

Gallery Project

Learning how to *really* see
the world around you...

What is the "Gallery Project"?

“ It's a 2 part project that you do at home online or by visiting a local art gallery...

“ Part 1: Answer questions on a worksheet which are designed to help guide and organize how you read a piece of artwork. Find a work of art in a local or an *approved* on-line art gallery.

“ Part 2: turn your answers into a creative short story (your English teachers will usually give you extra credit for this as well).

A Critique

“ This project is very similar to the Critiques we do in class only this one is more in-depth and challenges you to look at work from the professional art world.

“ There are 4 big topic you will focus on:

1. Basic information
 - The who, where, and when
2. Analyze the Artwork
 - The What: Investigate for clues/evidence for what the artist was intending to communicate.
3. Interpret the Artwork
 - The Why: Take all of the clues and put everything together to figure out what the artist's overall message(s) they were trying to communicate to their audience (you).
4. Evaluation
 - Now that you've really looked over this work of art and have had a chance to think more about it... do you like this artwork?

How does this help me?

1. This build your skill of giving just basic feedback that will help you not just in class but in any situation where you are working in a group situation.
2. This will help you give more meaningful critiques in class to help your classmates improve the quality of their work.
3. So when you're in a gallery on your own you can answer the question "why is that art?"
4. So you can intelligently explain why you do or don't like it.

Now for Some
Practice

Find a Work of Art

There are 2 Options:

- Go to a Local Gallery
- Go online:

- YOU CAN ONLY USE 1 OF 3 WEBSITES !!!!!!!!!!!

- You can find them on your disclosure document or on Ms. Schmit's BLOG:

- <http://blog.wsd.net/beschmit/>

*Answer the
Questions on the
Worksheet*

Turn your answers
into a Short Story...

“ It can be what ever you
want- It just has to have
the information from the
worksheet in it and stay
school appropriate.

A Student Example

Gather round the fire young friends for tonight you shall hear the story of how I received the great Duho (Hawk). Ra himself carved the piece from the wood of his riverboat, as a gift for me, Flying Eagle, so our people and me could worship and honor the great spirits and great chiefs of the past. "Wow" the children cooed. "It must be important if Ra himself made it," the chiefs' son Soaring Hawk said. "Yes, it is very important, now be quiet and please don't interrupt."

When I saw the Duho (Hawk) the first thing I noticed was that it had a face and that it was a hawk. I noticed this because of all the bright colors being around the face or the middle of the piece. In addition, I noticed that it rather looked like a butterfly with a face on its wings.

"Now young friends the rest of which I tell you is my opinion so if you want to know the truth you have to consult the great and powerful Ra." It relates to the elements of art because it has great balance. If you were to cut it right down the middle each side would be the same. This piece of work also relates to color really well. When Ra was making it he sure knew how to lead your eyes to the focal point.

Some symbols I noticed on the Duho (Hawk) are the face on the wings which could represent a butterfly and how it uses bright colors on its wings to scare away predators. The wings and bird head could represent a hawk and that it uses small little skills to become a great beast. In addition, the whole thing could represent a great spirit such as Ra.

“When I look at the artwork it makes me think about our Indian tribe and when we gather together to celebrate and honor the spirits and Ra. I think of this because if the cool colors and the mysterious shape. It also makes me think about our Indian legends and stories.

"Chief Flying Eagle, that's cool and all, but what do you think Ra was trying to communicate to us and why do you think he created it." A loud spoken boy in the front row said. "Cunning Fox, I told you not to interrupt! Hold your beaver pelts; I'm getting to that part." Chief Flying Eagle said as he angrily continued his story. I think that Ra was trying to communicate that no matter how small or how timid we are, we all have great potential to succeed and soar. I think that Ra created this artwork to help us and the rest of the Bwa people honor Him and the great chief spirits of the past. I think this because of the design and the words Ra told me as he gave me the piece.

"Chief Flying Eagle, that's so cool, but I want to know your opinion of the piece. Can you please tell me?" Jumping deer asked timidly. "Oh of course I will." The Chief answered. I think this artwork is very cool and mysterious. I think this because the piece of art has Indian like symbols on it and it does not really tell you that much about it. I think that the artwork itself is very well made and decorated. The artist put a lot of time into it and made sure it was perfect.

"Well children, what did you think of the story?" the chief inquired. "It was great," They all agreed except Cunning Fox who said, "it was so cool, but when do we get to see the piece?" "You don't, I lost the piece and I hear it is in a museum somewhere." "Oh, that's lame!" exclaimed Cunning Fox as he jumped up and ran away.