



# CONNECTIONS

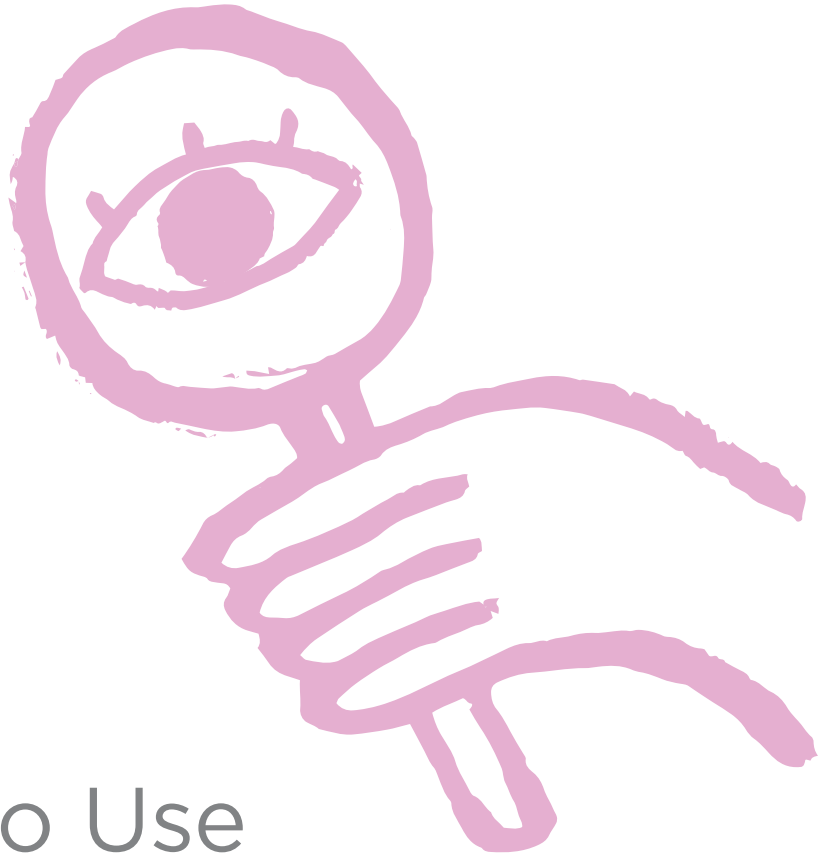
Exploring with Kids

Museum Info + Activities



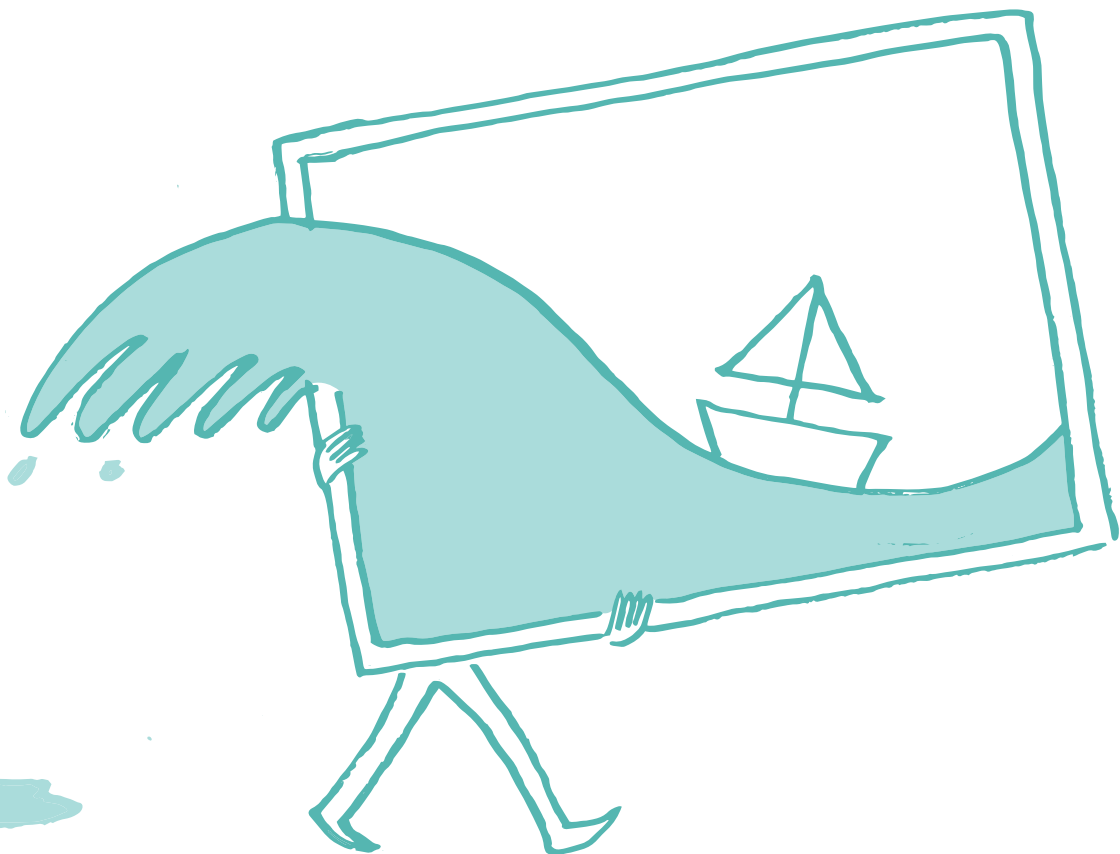
This Book  
Belongs to:

