

Year of the Salamander Face Painting Activity

Examples of **5 northeastern salamander face painting designs** are included, along with a **fact card** for each that can be given to kids based on the species they choose. Fact cards could be strung on embroidery floss or other inexpensive string to wear around the kids' necks (better chance of being read and shared with people who ask what's on their faces!).

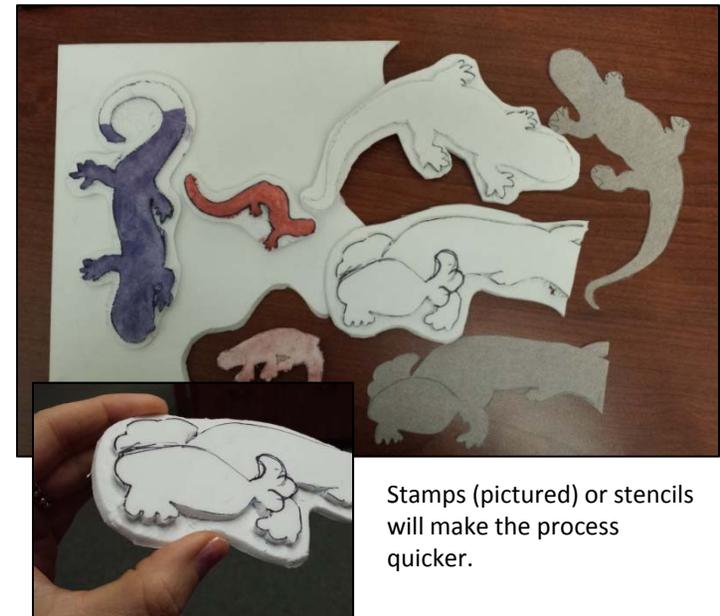
Print the sample faces and tack them to a display board at your event, for your little customers to choose from. Blank girl & boy face templates are included so you can create more choices if you want.

Basic Supplies for Face Painting:

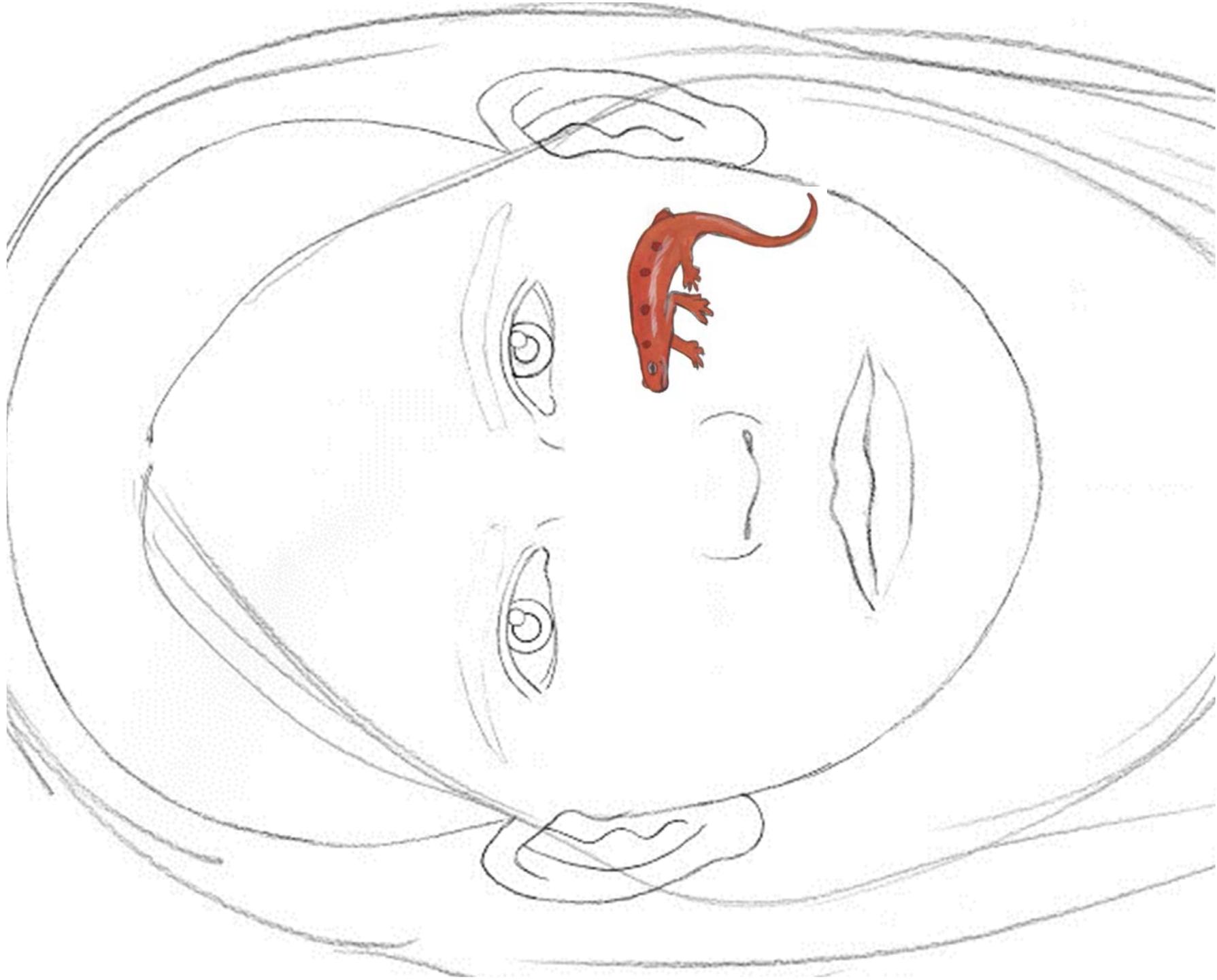
- Face paints (kits like these are good: <http://www.snazaroo.com/store/> - can be found at craft stores like Michael's)
- Fine paintbrushes
- Liner brushes or "script brush" for outlines and finer details – really gives a nice finishing touch
- Foam makeup wedges (sold by the bag) for filling in wider areas – optional
- Palette or plate for mixing paints
- Small cup or dish of water for rinsing paintbrushes, plus extra water for refreshing (depending on where your event is, you may also want to bring a disposal jug for the yucky water)

