Vaux won a design competition.
Central park opened to the public in
1858. 14 million was spent on developing
the land and construction ~~to~~ works
for central park.

Central park Over time

Central park became a NYC landmark
on March 26 1974. central park is
bordered on the North by West 110th
street. The Central Park conservancy
runs the park.

Central Park Today

Millions of people visit Central Park
every year. central park is 2.5 miles
long and 0.5 miles wide. Central park
is admired throughout the world.
Thank you for reading this book
about Central Park



Colton



Do you know when Coney Island was built? You'll find out by reading this book!

← Coney Island in the past
Coney Island was built in 1895.
Coney Island was built in Brooklyn.

Coney Island burnt down 3 times.
Coney Island ~~is~~ over time

The Wonder Wheel has both
~~start~~ ~~st~~ stationary cars and
now it is a part of DeNo

Wonder Wheel.

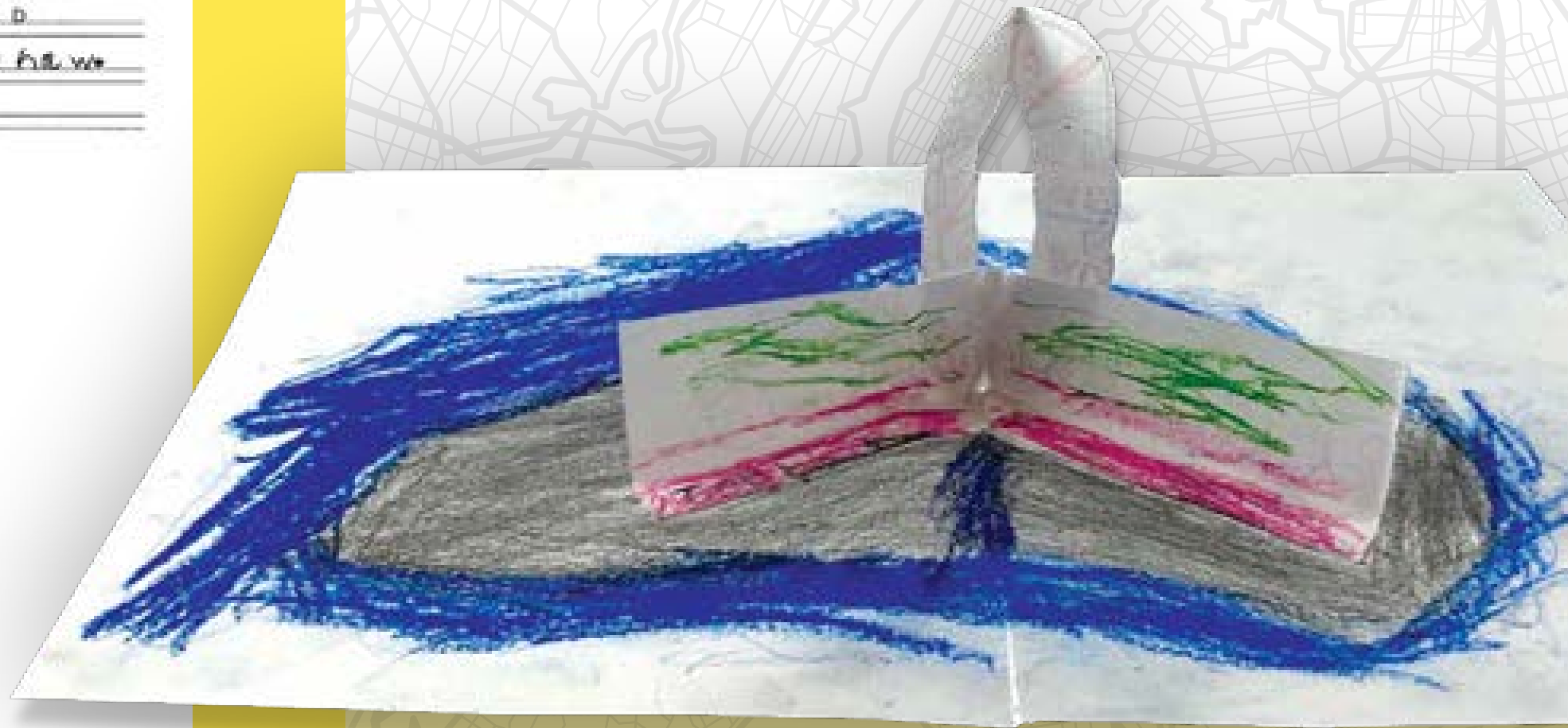
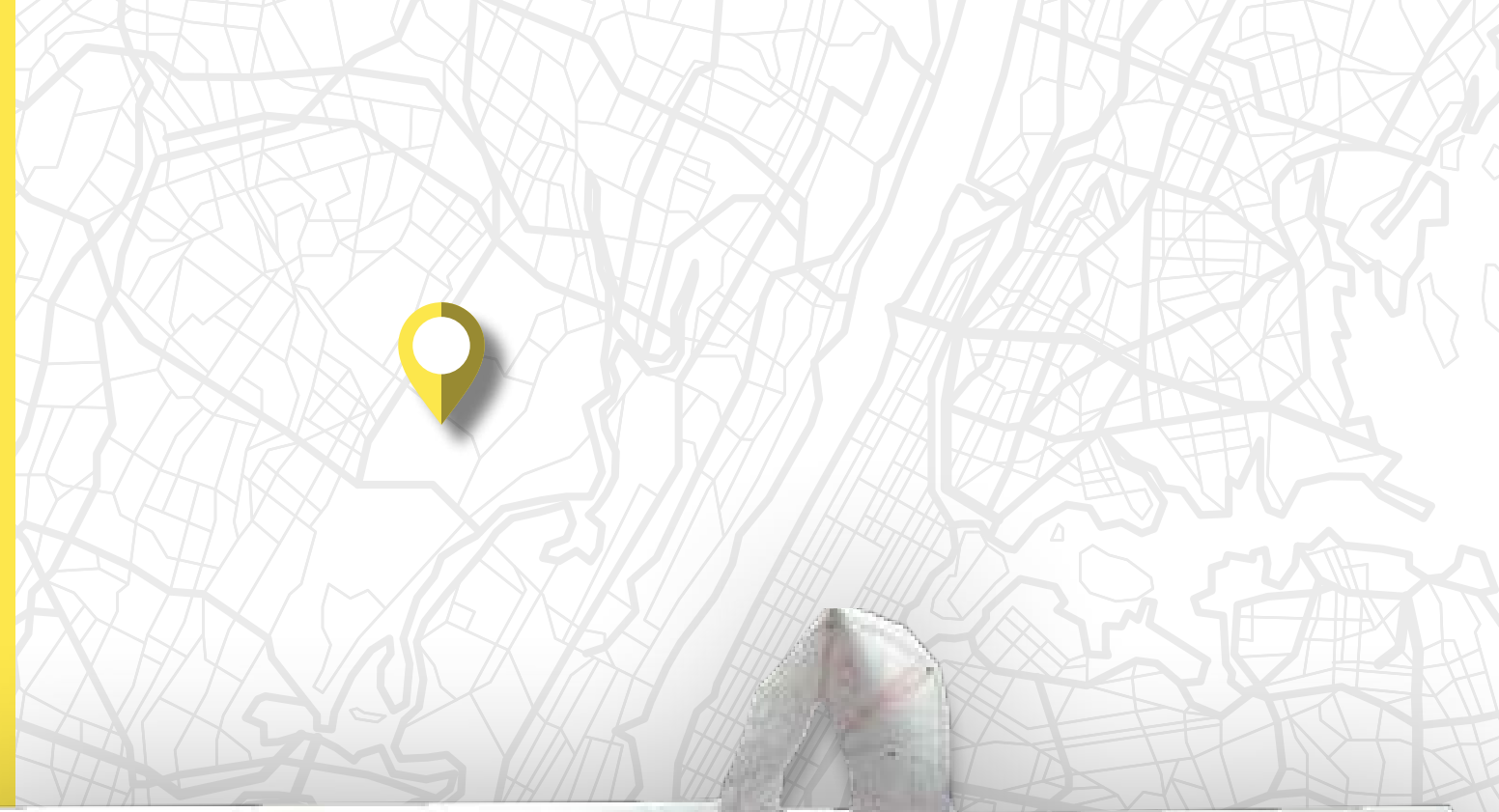
Look out for Part 2 of fun facts
about Coney Island!

Part 2: Fun Facts

- The Wonder Wheel was built in 1927
- The NY Aquarium opened in 1957
- In October 2012 Superstorm Sandy hit much of Coney Island
- KeySpan Park is home to the Brooklyn Cyclones.

