

HomeTalk

Thoughtful Conversations for Families
and Schools

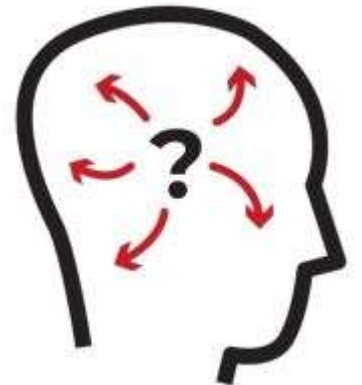
Issue 24 - Art



Note to parents/carers and teachers

This pack contains links to external websites. Whilst we take every care to make sure these are suitable, you may want to check the content before showing them to children

Thinking
Moves



This week's focus is art

The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.

Aristotle – philosopher



After Lysippos, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

A picture is a poem without words.

Horace – Roman poet
65 BCE – 8 BCE



Anton von Werner, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

A work of art is above all an adventure of the mind.

Eugene Ionesco – dramatist



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Quotes from: <https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/art-quotes>

Caring thinking

- Should we always find something nice to say, even about something we don't like?

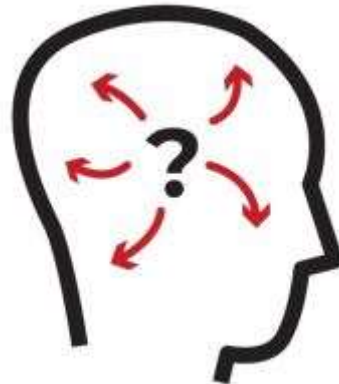


Collaborative thinking

- Would you rather make art on your own or with someone else?

Creative thinking

- Is there anything that connects all works of art?



Thinking Moves

Critical thinking

- How many differences can you think of between a painting and a sculpture?



Think AHEAD

Do you have any artistic ambitions?



Think BACK

What is your favourite piece of art?



CONNECT

Does art make you feel anything?



DIVIDE

Are there such things as good art and bad art?



LISTEN/LOOK

LOOK at the scene outside your window. Is that art?



ZOOM (in/out)

ZOOM in on one detail

ZOOM out – what effect does this detail have?

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For ages 3 – 5 years



<https://youtu.be/HtxaFqqd094>

Eyes-closed drawing – Teapot Trust

Close your eyes, picture something in your head and then draw it – with your eyes still closed! See how interesting this makes your art – and don't forget to sign it!

Talking Points

- ZOOM in - which part your drawing do you like the most?
- Which do you prefer – the picture in your head or the picture you drew?
- Would adults be any better at eyes-closed drawing than children?

Activity

- Find someone else in your house to draw with and both of you draw the same thing with eyes closed
- CONNECT and DIVIDE – how alike and how different are your drawings?
- Try this with paints too, to make things even more interesting!

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For ages 6 – 9 years



https://youtu.be/hYf5HX_Ywao

Field for the British Isles - Antony Gormley

An incredible collaborative artwork, created with Merseyside pupils and their families. More details here:

<http://www.artscouncilcollection.org.uk/sites/default/files/Field%20for%20the%20British%20Isles%20-%20Education%20Information%20Pack.pdf>

Talking Points

- What do you think Antony Gormley's work was about? What might be the message behind it?
- Could everything have some kind of symbolic meaning?
- Could everything be art?
- If the answer to the last two questions is 'Yes', then could anyone – or everyone - be an artist?

Activity

- Think of a message or idea that is important to you
- Collect things from around your home that you **CONNECT** with your message
- Create your own piece of modern art that communicates your message

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For age 10+ years



<https://youtu.be/FmjSUyyc-3M>

Fountain – Marcel Duchamp

Smart History, presented by the Khan Academy, looks at Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain*, one of the most important artworks of the 20th century.

Talking Points

- What do you think was the Duchamp's main point in offering *Fountain* for exhibition?
- Is it fair that something made by someone else could be claimed by an artist as their work?
- Is either of these more important than the other – the artwork or the message it aims to communicate?

Activity

- Duchamp called his work a 'readymade' – something made by someone else but 'repurposed' by the artist
- Can you 'repurpose' anything in your home?
- Write your own persuasive artist's statement that explains your work and justifies your repurposing.

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

Art for everyone

- We've looked at different kinds of art in this edition of HomeTalk
- Many people think, because they aren't very good at faithfully reproducing something, that they aren't very good at art
- Whilst most would agree that it is good to work at the basics, there are other creative ways to express yourself
- As we've seen in this HomeTalk, many very famous artists have found creative ways to communicate a message that they feel strongly about
- Take a look at this artist, who finds drawing difficult:
- <https://www.fromthegrapevine.com/arts/meet-artist-hanoch-piven-who-can-not-draw>

...and fun abstract art ideas



5 easy abstract painting ideas for beginners – Jon Harris

<https://youtu.be/mhPKxvOjPww>

More ideas.....

<https://dialogueworks.co.uk/HomeTalk/>



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