

THE ELABORATION GAME

Art | Physical Education & Wellness

Possible curricular outcomes, artwork dependent: English Language Arts & Literature, Social Studies

Look closely

Stop and quietly look at this artwork for at least one full minute.

- What do you notice?
- Use your view finder to help focus on any parts that make you curious.
- Take a moment to imagine you are inside the artwork. What can you hear and smell?

Questions

- How would you describe the colours the artist used?
- What shapes do you notice in this artwork?
- What words would you use to describe what you see or feel?

Activity

As a group, observe and describe several different sections of the artwork.

1. One person identifies a specific section of the artwork and describes what they see.
 - a. Another person elaborates on the first person's observations by adding more detail about the section.
 - b. A third person elaborates further by adding yet more detail
 - c. A fourth person adds more detail.
2. After four people have described a section in detail, another person identifies a new section of the artwork, and the process starts over.
3. Observers: Only describe what you see. Hold off giving your ideas about the artwork until the last step of the routine.

Share!

Try it again on a different artwork! Let us know how the game(s) went by emailing us at Glenbow: schoolprograms@glenbow.org.

Additional questions and thought starters

- How did the artist use materials to show value (areas of light and dark)?
- Use your finger to trace lines or shapes in the artwork that catch your eye. How would you describe the movements your finger makes?
- If you were in this scene, what might you think or say?