Jordan

when is lamb was built in 1895 Disova
led in 260P andrew CIVIER opened
the oriental hotel complex and is now
in the middle of the city of Amman
the hotel was then closed
there are kids 14ha Park east of the
14ha Park of the city



Hadidjetou



Do you know the Statue of Liberty was a gift from France. Read more to find out!

The Statue of Liberty in The Past

France gave The Statue of Liberty to the United States as a gift. The Statue of Liberty was built in 1875 on Liberty Island in New York the figure was modeled after a Roman goddess named Libertas.

The Statue of Liberty over Time

The Statue of Liberty became a NYC landmark in 1976. The statue is 151 feet and 1 inch tall.

The Statue sways 3 inches in the wind and the torch sways 5 inches.

the statue of Liberty today

Millions of people visit The statue of Liberty each year. 240 people each day are allowed to climb to The crown. Visitors climb 354 steps to look out from 25 windows in the crown.

Now you know facts about The Statue of Liberty.

Melanie



This Book is ALL going to be about the Statue of Liberty.

The Statue of Liberty in the Past

The Statue of Liberty was a gift from France.

The architects of the Statue of

Liberty were Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi and Richard

Morris Hunt. The Statue of Liberty was a gift

from France.

The Statue of Liberty over Time

The Statue of Liberty became a NYC landmark

in 1976. The Statue of Liberty without its pedestal

is as tall as a 15-story building. The Statue of Liberty

stands in New York Harbor. The Statue of Liberty

the Statue of Liberty today

Millions of people visit the Statue of Liberty

per year. 240 people each day are allowed to

climb to the crown. Today the Statue of Liberty

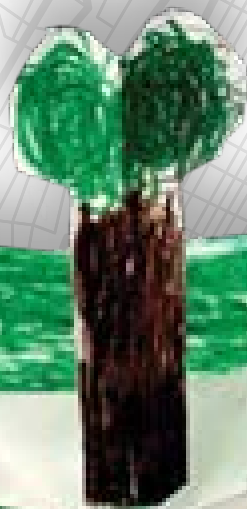
is part of the United States National Park

Service. Thank you for reading this book about

The Statue of Liberty!



Nashly



Will

Can you believe The Metropolitan Museum of Art is housing 13 dead bodies? The met is home to 13 dead mummies and on display along with lots of other amazing things. Read on or find out more interesting facts. The MET ~~in~~ in the past ~~the met~~ the Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in 1870. The MET opened in 1872 and in 1880 the MET opened at its original location when it opened it had a sarcophagus that is still on view.

The MET over Time

After the After the ~~the~~ museum opened ~~expns~~ expansions began and you can still see parts of the old building inside in 1931 a blue ancient egyptian hippopotamus named willam become





Will continued...

the MET's mascot over the years. The MET has grown to be 20 times its original size and became a national historic landmark in 1986.

THE MET Today

Today the MET has more than 2 million works of art. The MET is one of the largest museums in the world. There are more than 6 million visitors to the MET each year. I hope you get to visit the MET soon and see things I haven't seen.

Ms. Flanagan's Class



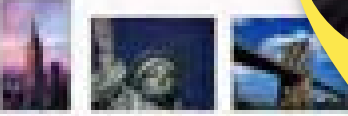
What is a landmark? What are some landmarks in NYC?

A landmark is a building, monument, or structure that adds special value to a city.

Landmarks in New York City are often:

- Parks
- Museums
- Synagogues
- Theaters
- Markets
- Buses
- Libraries
- Churches
- Synagogues

Landmarks often are very important and very recognizable.