---



# How to Use This Guide

Welcome! We're so glad you're taking a moment to explore the Cummer Museum. This guide is designed to help children and families slow down, enjoy and interact with art in meaningful ways. Have fun as you use the guide to explore the art and gardens throughout the Museum!



# Tips for Visiting the Museum

1

Explore a few galleries at a time, and then visit often to experience them all.

2

Play “I spy” and encourage your child to spot fun things in the artwork.

3

Follow your child’s lead, and let them set the pace. If something catches their eye, they will be more engaged.

4

Go on an adventure outside and discover the historic gardens!

# The Elements of Art

Artists use the seven Elements of Art—line, shape, form, color, value, texture and space—to create interesting and beautiful works of art.

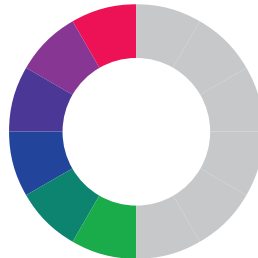
Connected lines create two-dimensional shapes. Shapes in three-dimensions are forms. You could add colors, and colors have a range of values.

These elements can have or create textures. Arrange everything within a space, and you have a composition.

Artwork can express many feelings and can mean different things to different people. Explore the galleries and gardens and find what colors, shapes, forms and feelings you notice.



**Warm Colors**



**Cool Colors**

Warm colors, like red, yellow and orange can feel alive, intense or passionate. Cool colors, like blue, green and purple can feel calm, refreshing and balanced.



