

PRE- AND POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Make the most of your visit to the Weatherspoon Art Museum with these pre-and post-visit activities.

Visual Literacy is about recognizing, understanding and analyzing ideas and information through images--rather than text--and it is at the heart of WAM's educational philosophy. When you come to the museum with your class or group, be prepared to: observe, ask questions, and share your thoughts and opinions.

PRE-VISIT: Learning to Look

Practicing observation and discussion skills.

- Select 3-4 of the following artworks in WAM's collection or select your own by viewing the museum's online collection database: <http://weatherspoon.uncg.edu/collections/>

Keep in mind not all works may be on view when you visit.

Elizabeth Catlett: [Sharecropper](#), 1952

Howard Cook: [Maria Flores](#), 1932

Timothy Cummings: [Map Faced Man](#), 1996

Maude Gatewood: [Mississippi Café](#), 1960

Robert Gwathmey: [Singing and Mending](#), 1946

Henri Matisse: [Little Reader](#), 1923

Cindy Sherman: [Untitled #85](#), 1981

David Spear: [Juana Paloma](#), 1998

Fred Tomaselli: [June 25, 2009](#), 2010

- Ask students these questions as you look closely at each artwork. Remember that all responses are valid and that students will likely see and interpret a single work quite differently:
 - What is going on in this work of art?
 - What do you see that makes you say that?
 - What more can you find?

PRE-VISIT: Think, Pair, Share

- Ask students to select their favorite artwork from the images suggested and write or choose 5-10 adjectives that describe it. (See Artworks Adjective List below.) Just for fun, you may want to try doing this activity from memory.
- Instruct students to exchange word lists with a partner. Can the partner identify the artwork described?
- Look at the artworks again, and invite students to share, and add to, their descriptive word lists as a group.

PRE-VISIT: What Do You Expect?

- Ask students what they expect to see and do when they visit the museum.
- As a group, construct a list of questions you would like to investigate during your visit to the museum.

POST-VISIT: What Will You Remember?

- Invite students to reflect on and write about a memorable aspect of their visit. For some it may be a specific artwork. For others it may be visiting a university campus; the way an art exhibition is installed; an architectural feature of the museum; taking a "selfie" with their favorite artwork; or an activity they experienced with a museum docent.
- In teams ask students to interview each other about their most memorable experience, gathering details for a short news story to be shared with the class.

WEATHERSPOON ART MUSEUM

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Spring Garden & Tate Streets
Greensboro, NC 27403
336-334-5770
<http://weatherspoon.uncg.edu>
weatherspoon@uncg.edu

Free Admission. Free Parking. Free Thinking.

2015-16

WEATHERSPOON ART MUSEUM • ARTWORK ADJECTIVES

joyful	entertaining	energetic	mechanical
funny	strange	quiet	sad
shocking	powerful	optimistic	familiar
strong	painful	complicated	loud
heavy	confusing	ordinary	random
happy	simple	uncontrolled	detailed
ridiculous	soft	disturbing	noisy
busy	otherworldly	cold	surprising
light	hand-made	historical	cozy
lonely	old	romantic	plain
vibrant	disorganized	robust	silly
domestic	linear	geometric	wild
symmetrical	ordered	thoughtful	energetic
dreamy	focused	ancient	poetic
mysterious	playful	technical	serious
bold	open	dark	exaggerated
crowded	sharp	rusty	fragrant
delicate	ghostly	gentle	colorful