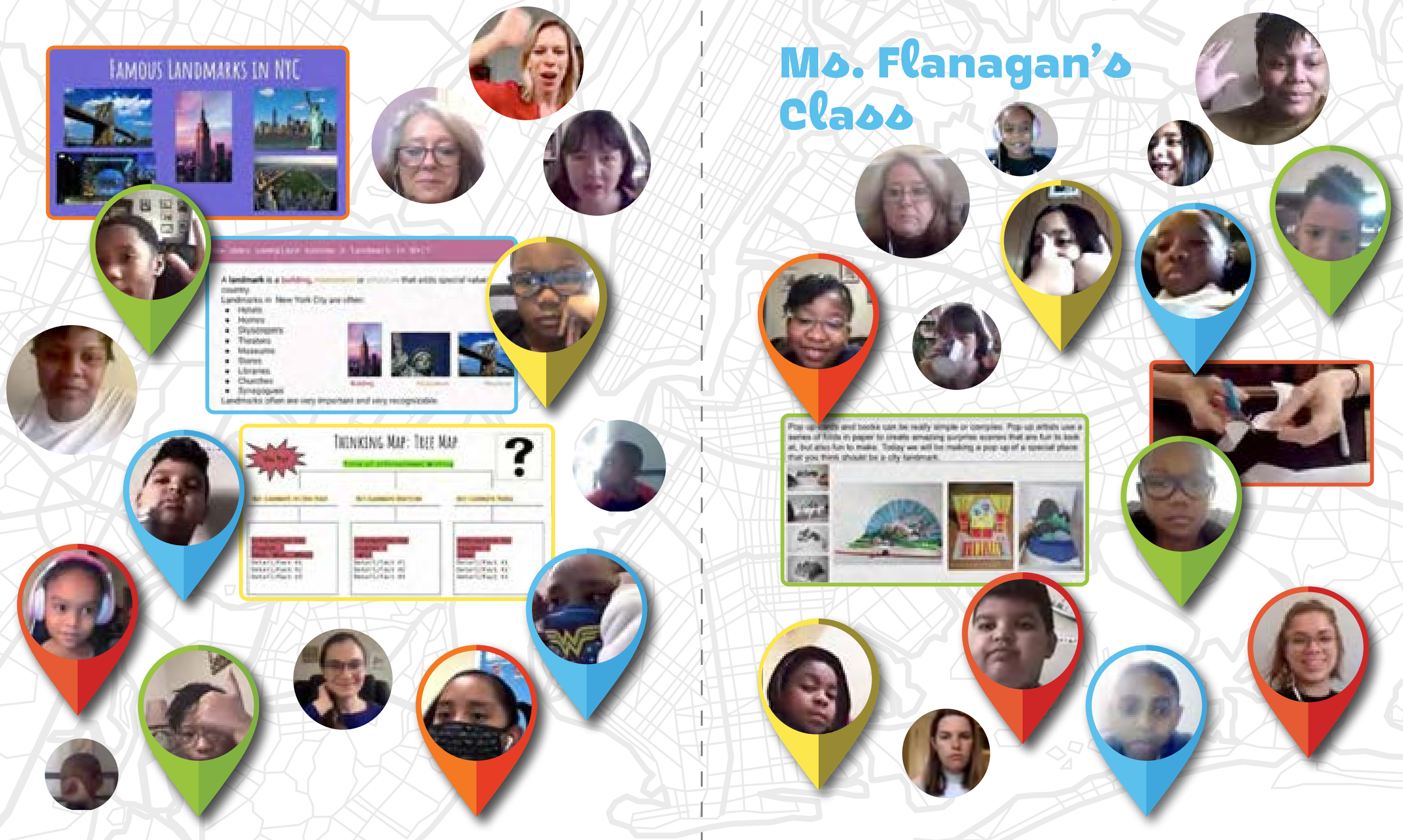
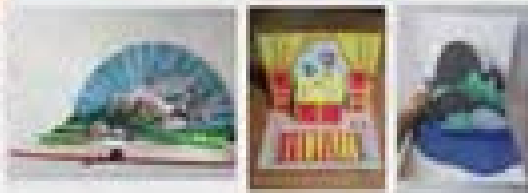