**Line**



**Shape**



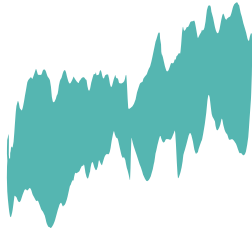
**Form**



**Color**



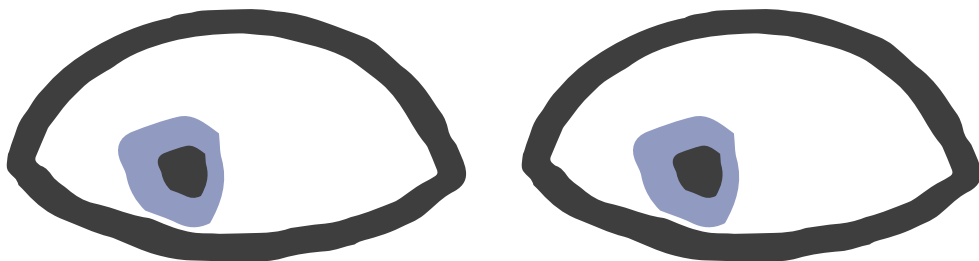
**Value**



**Texture**



**Space**



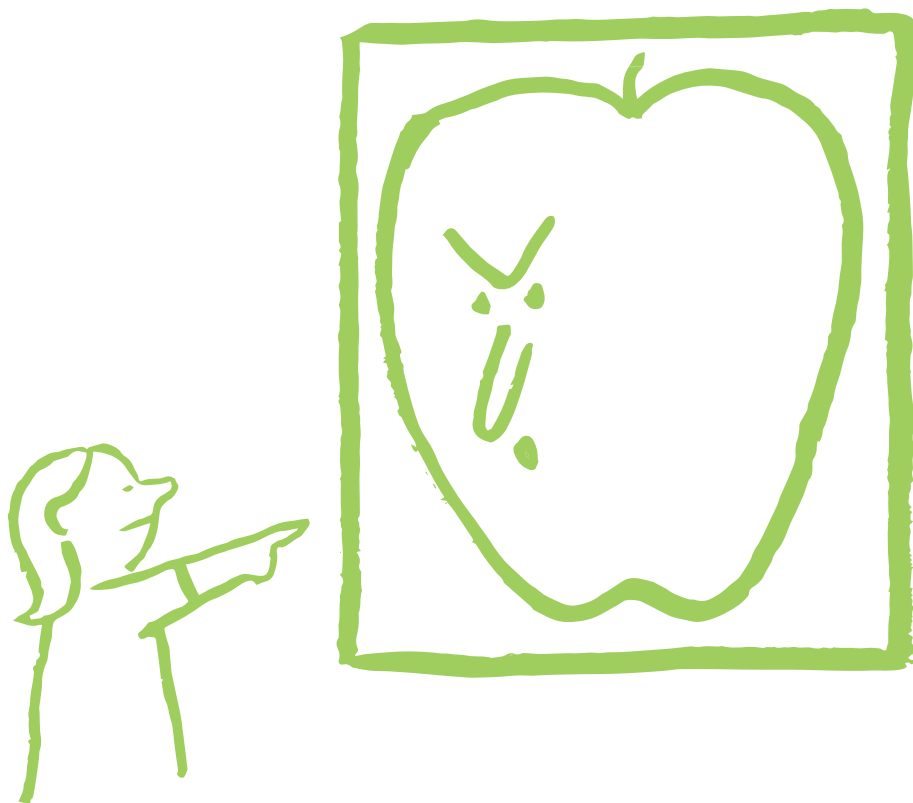
# Look and See

When you slow down to experience art and use your imagination, you can make meaningful connections.

Place yourself in front of the artwork, look closely and take MORE Time.

**M**inute, look for one.  
**O**bserve all the details.  
**R**eflect on your thoughts.  
**E**ngage your senses.





# Why Can't I Touch The Artwork?

When we touch artwork, we leave behind natural oils from our fingers. These oils can build up and eventually damage the artwork over time.

