Many of the powerful deities in the Museum’s collection are hybrid creatures. From Ganesh, a human-elephant hybrid, to Naga, a snake-like creature, hybrid figures are a staple of Buddhist and Hindu art. Create your own hybrid creature with endless combinations and powers. The only limit is your imagination!

1. Multiple sheets of paper (all the same size)
2. Markers, colored pencil, or another material to draw with
3. Stapler (or glue or a needle and thread)
4. Pencil
5. Ruler
6. Scissors

Step 1   Stack your sheets of paper so they all line up. Fold them in half the short way. Crease the fold.
Step 2   Staple three times along the fold: one at the top, one in the middle, and one at the bottom. This is the spine for your book! (If you don’t have a stapler, you can use a needle and thread, or even glue, to keep your book together. Ask an adult to help you.)
Step 3   The outer paper will become the front and back covers. Open the book to the first page. Use a pencil to divide the first page into three equal horizontal sections for the flaps.
Step 4   For a more cohesive hybrid creature, make guidelines for yourself! Turn to the last set of flaps in the book. Use a pencil to mark drawing guidelines that will show the width of the hybrid creature’s neck, where the top flap meets the middle one, and the width of the creature’s hips, where the middle flap meets the bottom one. The drawing guidelines should extend slightly above and below the cuts for the flaps.
Step 5   Turn to the next set of flaps and mark the guidelines in the same position as the ones behind it. Repeat for each set of flaps, until every flap has guidelines.
Step 6   Draw a head and neck on the upper flap. Connect the neck to the guide marks.
Step 7   Draw a body on the middle flap. Connect the body to the guide marks.
Step 8   Draw legs or a tail (or both) on the lower flap. Connect them to the guide marks.
Step 9   Color your hybrid beings.
Step 10  Once the book is filled, flip the flaps to create new hybrid creatures!