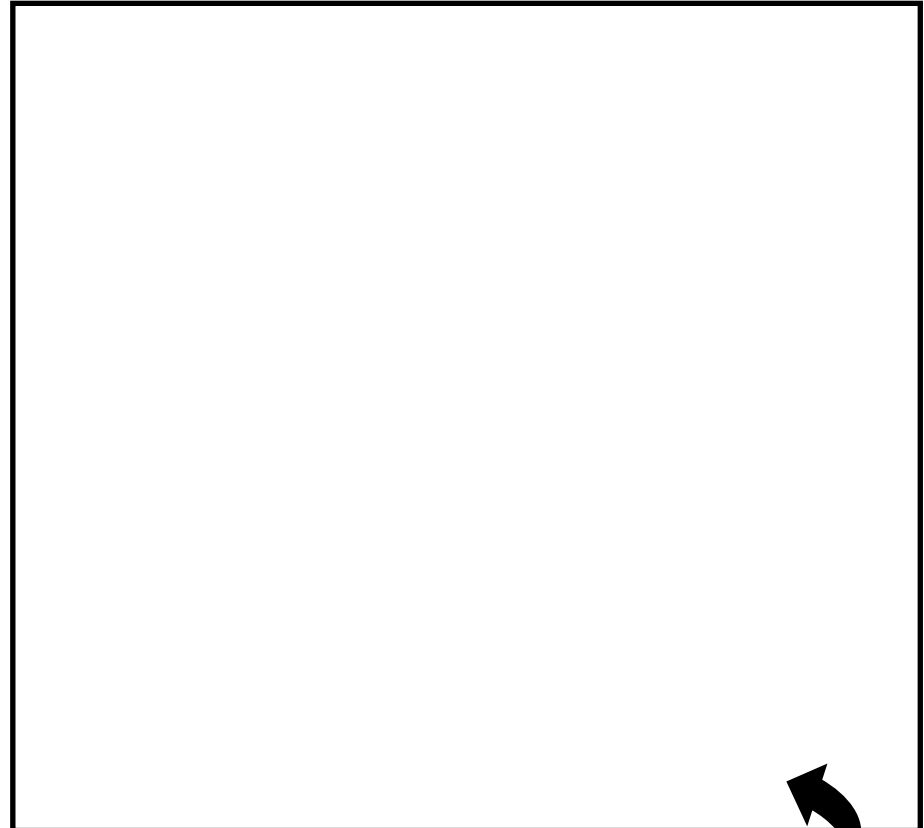


# Imagine That!

Look at the picture of the sealskin *pualit* (mittens) below. Do you notice anything about them that is different from mittens you have seen before? Look closely: each mitten has two thumbs! Why do you think the Inuit seamstress who made these mittens gave each one two thumbs? Here is a hint: these mittens would have been worn by a kayaker. When you think you know the answer, look below to find out if you are right!



Unidentified Inuk Artist, *Sealskin Mittens with Two Thumbs*, Labrador, 20th century. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Sewall.



**Now it's your turn!**



Can you think of a creative way to improve on an item of clothing you wear every day? Use your imagination and draw it in the space above!

ANSWER:

It is very important to have dry, warm hands in the cold Arctic. When the palms of these mittens get wet, the kayaker can simply rotate the mittens around and use the second set of thumbs. Now the wet portions of the mittens are on the back of the kayaker's hands, and the palms are dry again!