



CRAFT IN AMERICA

COLLECTING AND CURATING MEANING-FILLED OBJECTS EDUCATION GUIDE

Exploring Exhibitions: How are artworks/objects displayed?

Explain to students that before they create their plan for working alone or in small groups, they need to complete the worksheet, *Exploring Exhibitions: How are Artworks Displayed?* to find out how a gallery space can be used to display artworks/objects in an exhibition. The worksheet is designed as a “scavenger hunt” in which the students explore three different Craft In America exhibitions to find examples that match the description in the list found on the worksheet.

Student Worksheet: Exploring Exhibitions: How are artworks displayed?

This scavenger hunt is designed to help students become familiar with various ways that artworks can be displayed in gallery settings. Students will go to the Craft In America website and visit three gallery installations where they will find at least one example of the descriptors listed below. When they find an example that fits the description, they will check the accompanying box and circle the letter (a, b, or c) of the exhibition in which they found it.

Visit the traveling exhibitions below:

a. *A Nation of Makers*

craftinamerica.org/exhibition/a-nation-of-makers-at-idyllwild-art-gallery

b. *Art and Other Tactics: Contemporary Craft by Artist Veterans*

craftinamerica.org/exhibition/art-and-other-tactics-contemporary-craft-by-artist-veterans-2

c. *Art and Other Tactics: Contemporary Craft by Artist Veterans*

craftinamerica.org/exhibition/art-and-other-tactics-contemporary-craft-by-artist-veterans-3

Note that each exhibition is housed in a gallery space. See how the space’s original walls are used. Also notice how “temporary” walls have been placed to divide the open space of the gallery into smaller spaces.

As students view these exhibitions, ask them to pay attention to different ways to display artworks. They will check the box next to the descriptor and indicate where they found the example by circling a, b, or c.

- Large artwork hanging alone on wall. Found in a, b, c ?
- Artwork(s) displayed under a vitrine (clear glass or plastic display case). Found in a, b, c ?
- Interpretive labels (labels with more than identification information). Found in a, b, c ?
- Artwork(s) displayed on floor, without pedestal. Found in a, b, c ?
- Use of the ceiling for displaying artwork(s). Found in a, b, c ?
- Group of artworks on wall. Found in a, b, c ?

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- Clear plastic pedestals for displaying small artworks. Found in a, b, c ?
- Wall Text (information often found on the wall at the entrance to an exhibition). Found in a, b, c ?
- Artwork(s) displayed on wall shelf. Found in a, b, c ?
- Three-dimensional artwork displayed alone on cube protruding from wall. Found in a, b, c ?
- Low pedestal (approximately 8-10 inches from the floor). Found in a, b, c ?
- Three-dimensional artwork displayed alone on pedestal. Found in a, b, c ?
- Portable walls used to divide the gallery space. Found in a, b, c ?
- Jewelry displayed on a human-like form. Found in a, b, c ?
- Opportunity for viewers to be interactive. Found in a, b, c ?
- Group of pedestals; each holding one or more artworks. Found in a, b, c ?