

# Artful Activities for Early Learners



**MoMA**

These activities for children ages four and up can be done with teachers, parents, and caregivers at home or in a classroom.

## Look closely

- Imagine you were in this place.
- What might you hear?
- What might you smell?
- How would the grass feel under your bare feet?
- Is the air still, or do you feel a breeze?
- What do you imagine you would do in this place?

## Learn

The landscape in this picture looks like some places in California, where the artist, Betye Saar, lives. She moved from the city to a more rural place that is closer to nature—which has always been important in her artwork. The little girl running through the field is the artist's youngest daughter, Tracye Saar.

## Go on a sensory walk

1. Go outside to a park or your backyard.
2. Look all around you. What colors do you see?
3. Close your eyes. What sounds do you hear?
4. Find different textures in nature that are safe to explore with your hands, like the bark of a tree, the surface of a rock, or blades of grass. Describe how they feel.
5. Take a deep breath in with your nose. What do you smell?
6. Find something to take home to remember how you felt on this walk, like a leaf, a twig, or an acorn that has fallen on the ground.
7. What words would you use to describe this day?



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Image: Betye Saar. *Flight*. 1963. Screenprint. Gift of Julie and Bennett Roberts, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles