JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT was interested in exploring different modes of human expression and communication. Basquiat often incorporated symbols in his paintings, referencing Henry Dreyfuss's Symbol Sourcebook, which includes universally recognized visual forms used to communicate a message.

ACTIVITY

Explore how Basquiat uses symbols in the painting Untitled (1986), pictured above. Use the symbols from Henry Dreyfuss's Symbol Sourcebook or create your own symbols to make a drawing or painting that communicates a specific message to the viewer. Follow the guidelines below to get started!

WHAT MESSAGE WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR ARTWORK TO COMMUNICATE?

DRAW THE SYMBOLS THAT YOU COULD USE TO COMMUNICATE YOUR MESSAGE (OR CREATE YOUR OWN!):