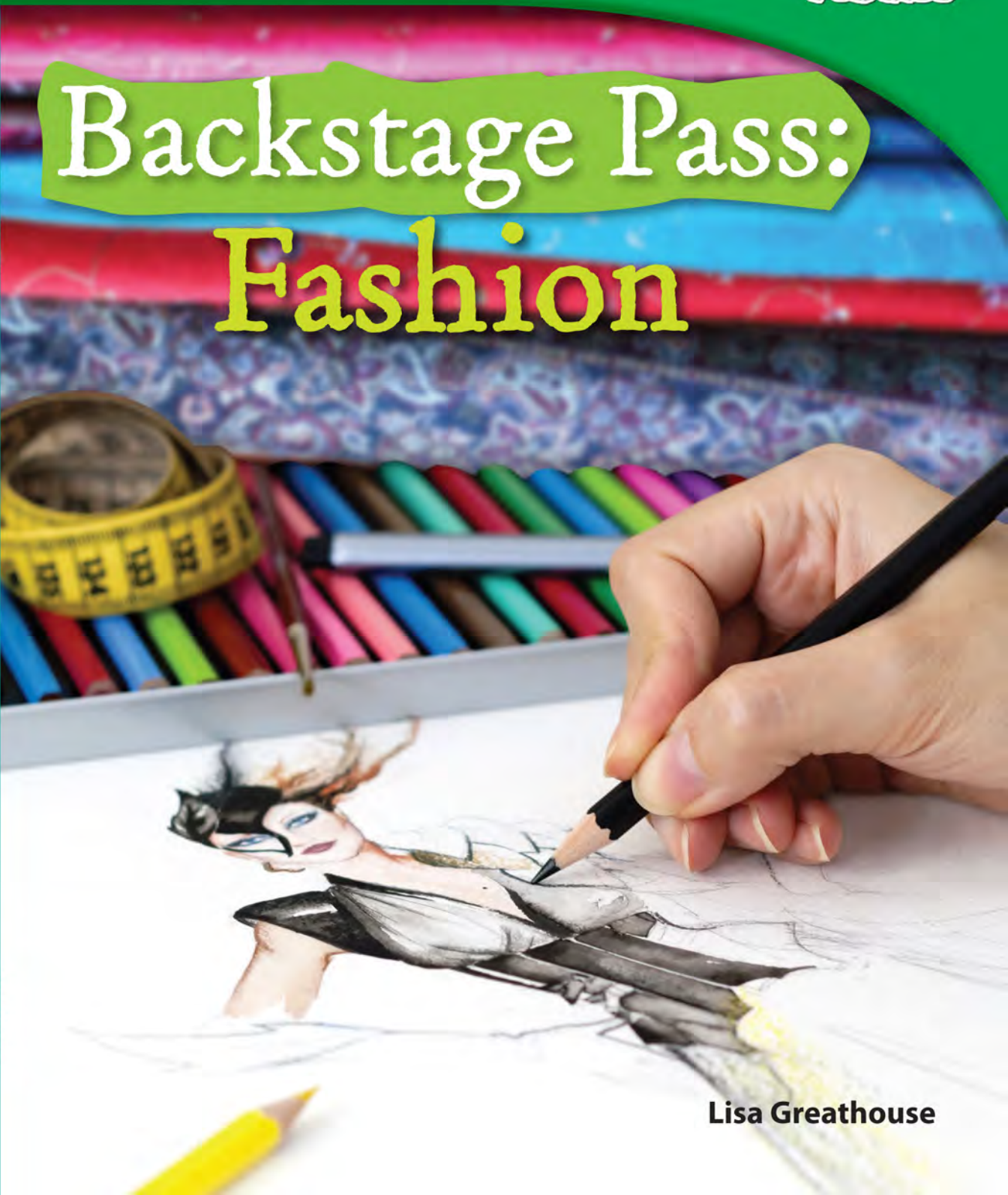
TIME FOR KIDS

Backstage Pass: Fashion



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Get the Look

Clothes show the world who we are. You might not think much about fashion when you get dressed in the morning. But everything you wear started with a fashion designer.

Grab your backstage pass. It's time to hit the **runway**. Let's find out what happens before a new dress lands in the window of your favorite store.





Head to Toe

Some fashion designers create clothes. Some specialize in shoes. Others may create purses or jewelry. Some designers do it all!



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Models show off a designer's new designs.



A Creative Touch

Fashion designers are creative people. They need to have a **keen** eye for what looks good on people. They study fashion **trends**. That helps them figure out what kinds of clothes people will want to buy. They design everything from T-shirts to dresses and jeans to suits.



Designers look for ideas everywhere. They can be inspired by fashion from the past. Some designers are inspired by nature. The possibilities are endless.

The Long and Short of It

Hemlines, or the length of women's dresses and skirts, are just one of the ways in which women's fashion has changed over the years. In the 1970s, all three of these hemlines were popular:

- the daring mini (hemline at the thigh)
- the midi (hemline at the calf)
- the maxi (hemline at the ankle)

Today all three have come back in to style!



Fashion Milestones

Women's fashion has changed dramatically over time. Every decade has had its own look.

Year	Milestone
1800s	Forward thinking women begin to wear pants known as *bloomers*.
1900s	Big hats were decorated with feathers, ribbons, and flowers.
1940s	Women wear full skirts. New fabrics make it easier to wash and wear clothing.
1960s	Hemlines rise. The mini-skirt is popular. Fun new fabric patterns are designed.
1980s	This decade is marked by leg warmers, shoulder pads, and parachute pants.
Today	It seems that anything goes! Everyone brings his or her own personal style to fashion.













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Imagine that a fashion designer has an idea for a dress. The designer thinks the style and colors will be popular next spring. The first step is to make a **sketch** of how the dress should look. The designer draws it on paper or on a computer.

A designer needs to be a skilled artist. But when designers pick up a pencil to sketch, they also need to think about something else—math!





The lines, angles, and curves of this sketch come together to create a unique design. You are wearing math!

The Artist's Eye

Designers think a lot about **proportion**. They use fabric to draw attention to certain areas of the body. They design clothes to create angles that **flatter** the body.

