

Academic Content Standards

All grades: Visual Arts: Analyzing and Responding

Revised Standards

All grades: Visual Arts: Perceiving/Knowing
All grades: Visual Arts: Responding/Reflecting



COVER: *The Rhinoceros*, 1513. Albrecht Dürer, 1993:9



DISCUSS ART TAKE A CLOSER LOOK



Mahadeva, mid-1900s. India, Bihar, Madhubani (or Mithila). Ink and color on paper. Gift of William E. Ward in memory of his wife, Evelyn Svec Ward 2001.159

What is the difference between looking quickly and looking carefully? Have students write or say 5 words that describe what they see in this painting. Have them take a longer look and add 5 more words. Repeat and have students reflect. What kinds of things did they notice later that they didn't initially see?



Portrait of a Family Playing Music, 1663. Pieter de Hooch (Dutch, 1629–1684). Gift of the Hanna Fund 1951.355

Works of art can be used to explore point of view. Ask students to step into the role of someone in this painting. What would it be like to be in this person's shoes? What would this person see, think, and feel?



Indian Combat, 1868. Edmonia Lewis (American, 1844–1907). American Painting and Sculpture Sundry Purchase Fund and Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund 2011.110

Use an artwork to explore the sequence of events. What is happening here? What do you think happened right before this scene? What will happen after?



Winged Ibex Horse Bit, 800–600 bc. Iran, Luristan. Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund 1980.102

Works of art were sometimes used, not just displayed. Ask students to hypothesize what this object was meant to do. How many pieces do you see? How much does it weigh? How old is it? Are there any signs of use? What evidence supports their ideas?



Yosemite Valley from Mariposa Trail, c. 1865. Charles Leander Weed (American, 1824–1903). John L. Severance Fund 2002.43

Add another layer to allow students to imagine themselves in a work of art. If you were the man standing next to the tree, what would you see? What would you hear? What would you smell, taste, and feel?



The Rhinoceros, 1513. Albrecht Dürer (German, 1471–1528). John L. Severance Fund 1993.9

Students can identify and describe colors, lines, shapes, and texture as they examine artworks. What types of shapes and lines are on this rhinoceros? How would these shapes or lines feel? How are the lines and shapes on the animal different than the lines and shapes on the ground?