THINKING MAP: TREE MAP

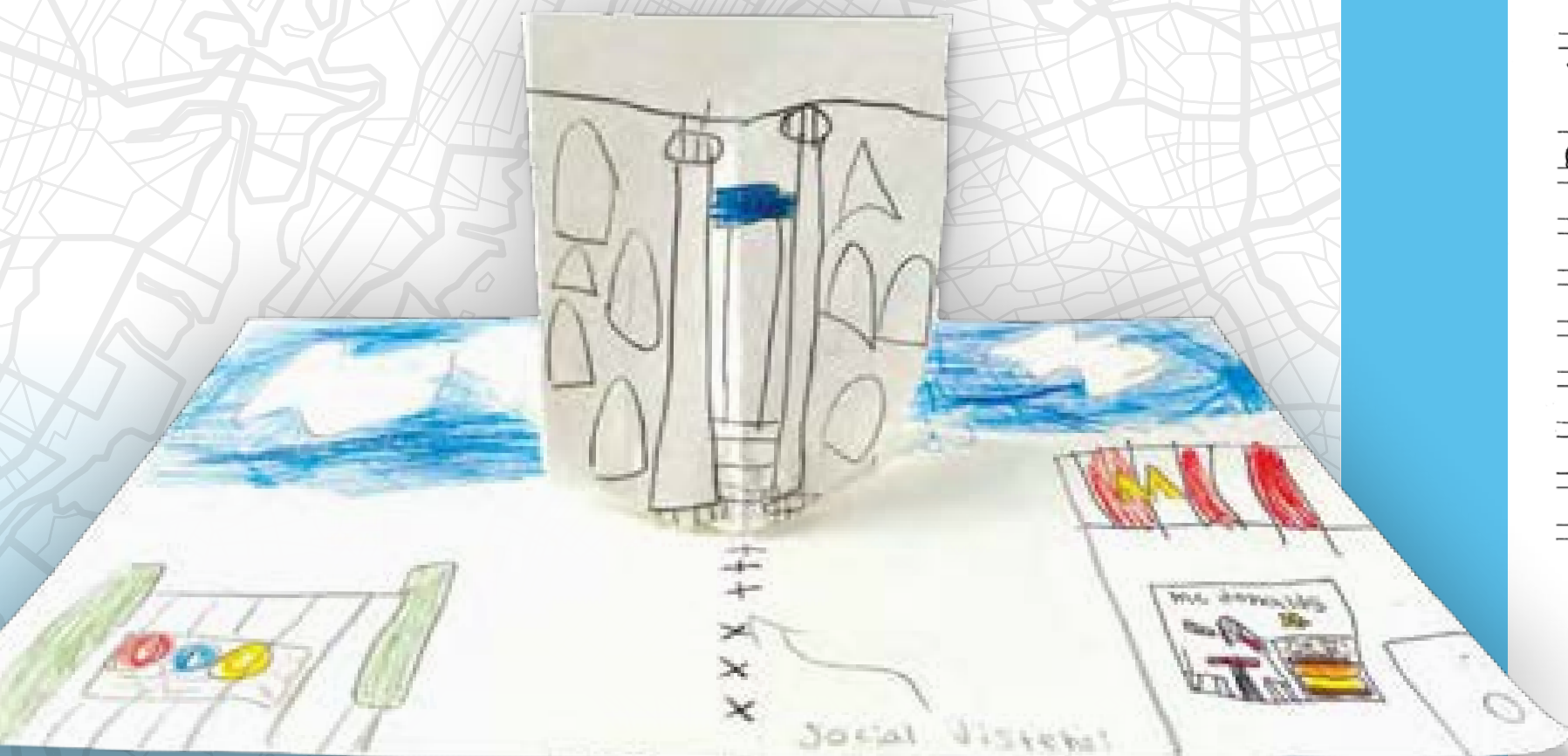
?

What is the purpose of the landmark?	What is the landmark made of?	What is the landmark used for?
What is the purpose of the Statue of Liberty?	What is the Statue of Liberty made of?	What is the Statue of Liberty used for?
What is the purpose of the Empire State Building?	What is the Empire State Building made of?	What is the Empire State Building used for?
What is the purpose of the Chrysler Building?	What is the Chrysler Building made of?	What is the Chrysler Building used for?

Put up photos and books for the study groups or groups. Put up photos and a series of books or paper to create something unique. They are fun to look at, but also fun to make. Today we will be making a pop-up of a special place that you think should be a city landmark.



Cadence



It was opened on April 18th, 1923.
Between the 1950s-1970s, Yankee Stadium
was also the home field for the
Giants football team. The stadium was
called the "House that Ruth built"
named after the player Babe Ruth
who had lots of home runs.
After renovations, the stadium
reopened in 1976 and included
monuments.

The 1923 stadium was knocked down to make
a newer stadium that opened in April 2009. The new
stadium was the most expensive baseball stadium
in the world. It cost \$1.5 billion. The new
stadium had some parts of the old stadium.
Over time, they created more areas
honoring old Yankee players and
museums. Trophies were around until
1967.



Cadence continued...

They are allowing virtual tours. Yankee Stadium is closed until baseball season and is being used as a vaccination site. Monument Park has monuments and plaques honoring old Yankee players. Back in 2018, the capacity of people at the games were 47,309. Now there's just 10% capacity.

I picked Yankee Stadium because I went to a Yankee game with my mom and aunt. My aunt is from Australia. She doesn't get to see us that much so, we went to the game with her. I also picked it because I have only gone there once and I wanted to learn more about it. When it was my first time there I really liked it, I thought it was fun and wanted to learn more about it.