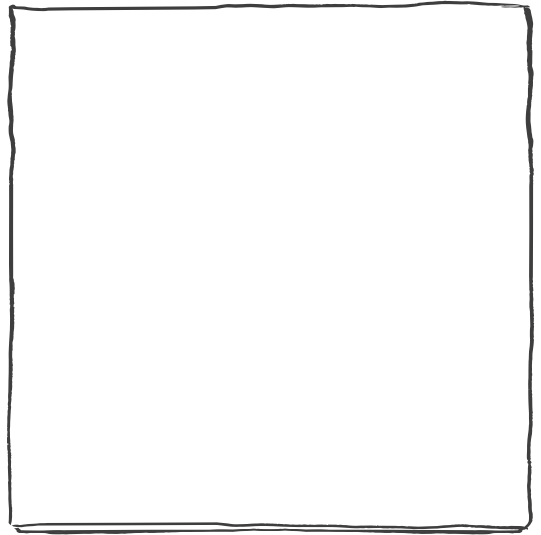
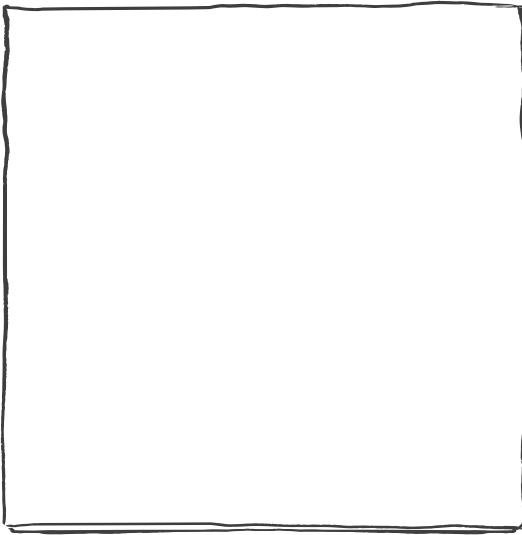
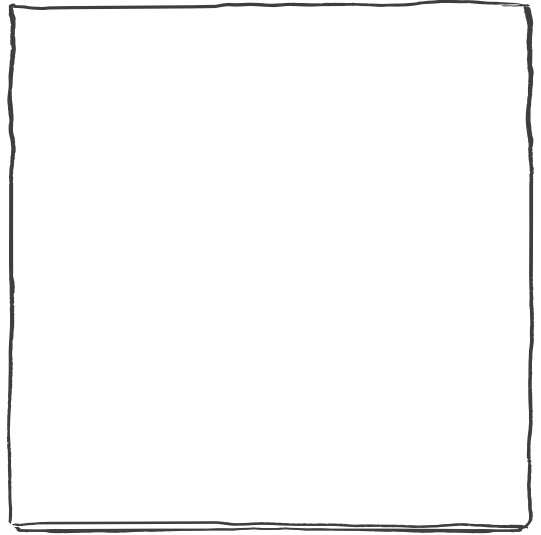
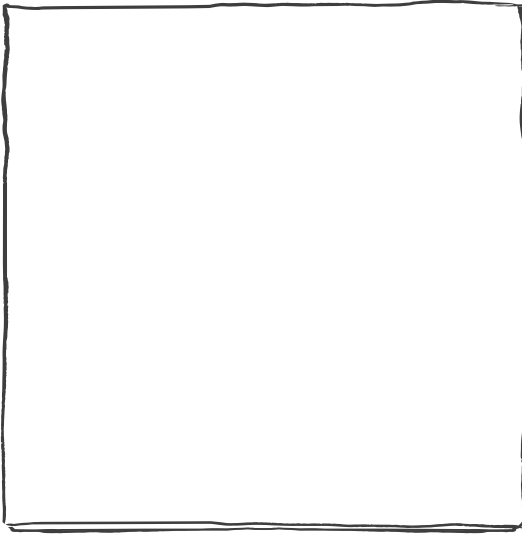
Humidity, temperature and light levels can also damage artworks. This is why the Museum controls the climate in the galleries—to protect the art.

# Artists’ Tools

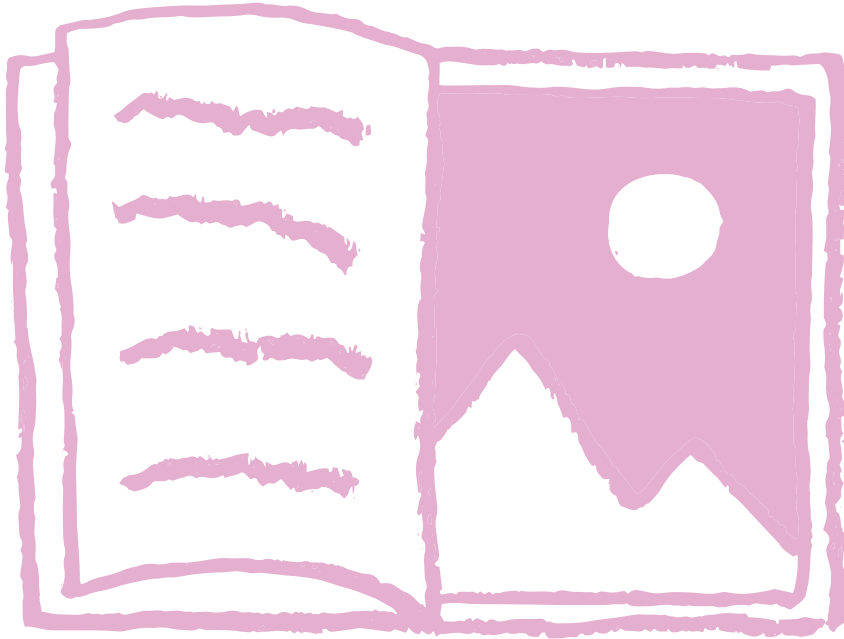
Did you know that artists use different types of tools and materials to create art? Throughout the Museum, you’ll see artworks that are made of a variety of materials (not just the traditional oil paint on canvas). Some of them might surprise you!

As you explore the Museum, when you find an artwork that sparks your curiosity, try to guess what tools and materials the artist used! Then check out the “How to Read a Label” section on the next page to learn where to find the answer.





