One of the first designs in Southwest pottery was the bird. On this vessel, the bird is symbolized as wings or feathers, which are repeated alongside symbols of stars. The symbols in the design have great significance and meaning to the artist.

1. Draw the outline of your ceramic vessel, or print and use the template provided on the next page.

2. Design a pattern to decorate your vessel with pencil. Experiment with repeating lines and shapes. Create your own symbols for things that are important to you.

3. Fill in your design using colored pencils, crayons, paint – use whatever supplies you have available.

4. Draw over the lines of your design to make them bold. Use a marker with a broad tip.