

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.

Learn

In his paintings, Kerry James Marshall often shows Black people doing activities he sees in everyday life. As a child, he loved visiting museums, but would not often see many images of people who looked like him. He has said one of the reasons he paints Black people is because he is a Black man and wants people to see these paintings in museums whenever they visit.

Look closely

- What do you notice about the person in the painting?
- What do the clothes he is wearing tell you about him?
- Try to position your body in the same pose. What might he be doing?
- Look at his facial expression. What might he be thinking?

Draw someone you see everyday

Suggested materials: paper and something to draw with

1. Think of someone you often see in your neighborhood and draw a picture of them.
2. Add details that will help show who they are and what they like to do.
3. Show how they are feeling by drawing their expression and pose.
4. What other details might you include?



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Image: Kerry James Marshall. *Untitled (policeman)*, 2015. Acrylic on PVC panel with plexiglass frame. Gift of Mimi Haas in honor of Marie-Josée Kravis