Christian

Coney Island was built in 1897. It was once the largest amusement park. Three rides are land marked. European settlers led the land that makes up the present day Coney Island was divided across several separate islands that over the years were changing shape.

The development of Coney Island was very controversial as people in the area didn't want them to build in the area. It became an amusement park at the 20th century. The original name came from the Dutch and was called Coneyn Elant which



Christian continued...

means rabbit island. After the civil war coney island became a resort. Coney island is an excellent beach for sun. It is a major attraction. Coney island is closed because of COVID the amusement park has various rides, games and side shows. It has bumper cars and the well known ferris wheel the wonder wheel. The updated aquarium now has a coral reef shark tunnel. The reason I picked coney island is because I thought it looks fun and wanted to see what goes on there. I was curious to know how many things such as roller coasters they had. I have never gone to coney island and wanted to learn more about it and go one day.

Jaiden

The Museum of Art was built in 1874 in NYC. The architects are Richard Morris Hunt, Calvert Vaux and Jacob Wrey Mould. It became a NYC landmark on November 19, 1977. The Met was founded in 1870. By the 20th century the museum became one of the largest art centers. The Met was the first public museum to contain artwork by Henri Matisse. Today almost all of around 26,000 Egyptian artifacts are on display in the American Wing. It now has the most comprehensive collection of decorative painting, sculptures, and arts in the world. The Met is open during COVID people need to wear masks and keep social distancing. The museum is open at 25%. There are 15,000-20,000 people a day. I picked this landmark because I love art. Second I like to learn about new things. I also picked it because museums are one of my favorite places to go to. I visited the Met and saw a lot of interesting art, some were scribbles but I didn't mind. I saw origami sculptures and three ice cream cones painted.



Valentina



Past

The Bronx Zoo opened November 8th, 1899. The first person who worked at the zoo was William Temple Hornaday. The zoo's previous seal is no longer used but is located in Astor Court. In 1916, New York City built the first animal hospital at the Bronx Zoo.

Overtime

Back in December 17th, 1902 the Bronx Zoo was one of seven zoos outside of Australia to have the thylacine which is extinct. Before animals were kept in cages and now they're free. It was only 1 of 3 zoos that cared for endangered species. They have exhibits where you can see the animals from and exhibits when you need to pay more to see.

Present Day

The Bronx Zoo open during COVID, but you need to make reservations before you go and only a certain number of people can go. Today the Bronx Zoo has over 4,000 animals and many of them are endangered. They no longer keep the animals in tiny cages and they have more room in their habitat. The Bronx Zoo has more species of animals now.

Why I picked this Landmark?

I picked the Bronx Zoo because I like the animals. They also were the home to lots of endangered and extinct animals. I also picked it because you get to learn about all the different animals and see the animals.

Eric

Past

The statue of liberty was dedicated on October 1886. They started building the statue of liberty in 1875. The idea for the statue of liberty was by an anti-slavery activist in 1885, some of the sections were dedicated to the United States. Around 4 million people visit the statue of liberty each year.

Over time,

The statue of liberty over time became a landmark. After being in the rain and sun, it turned the statue

green. They tried to make more and more money to continue to build the statue of liberty. The statue of liberty is a world heritage site for people around the world to enjoy and learn about the history of NY.



present day.
It changed from a copper color to green. Today the Statue of Liberty is a part of the U.S. National Park Service. Due to COVID-19 parts of the Statue of Liberty are off limits to visit. It is opened at just 25% capacity.
Why I picked this landmark?
I picked this landmark because the Statue of Liberty is also a museum you can visit. The torch has 7 points that represents 7 seas and 7 continents.

Past
Coney Island was a fun place. Coney Island was built in Brooklyn next to a beach. It used to be called Rabbit Island by Dutch settlers. After the civil war, Coney Island was a resort. The first ride was built in 1876 by Charles Looff.

Over time
Coney Island had hotels where people can stay around the 1830's. There are so many rides. They were trying to separate Coney Island from Brooklyn and filling it with waste. In 2003, the mayor offered Coney Island to be a possible spot for the



Joelle continued...



2012 olympics, but it
wasn't picked. Coney Island started
freak shows.
Present Day
Today, there are changes in its
appearance and more attractions
built. Coney Island is closed because
of COVID. Coney Island
rebuilt there
aquarium and added a coral reef/
shark tunnel. Coney Island hosts
events such as the
mermaid parade every summer.
Today, they still have their
famous wooden roller coaster
called the cyclone.
Why I picked this landmark?
I picked Coney Island because it is
a fun place where you can go with
your family. I've never gone there before.