Other Preparations & Notes:

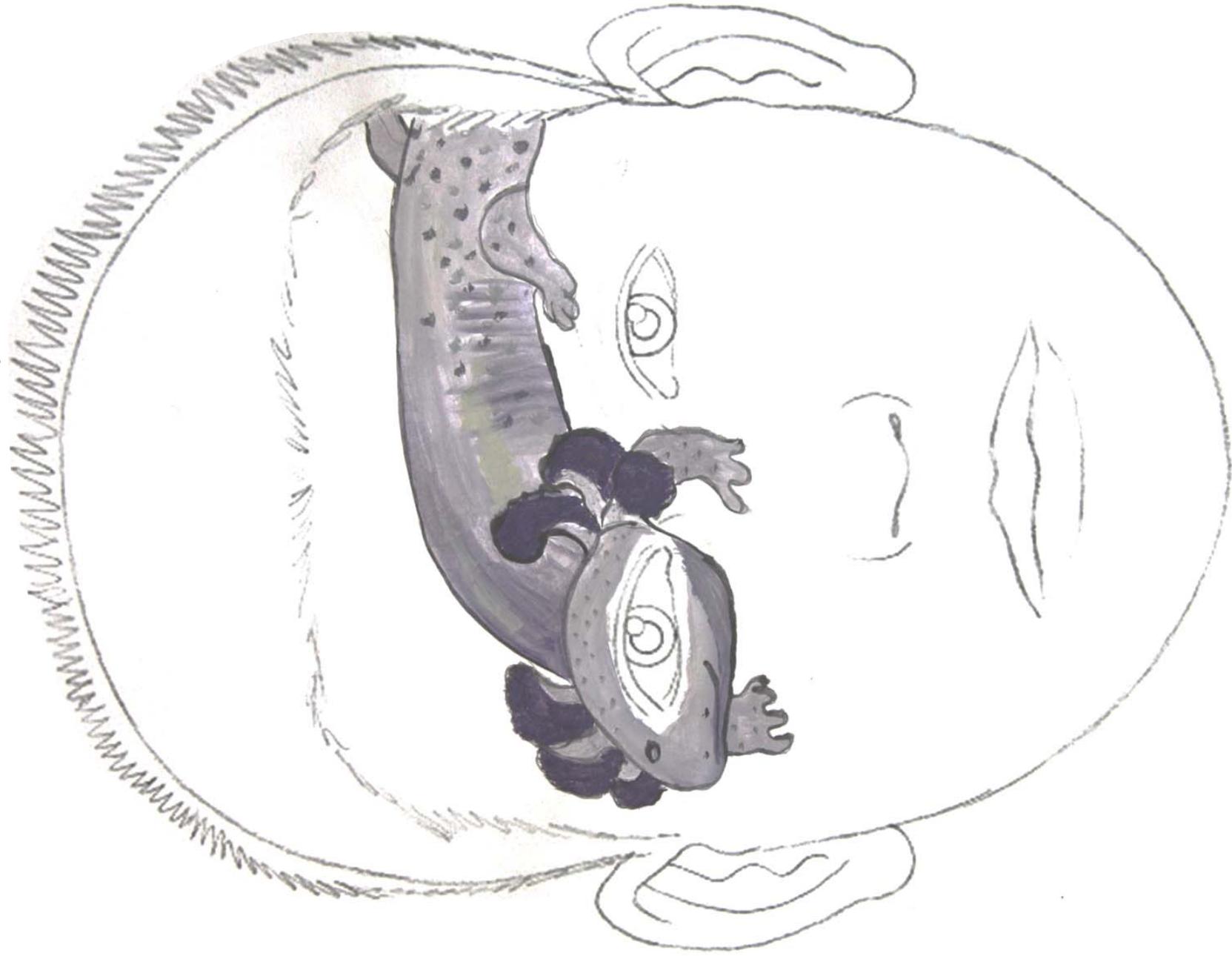
- If you don't trust your speed or artistic skills, make stencils or stamps ahead of time to give you a quick outline of the animals. To make stamps (shown at right), cut out each salamander design, flip them upside-down** and trace their outlines onto quarter-inch foam board (from arts/crafts store). On the foam board, cut about 1/4" wider than the shapes, leaving a border for handling them. Then use a knife or whittling tool to carve around the animals so that their shapes are raised above the border. Apply paint to the stamp and transfer to a child's face, then use paintbrushes to add finer details.
- ** Right-handed painters will find it easier for the design to go on the right side (i.e. kid's left cheek, as shown in the templates) for less nose & mouth interference! So flipping the design upside-down when tracing onto the foam board will produce a stamp for the right side, just like the template.
- Salamander paintings could also be done on the shoulder, arm, or hand.
- PRACTICE ahead of time so you know your supplies work and you can crank these paintings out in just a couple minutes.



