

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Art | English Language Arts & Literature

Possible curricular outcomes, artwork dependent: Science, 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

- What colours do you see? What do the colours remind you of?
- If you were in this scene, what might you think or say?
- Make a list of the colours you notice, paying attention to the various shades and hues.

Learn more

Finding the story in the artwork or wondering what message the artist was trying to get across has been an age-old tradition for the art viewer. Taking the time to look at different perspectives from the subject matter helps students nurture empathy, practice their observation skills, and promote creativity.

Activity

Materials: paper and pencil

1. As a class, figure out the story behind the artwork.
2. Choose one particular figure/object from the artwork. What other details do you notice about this figure/object?
3. Write a short story from the perspective of that figure/object, keeping the story of the artwork in mind.
4. Share with the class the different perspectives discovered through your writing.

Share!

You can share your short stories with us at Glenbow: schoolprograms@glenbow.org.

Additional questions and thought starters

- What do you notice about the gestures and body language of the figures?
- How do the colours in the artwork make you feel?
- What other details and imagery has the artist chosen to include?
- What are some action words you can use to describe this artwork?