Kaden



Dast

The Statue of Liberty was built in September 1875. The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of peace and Liberty. The architects of the Statue of Liberty were Frederic Bartholdi and Richard Morris Hunt. The statue of Liberty has many names.

Over time

The Statue of Liberty is made out of copper and its green color is from the rain. The Statue weighs 450000 POUNDS. Millions of people visit the statue of Liberty each year. Currently is 130 years old. The statue is now a world heritage site. They changed the torches flame.



Kaden continued...

world heritage site. They changed the torches flame.

Present Day

Liberty Island is currently open at just 25% capacity due to COVID and you can't climb to the top of the statue. The statue is located in New York, but is closer to New Jersey. The statue is now green. The 7 points of her crown represent the 7 continents and 7 seas.

Why I picked this Landmark?

I picked the statue of Liberty because it is a special statue. I like the color of the statue.

It was a gift from France. I wanted to pick the Statue of Liberty because I saw it in the middle of the water while I was on a cruise.

Symphani

Past

The Statue became a Landmark on 9/14/1976. The Statue was built in France in 1875. It was given to NYC as a gift in 1883. In 1886, almost 14 million immigrants came to the United States through New York. Lots of people came to see The Statue of Liberty.

Overtime

The arm and torch of the Statue of Liberty were built first. Then her head was built and rest of her body overtime. Parts of the statue weighs 45,000 pounds The



Symphani continued...

Statue was first a Copper color then it turned green because of the weather. The Statue became a symbol for immigrants entering the U.S.

Present Day
Some parts of the statue are closed because of COVID and is only open at 25% capacity. The Statue of Liberty is between New York and New Jersey. The Mayor wanted the 7 oceans and 7 continents.

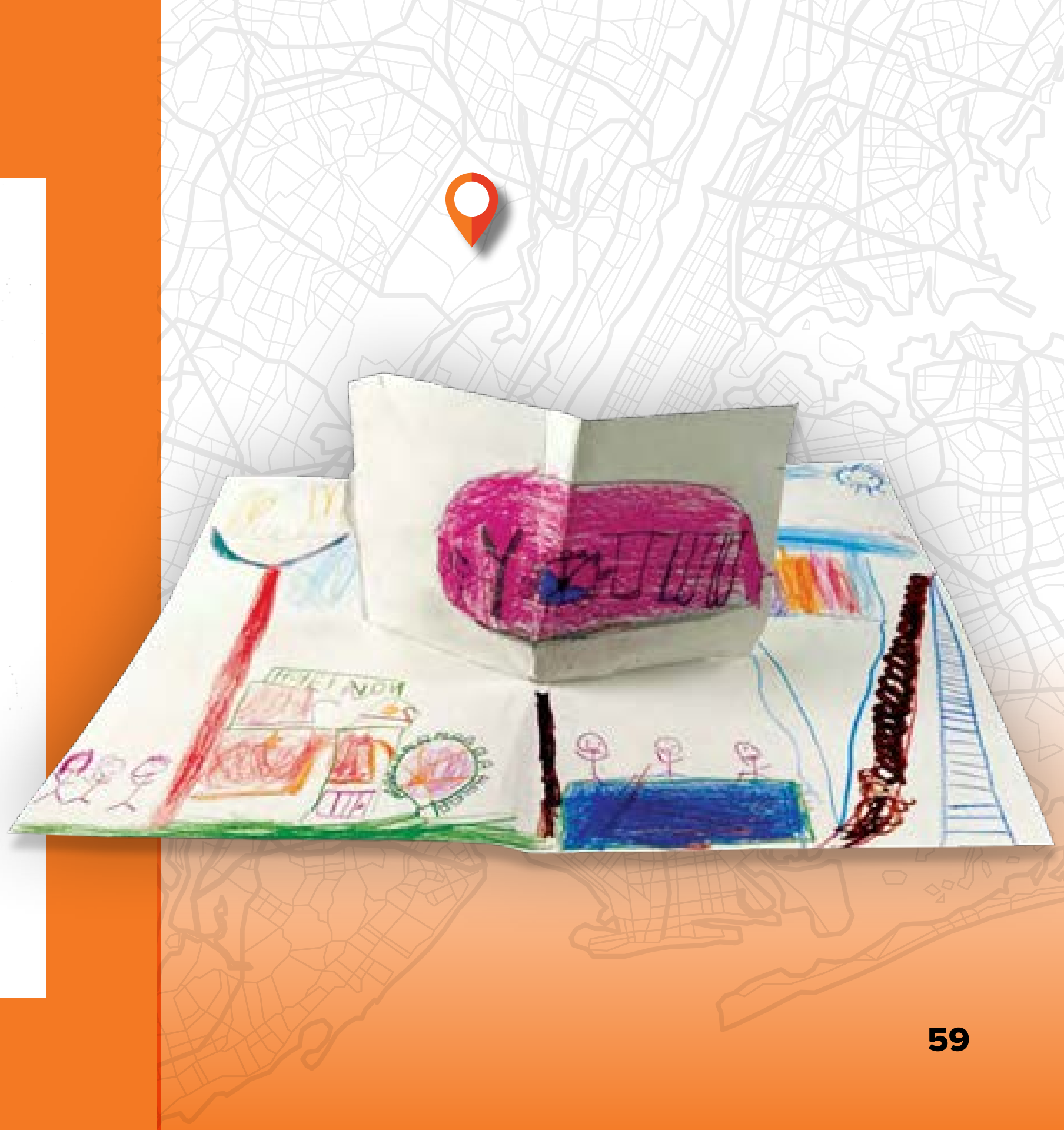
Why I picked this Landmark?
I picked the Statue of Liberty because it is interesting. I also picked it because it is history from the past. I knew a little bit about the statue like it was a gift from France and I to learn more.