Use four different tools to paint or draw inside each frame. Be creative and try tools such as brushes, pencils, crayons or even your fingers!



# How to Read a Label

## **Step 1. Ignore the label.**

We know, this seems counterintuitive, doesn't it?

## **Step 2. Get to know the artwork.**

It can be fun to look closely at the artwork, see what you notice and build your own ideas. Try it! You can even share your observations with a friend and compare notes.

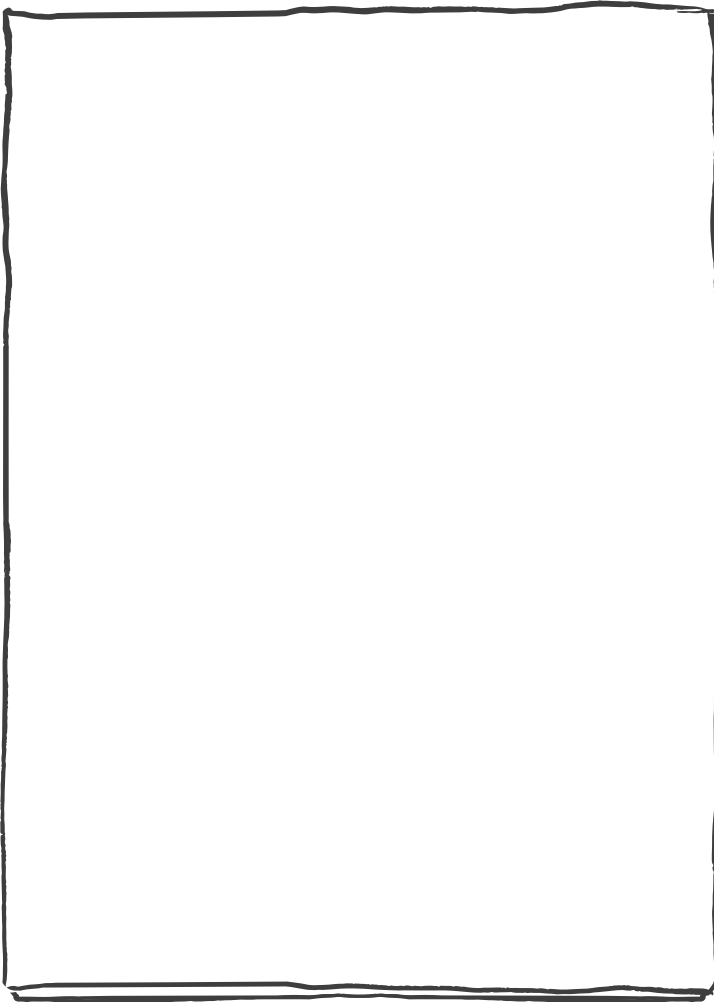
## **Step 3. Read the label.**

Once you've made some observations about the artwork, it's time to explore the label. A label can tell us more about what we are seeing, the artist and their intentions, the materials (or media) used and when the artwork was created.

Draw yourself into an artwork from the Museum!!

Why would you like to be in this artwork? Do you picture yourself in a portrait or a landscape? What's happening around you? What do you see, hear, feel, smell, taste in the artwork? How do you feel? What will happen next?

Then create a label for your artwork.



Artist:

Title:

Description:

# Scavenger Hunt

- Find a painting that tells a story. As you look at the painting, talk about what you think might happen next.
- Take a moment in the Cummer Gardens and listen. What do you hear?
- Find a work of art that shows a place you would like to visit and pretend to be there. What would you do if you were there?
- Draw or write a story about a piece of art that inspires you.
- Look for a sculpture. Pretend to be another sculpture doing something similar.
- Next time you are outside go hug the Cummer Oak.
- Find a work of art that surprises you.

LET'S EX

- Look for a portrait. Pretend to be inside of the portrait and talk about what you might see, hear, taste, smell and feel if you were there.
- Find a painting that looks like the artist painted it while listening to an upbeat song. Identify the shapes, lines and colors you see. Now move your body in the direction of the lines in the painting.
- Next time you are outside go hug the Cummer Oak.
- Explore the museum from home! Visit [cummuseum.org/engage](http://cummuseum.org/engage) for activities and resources.

EXPLORE!

CUMMER  
MUSEUM



Exploring With Kids is supported by a grant from The Chartrand Family Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.