

Project Muse (Museums Uniting with Schools in Education), at the Harvard Graduate School of Education created the following Generic Art Game, which can be a starting point for looking at any piece of artwork:

The Generic Art Game

1. Look carefully at the work of art in front of you. What colors do you see in it? Take turns listing the specific colors that you see (for example: "I see red." "I see purple.")

2. What do you see in the work of art in front of you? Take turns listing the objects that you see (for example: "I see an apple." "I see a triangle.")

3. What is going on in this work of art? Take turns mentioning whatever you see happening, no matter how small.

4. Does anything you have noticed in this work of art so far (for example: colors, objects, or events) remind you of something in your own life? Take turns answering.

5. Is this work of art true to life? How real has the artist made things look?

6. What ideas and emotions do you think this work of art expresses?

7. Do you have a sense of how the artist might have felt when he or she made this work of art? Does it make you feel one way or another?

8. Take a look at the other works of art displayed around this one. Do they look alike? What is similar about the way they look (for example: objects, events, feelings, the way they are made)? What is different?

9. What would you have called this work of art if you had made it yourself? Does the title of the work, if there is one, make sense to you?

10. Think back on your previous observations. What have you discovered from looking at this work of art? Have you learned anything about yourself or others?