

# **Artful Stories:**

## **A Preschool Tour Experience at the Minneapolis Institute of Art**

### **Shapes**

#### **Book**

*Look! Look! Look!* written and illustrated by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace with Linda K. Friedlaender

#### **Materials**

- Storybook
- Foam boards and forms
- Viewing frames
- Picture frame

## **Lesson**

### **Content Objectives**

- Explore a storybook and artwork in the galleries
- Explore using foam forms and animal shapes

### **Skill Objectives**

What students will do

- Listen to and talk about a storybook
- Make theme connections from the book to the artwork (color and shape)
- Manipulate materials related to theme

What students will learn

- Language acquisition and critical thinking
- Visual perception and discrimination

### **Vocabulary**

- Color
- Shape

## Activities

### Introduction

#### Museum Rules

- Looking Eyes (making circles with hands around eyes)
- Listening Ears (have children wiggle ears)
- Quiet Hands (put hands in their lap)
- Inside Voice (put finger to mouth and make “shhhh” sound)

#### Picture Frame Rhyme

- Can be spoken or sung to the tune of “I’m a Little Teapot”
- Pass picture frame to each child in turn
- Have them hold up the frame to their face and say/sing the following
- Repeat for each child

*“Looking through my picture frame, who do I see?  
I see [INSERT NAME] looking at me!”*

#### Artful Kids Rhyme

- Can be spoken or sung to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”

*It’s story time at Mia  
I’m so glad you’re here today  
The art is here for everyone  
So, let’s get ready to have some fun  
We’ll sit down and read a book  
And take our time to talk and look*

## Gallery

### Movement

- Walk quietly like a mouse through the galleries, or with fingers on head like mouse ears

### Artwork connections and manipulative exercise

- With your chosen artwork(s), mimic the mice’s activity in the book making a figure out of foam shapes
- Provide each child with a foam board and bag of forms
- Allow them to explore making a picture with the shapes
- Talk about the colors and shapes they see in the artwork in the gallery
- Ask them individually to tell you about their picture of or if they would like to share with the group what they made

### Viewing Frame looking activity

- Provide students with viewing frames
- Have students look for details in the artwork through their viewing frame (face, hands, colors, etc.)
- This could be used on the walk back to the lobby for an additional looking exercise

## Songs and Poems

### **“If You're Wearing . . .”**

*To the tune of "Happy and You Know It"*

If your clothes have any red, any red.

If your clothes have any red, any red.

If your clothes have any red, put your finger on your head, if your clothes have any red, any red.

Substitutions:

- Red: put your finger on your head shake your head
- Orange: eat your porridge
- Yellow: shake like Jell-O
- Green: wave your hand so that you're seen
- Blue: put your finger on your shoe
- Purple: make a circle (make an “o” with hands)
- Pink: give me a wink
- Brown: turn around
- Black: put your hands behind your back pat your back
- White: stamp your feet with all your might
- Gray: wave your fingers like sunshine rays

### **Do You Know This Shape?**

*To the tune of "The Muffin Man"*

Oh, do you know what shape this is? What shape this is, what shape this is?

Oh, do you know what shape this is, I'm holding in my hand?