Pre-Visit Guide: Shifting Perspectives (6th-12th grade)

Big Ideas & Major Themes

Here are some relevant topics to review with your students before your visit to the museum.

- A single work of art can be interpreted from multiple perspectives based on the way we look at it
- Art is reflective of the culture in which the artist created it. By examining art together, we can learn more about how people from various places and time periods view/ed the world.
- Art can be a means to express personal ideas or beliefs that can tell us more about the individual who created it.

May Stevens. *Benny Andrews, the Artist, and Big Daddy Paper Doll.* 1967. National Academy of Design.

SC Standards Addressed

VAH1-4 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 5.1, 6.2
De.C.1H.7, C.AL.7, C.NM.8, NH.7
ELA I.3, I.5.1, I.5.2, P.7, C.1.1, 1.2
S H.B.1A.7, H.E.1A.7, H.C.1A.7, H.P.1A.7
SS USHC-2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.3.4, 4.3.4, 4.5, 6.1, 6.2, 7.4, 7.6, 8.5; USG-2.2, 4.5
SS1-4.2; 2-4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 3-1.3, 4.1

In the Classroom

Prepare students for your visit with one or more of these activities.

- As you're reading a book together, discuss how the story would be different if it were told from the perspective of a different character.
- Show students an image of a work of art (or several). Have them write a paragraph describing it. From there, have them synthesize the paragraph into one sentence. Finally have them distill that into one word. Ask students to share their words and compare and contrast.
- Choose an object or artwork. Ask two students to analyze it from different perspectives (e.g. maker and user; artist and subject). Have them compare their responses or present both to the class.

Resources

Want to explore more? Use these references to learn and share information with your students.

- Chicago Art Institute Online Database
  http://www.artic.edu/aic/collections/search-artwork
- History of the World in 100 Objects: British Museum
  http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/a_history_of_the_world/objects.aspx#1

Museum Manners

School tours are limited to 60 students per visit. Please watch our welcome video and review these guidelines before your visit.

- Touching can permanently damage works of art. Please don't touch the art, lean on the walls, or get too close.
- Food, drinks, gum, pens, and large bags are not permitted in the galleries. Bring only what you need!
- The museum will provide sketchbooks and pencils for your visit. Please use them safely. For more info, consult the sketching guidelines on the CMA's Visit page.

Watch/share this video with everyone who will be joining!

Questions? Contact us at 803-343-2163 or email tours@columbiamuseum.org
columbiamuseum.org/learn

the Columbia Museum of ART

Key Terms

As you prepare for your visit, it can be helpful to pre-teach or review some of these vocabulary words with your students. This is particularly beneficial for multilingual learners who might be new to these terms. It may also be helpful to translate some of the trickier words into students' home language/s.

Perspective	An individual's point of view, informed by their values, beliefs and experiences
Culture	Shared values, customs, and behaviors of a group
Mood	The feeling that a work of art might provoke
Interpretation	The meaning you take from a work of art
Curator	The person at a museum who decides what objects to keep and how or when to display them
Connect	To relate to or be linked to something
Materials	The physical substances used to create a work of art (like paint, ink, stone, or paper)