Pre-Visit Guide: European Splendors & Elizabeth Catlett

Big Ideas & Major Themes
Here are some relevant topics to review with your students before experiencing these exhibitions.

- Art has been used for a variety of purposes, including religious devotion, political statements, and personal expression.

- Artists have used a variety of techniques, materials, and tools to render their works either more naturalistic or more abstract, depending on the culture in which they were created.

SC Standards Addressed
Visual Art CR.AL.1; R.I.L.5.1; R.IM.5.1; R.AL.5.2; R.AM.5.2; C.AM.6; C.AH.7.1
HG.1.2.PR. HG.4.1.HS, HG.5.1.PR, HG.5.2.PR; MWH.1.1.CO, MWH. 4.1.CE,
MWH.1.E, WH.2.E; EPF.1.ER, EPF.3.1N; OT.1.3, OT.1.4, OT.3.1, OT.3.2,
OT.3.3, OT.3.4; NT.1.3, NT.2.6, NT.3.1, NT.3.3, NT.3.4

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

- Discuss similar works from the medieval era and the Renaissance and discuss the purpose of each and how that affects how the subject is rendered (e.g. naturalism, scale, color).

- Have students try their hands at creating and using egg tempera paint.

- Look at Elizabeth Catlett’s prints [see link below] and choose one or two to discuss as a class or in pairs. Have students create prints that convey a message that’s relevant to them using the technique of their choice.

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

- Renaissance Art in Context. [https://artincontext.org/renaissance-art/](https://artincontext.org/renaissance-art/)


- Europe: 1300-1800. [https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/renaissance-reformation](https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/renaissance-reformation)

- Exploring the African American Experience through Art. [youtube.com/watch?v=V1rPBalmvo](https://youtube.com/watch?v=V1rPBalmvo)

- Elizabeth Catlett prints. [https://www.artsy.net/artist/elizabeth-catlett/works-for-sale](https://www.artsy.net/artist/elizabeth-catlett/works-for-sale)

Museum Manners
School tours are limited to 80 students per visit. Contact the CMA to see whether your group is better suited for an in-person or virtual experience. Please review these guidelines with your students before your tour.

- Touching can permanently damage works of art. Please don’t touch the art or lean on the walls.

- Food, drinks, gum, pens, and large bags are not permitted in the galleries.

- Watch where you walk! Try to stay at least arms-length from works of art.

- Groups interested in sketching should consult the sketching guidelines located on the CMA’s [Visit page](https://www.columbiaartmuseum.org).