Luna

Past
Coney Island was first built in 1895. The Parachute Jump became a landmark in 1989 after the civil war, Coney Island became a resort. Coney Island was once the largest amusement park in the country. It is also the location of the New York Aquarium since June 6th, 1957 the original inhabitants of Coney Island, the Lenape tribe referred it as ^{over time} Narioc, or the place without shade. The theme park burned down three different times. Since the opening of Nathan's Famous hot dog eating contest, over time more attractions were developed like Ames, the sideshow. In 2012, Luna Park was reopened because original Luna Park was closed... in 1946. In 2012, Hurricane Sandy destroyed Coney Island.

Present Day Today, because of COVID Coney Island is closed. Coney Island is a really fun place. Coney Island has many events like the Mermaid Parade and 5K marathon. Why I picked...

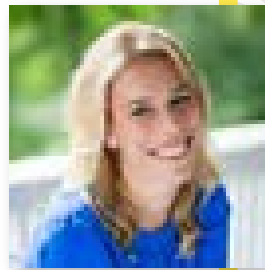
This landmark? I choose Coney Island because I'm named after Luna Park. I like that the park is right by my uncle's house. It is a very fun place with a lot of cool rides and the aquarium has animals.



About the Visiting Author

Allison Pataki grew up in Upstate New York, near the Hudson River. As a kid, she loved to read books, write books, and get lost in the stories in her own imagination. After college, Allison wrote for the news, but she soon decided that she enjoyed writing books more! Allison now writes novels for adults as well as children's books, including the two picture books *Nelly Takes New York* and *Poppy Takes Paris*.

Allison loves to travel and has been as far as Australia, Vietnam, Turkey, South Africa, Greece and elsewhere, but she still lives in Upstate New York, along with her three children, her husband, and her dog, Penny. In addition to writing and reading stories, Allison also teaches yoga and loves to take walks in the woods, cook, and imagine future stories.



About the Student Authors

This book was written by the second graders at P.S. 125, the Ralph Bunche School, during their 2020-2021 blended learning program. We researched and wrote about New York City landmarks while learning all about The Big Apple. Since we love art, **we created pop-ups** of our favorite landmarks! We try our best in reading, math, social studies and science. We love to participate in gym, work choice, and dance. We have persistently worked in both our remote and in-person classrooms, despite many changes and new challenges. We always help each other and work together as we learn! **#EndHateEducate.**

About Behind the Book

Behind the Book brings authors and their books into classrooms to build literacy skills and foster a community of lifelong readers and writers. Working with classes from Pre-K through 12th grade, our series of workshops is designed to bring books to life and inspire students to reach their full potential. Behind the Book is embedded in the class curriculum, nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and self-confidence in New York City public school students. All programs meet the Common Core Learning Standards.



Common Core Learning Standards Addressed

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1

Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7

Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.5

With guidance and support from adults and peers, focus on a topic and strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.7

Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.4

Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences.

Inside back cover.
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