

SEE, THINK, WONDER – Prompts and questions to get your child thinking about art

1. Speckled Houses.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- What things are in the painting?
- Can you spot any shapes?
- Can you see any patterns?
- Can you see any people?

What do you THINK:

- Do you think it would be warm inside this picture, why?
- Would you like to live in a house like these?
- What time of day is it in the picture?
- What is on the roof of the house on the right?
- Do you like the painting?
- Where would be a good place to hang this painting up?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- How does it make you feel?
- Do you think you could paint like this with your fingers?

What do you WONDER:

- If you were to step into the painting what might it feel like?
- What noises would you be able to hear?
- What smells would you be able to smell?
- What would the grass feel like on your bare feet?
- How would it feel to delicately touch the flowers?
- Where might all the people be?
- Are there any houses that look like this in real life?
- What might it be like to live in one of these houses?
- Do the people in the house at the front get along with their neighbours?

Possible Activities:

- With an adult's help, do some finger painting to make a picture using triangle and circle shapes and dotted patterns.
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by the art you have looked at together. This could be a drawing, painting, or a sculpture with clay or Play-Doh.



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2. The Trumpeter of Progress.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- Are there any people or animals in the picture?
- What is in the sky?
- Can you see any patterns?
- What expression is the person making?
- What is the person holding?

What do you THINK:

- What do you think is going on in the picture?
- What do you think of their clothes?
- Do you like the picture?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- Is there anything you would add or take away from the picture?
- How does it make you feel?
- What would you call this picture if you had made it?



What do you WONDER:

- If you were to step into the painting what might it feel like?
- What noises would you be able to hear?
- What smells would you be able to smell?
- What would it feel like to stroke the dodo's feathers?
- Would it feel the same to stroke the crocodile's hard scaly back?
- Why are all these animals gathered together in this picture?

Possible Activities:

- Find something in your house that you think would feel like the hard scales of the crocodile, and/or the smooth soft feathers of the dodo.
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
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3. Sunfayre.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- What is happening in this picture?
- Are there any people or animals in the picture?
- What is in the sky?
- Can you see any patterns?
- What are the people doing?



What do you THINK:

- What might the big building be?
- Do you think it is safe to stand on the roof?
- What food is on the table?
- What would you call this painting if you had made it?
- Would this picture make a good film?
- Is there anything you would add or take away from the painting?
- Where would be a good place to hang this painting up?
- What time of day is it in the picture?
- Do you like the painting?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- How does it make you feel?

What do you WONDER:

- If you were to step into the painting what might it feel like?
- What noises would you be able to hear?
- What smells would you be able to smell?
- What would the food taste like?
- Would it feel different to walk on the paths and the grass?
- Why are there so many people in one place?
- Where is this picture of?

Possible Activities:

- There are many musical instruments in this painting, find something in your house to make music with.
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
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4. Yachting Scene.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- What things are in the painting?
- What is in the distance?
- What is in the foreground?
- Can you see any people?

What do you THINK:

- Do you think it would be warm inside this picture, why?
- Would you like to live in a house by this lake?
- What time of day is it in the picture?
- Would this picture make a good film?
- Would you like to go fishing?
- Do you like the painting?
- Where would be a good place to hang this painting up?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- How does it make you feel?



What do you WONDER:

- If you were to step into the painting what might it feel like?
- What noises would you be able to hear?
- What smells would you be able to smell?
- If you dipped your toes in the water would it feel warm or cold?
- Would you get into the boat at the front?
- Would you run along the wooden jetty and jump into the water?
- Would it be relaxing or boring on the boat?
- Do the people in the house at the front get along with their neighbours?

Possible Activities:

- With an adult's help and permission, have a go at testing what sorts of things float in a bucket of water (like the wooden boat) compared to the sorts of things which sink (metal spoon etc).
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by the art you have looked at together. This could be a drawing, painting, or a sculpture with clay or Play-Doh.

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5. Woman with Dog.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- Are there any people or animals in the picture?
- What is in the sky?
- Can you see any patterns?
- What expression is the person making?

What do you THINK:

- What do you think is going on in the picture?
- What is the person holding?
- What do you think of their clothes?
- What time of day is it in the picture?
- What would you call this painting if you had made it?
- Do you like the painting?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- How does it make you feel?
- Where would be a good place to hang this painting up?



What do you WONDER:

- If you were to step into the painting what might it feel like?
- What noises would you be able to hear?
- What smells would you be able to smell?
- What would the grass feel like on your bare feet?
- Why does the person have blue hair?
- Why do you think the person has sat down on this hill?

