

Thinking About Art!

Here is a fun and easy way to approach looking at the artwork in this exhibition. Use these prompts to find works of art to talk about with your friends or family (or even another visitor in the gallery). There are no “correct” or “wrong” answers. Just have fun exploring and talking about art!

Movement

Find an artwork that reveals a sense of movement. Is it fast? Slow? What emotions are the moving figures showing? Do you think they are following set patterns (like a dance), or are they moving spontaneously (without planning what they will do next)? What elements of the picture (line, color, space, shape, etc.) create the sense of movement that you see?

Confusion

Sometimes we are not sure what to think or feel when looking at a work of art. Is there a work in this gallery that you feel confused about? Look at it a bit longer ... is this feeling uncomfortable or exciting (or both)? What do you see that makes you feel uncertain? Can you describe what you are looking at, or are you struggling to find the words to talk about this work? It is okay if you don't like every work of art you see in a museum, and it is also okay if a work of art makes you feel emotions other than joy, comfort or excitement. In the work you selected, can you pick out a part of it that you are curious about? If so, how do you think you could learn more about it? If you are doing this with another person, do you both find the same works confusing?

Emotions

Each person visiting a museum will have their own, individual experience. There may be shared feelings and ideas about the works in the galleries, but there is nothing wrong if you have different thoughts about the art and your experience. As you go through the space, try to find works that give off (or make you feel) the following emotions. As you talk or think about each emotion and the work you've selected, discuss the things you see that make you feel these emotions (facial expressions, size of the work, colors, shapes, materials, etc.)

- ▶ Joyous or happy
- ▶ Safe
- ▶ Cozy
- ▶ Content
- ▶ Angry
- ▶ Scared
- ▶ Sad or grieving
- ▶ Disgusted
- ▶ Anxious
- ▶ Frustrated
- ▶ Affectionate
- ▶ Nostalgic
- ▶ Lonesome
- ▶ Hopeful
- ▶ Bored
- ▶ Tired or exhausted