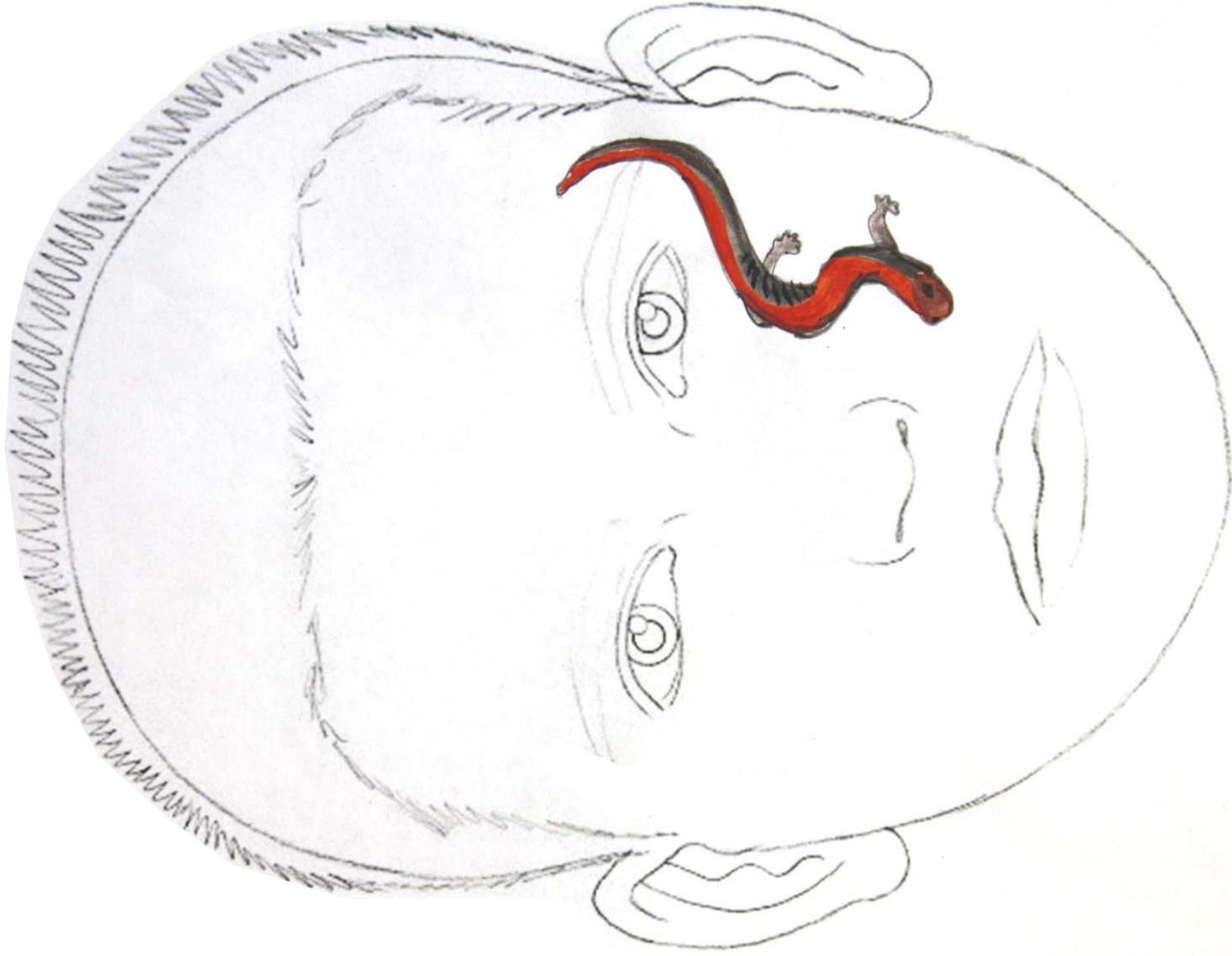
Red-spotted Newt



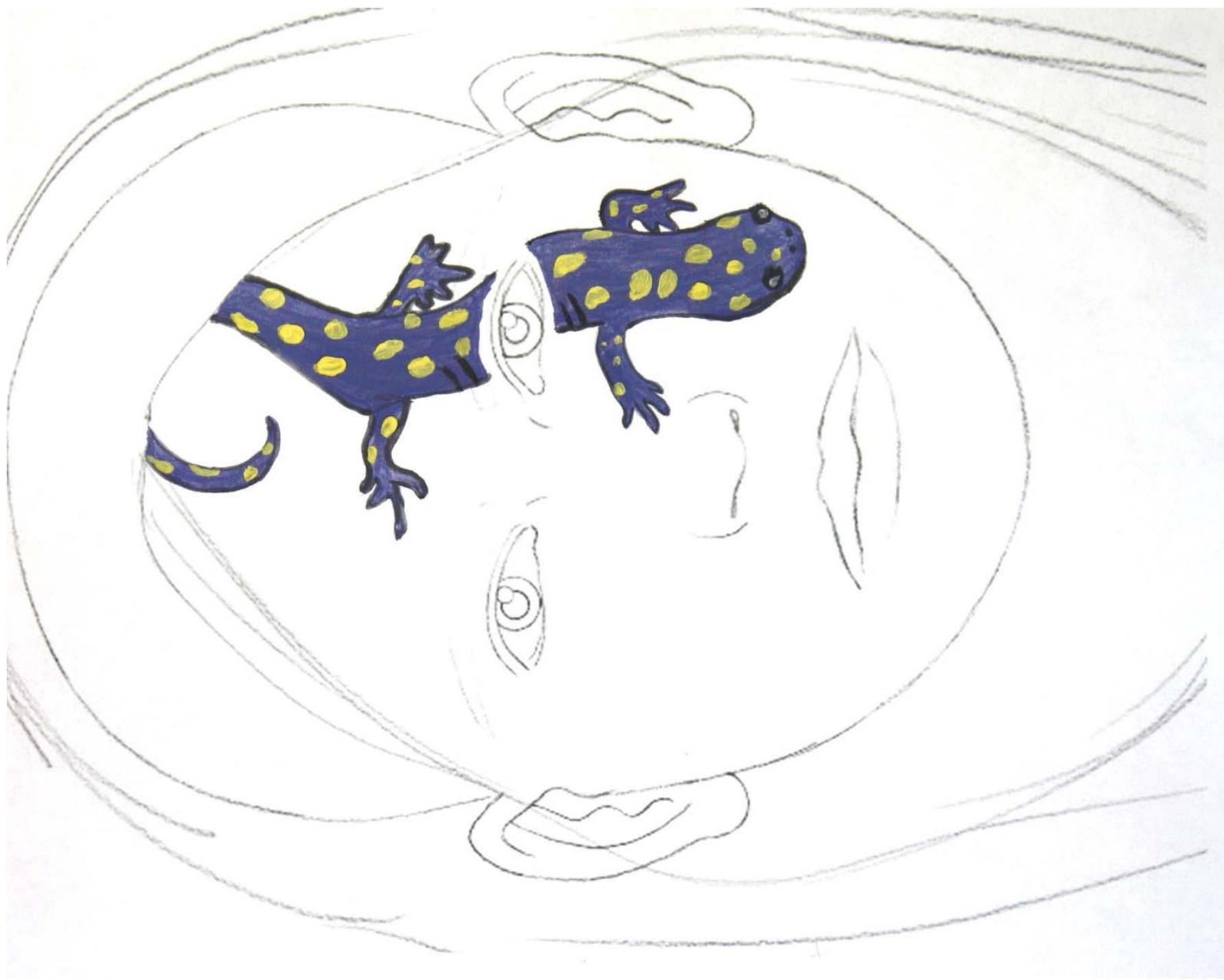
Мудрицы



Red-backed Salamander



Spotted Salamander



Tiger Salamander