Possible Activities:

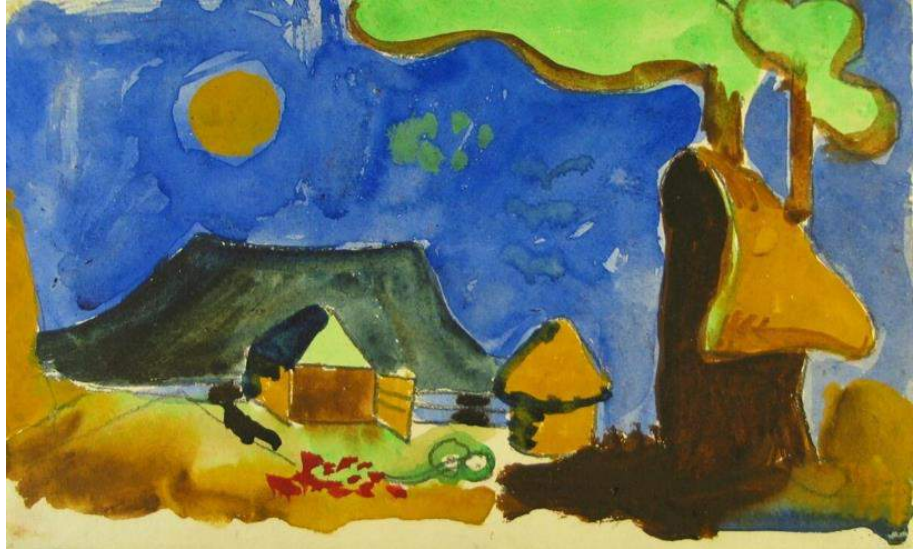
- Look out of a window or sit down outside on the grass with an adult. Sit quietly, listen carefully, and look around, can you hear or see any birds in the sky? Can you feel a breeze?
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by the art you have looked at together. This could be a drawing, painting, or a sculpture with clay or Play-Doh.

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6. Moonlight Landscape.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- What things are in the painting?
- Can you see any shapes?
- Can you see any people?



What do you THINK:

- Do you think it would be warm inside this picture, why?
- What time of day is it in the picture?
- What is the brown thing at the front on the right?
- What are the red and green things on the floor in front of the tent?
- Do you like the painting?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- What would you call this painting if you had made it?
- How does it make you feel?
- Do you think you could paint like this?

What do you WONDER:

- If you were to step into the painting what might it feel like?
- What noises would you be able to hear?
- What smells would you be able to smell?
- What might it be like to stay in a tent all night?
- Where might this tent have been put up?
- Would you prefer to live in a tent or a house?
- How far away do you think the nearest house is?

Possible Activities:

- With an adult's help and permission, make a pillow fort with a bedsheet and some furniture to pretend that you are in the tent.
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by the art you have looked at together. This could be a drawing, painting, or a sculpture with clay or Play-Doh.

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7. Seated Figure.

What can you SEE:

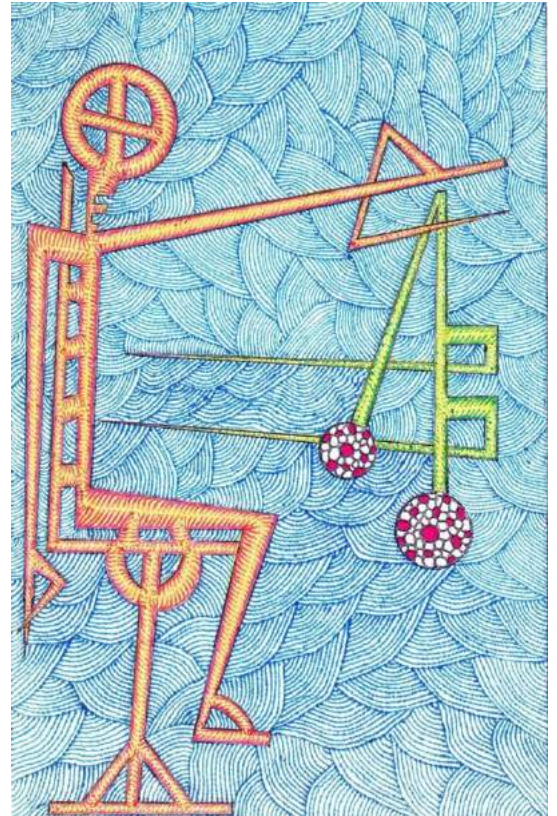
- What colours are there?
- What is happening in this picture?
- What is the picture made of?
- Can you see any patterns?
- Can you see any shapes?
- Is there a person in this picture?

What do you THINK:

- What do you think of all the straight lines?
- Do you like the picture?
- What would you call this picture if you had made it?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- Where would be a good place to hang this picture up?
- How does it make you feel?

What do you WONDER:

- How would it feel to touch all the lines?



Possible Activities:

- With an adult's help, practice making straight and curvy lines with different art materials.
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by the art you have looked at together. This could be a drawing, painting, sewing, or a sculpture with clay or Play-Doh.

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8. Abstract I.

What can you SEE:

- What colours are there?
- Are there any people or animals in the picture?
- Can you see any shapes?
- Can you see any patterns?
- What is going on in the picture?

What do you THINK:

- Do you like the picture?
- What would you call this picture if you had made it?
- Where would be a good place to hang this picture up?
- Does it remind you of anything?
- How does it make you feel?

What do you WONDER:

- What would it feel like to touch all of the lines in this picture?
- What would you like to know about the picture?

Possible Activities:

- With an adult's help, use different coloured chalk to draw patterns like the ones in the picture.
- Pretend you are in the picture; how would you pose or move around?
- Can you think of a story made up of the things in the picture?
- Find something in your house that relates to the picture, a prop to act out the story.
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by the art you have looked at together. This could be a drawing, painting, or a sculpture with clay or Play-Doh.

