

AGNES LEARNS



Imaginary worlds

GRADES 1-3

The artist Shary Boyle likes to create imaginary worlds with her sculptures.

Explore storytelling and sculpture with the following activities:

ART ACTIVITIES

Draw what happens next

Use your imagination to think what would happen next if the figures in Boyle's sculpture could move. Draw a series of blank boxes on your paper, one after another, like a comic strip. Draw a picture of the next scene and then the next. You could even draw word bubbles coming out of their mouths and write what they would say.

Sculpt your own story

Tell a story through clay or dough. Start by imagining the characters and objects in your story. Use different colours of dough to make them, or if you're using clay, paint them when they're dry. Once you've created the characters and the objects in the story, present them to a family member. You can move them around to act out your story.

Paint a picture of a magical world

Use your imagination to think of a magical world where anything is possible. In your world maybe trees can talk, there are three suns in the sky or maybe everything is upside down. Paint a picture of your imaginary world.



Shary Boyle

Interruption

2006, polymer clay, gouache, paper and thread
Gift of the Artist, 2010
(53-048)

If you'd like to extend the lesson beyond visual art, here are some other activities

Do some kitchen chemistry!

With the help of a parent/guardian make a homemade sculpting material. There are many recipes online that you can follow to create your dough using household materials such as baking soda and cornstarch. Create different coloured dough by adding food colouring. See what colours you can make by mixing primary colours: red, yellow and blue.

Write and perform a song about Boyle's sculpture

A song is a poem set to music, sometimes the words even rhyme. Write a poem inspired by this sculpture. Make up a tune or borrow one from another song.

Play a game of "statues" with your family

One person starts as the "curator" and stands at one side of a room facing the wall. Everyone else is a "statue" and stands at the other side of the room posing like a piece of art. The aim of the game is for a statue to sneak up and tag the curator (then the statue becomes the new curator). The curator can turn around whenever they want, and the statues must freeze in the position they're in as long as the curator is looking at them. If a statue is caught moving, they have to return to the starting line.

GLOSSARY

Imagination: Using your mind to create wonderful things. Imagination is when you make believe something is anything you want it to be.

Sculpture: Sculpture is three-dimensional art meaning it has length, width and height. It can be made by carving something like wood, modelling a material like clay, making and filling a mould (casting) or building with different types of materials.

Primary colours: The primary colours are red, blue and yellow. You can create more colours such as green, orange and purple by mixing the primary colours.

Curator: A curator works at a museum. They look after the art and objects and decide what to put in each room and where. Often, they put objects together that tell a story or share a theme.