

Seeing Stories

Elementary (PreK-5th Grade)

“Seeing Stories” encourages students to find stories in works of art. The gallery portion of the program focuses on three major narrative elements: character, setting, and plot. Students investigate works of art using Artful Thinking Routines and activities from Harvard’s Project Zero, guided by a gallery educator. Activities include using sensory details to describe the setting of a work of art, kinetic exercises exploring a character’s emotions, telling stories inspired by artworks, and more! In the art studio, students choose from a variety of art materials to create their own work of art that tells a story.

Essential Question:

What stories do artists tell in their works of art?

Learning Targets:

1. Students identify narrative elements, such as character, setting, and plot, in works of art.
2. Students compare narrative elements in visual art to elements of literature.
3. Students use narrative elements to create a work of art that tells a story.

Success Criteria:

- Students can identify two characters portrayed in a work of art.
 - Students can describe the setting of a work of art.
 - Students include at least two of three narrative elements (character, setting, and plot) in a self-created work of art.
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Standards Alignment

Common Core State Standards: English Language Arts

Kindergarten

- RL.3 With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story
- SL.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- SL.2 Confirm understanding of . . . information presented through other media by asking and answering questions about key details

1st Grade

- RL.3 Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
- SL.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- SL.2 Ask and answer questions about key details in . . . information presented through other media

2nd Grade

- RL.1 Ask and answer questions such as *who, what, where, when, why,* and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text
- RL.3 Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges
- SL.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- SL.2 Recount or describe key ideas or details from . . . information presented through other media

3rd Grade

- RL.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers
- RL.3 Describe characters in a story (e.g. their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- SL.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- SL.2 Determine the main ideas and supporting details of . . . information presented in diverse media and formats

4th Grade

- RL.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text
- RL.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text
- SL.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- SL.2 Paraphrase portions of . . . information presented in diverse media and formats

5th Grade

- RL.3 Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text
- SL.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- SL.2 Summarize . . . information presented in diverse media and formats

Washington State Visual Arts

Kindergarten

- Cr1.1.K(a) Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials
- Cr2.1.K(a) Through experimentation, build skills in various media and approaches to art-making
- Cn10.1.K(a) Create art that tells a story about a life experience

1st Grade

- Cr1.2.1(a) Use observation and investigation in preparation for making a work of art
- Cr2.1.1(a) Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art or design

2nd Grade

- Cr1.2.2(a) Make art or design with various materials and tools to explore personal interests, questions, and curiosity
- Cr2.1.2(a) Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design

3rd Grade

- Cr1.1.3(a) Elaborate on an imaginative idea
- Cr1.2.3(a) Apply knowledge of available resources, tools, and technologies to investigate personal ideas through the art-making process
- Cr2.1.3(a) Create personally satisfying artwork, using a variety of artistic processes and materials

4th Grade

- Cr2.1.4(a) Explore and invent art-making techniques and approaches

5th Grade

- Cr2.1.5(a) Experiment and develop skills in multiple art-making techniques and approaches through practice
- Re7.1.5(a) Compare one's own interpretation of a work of art with the interpretation of others