

Biggs Museum of American **Art**



Biggs Kids Workbook

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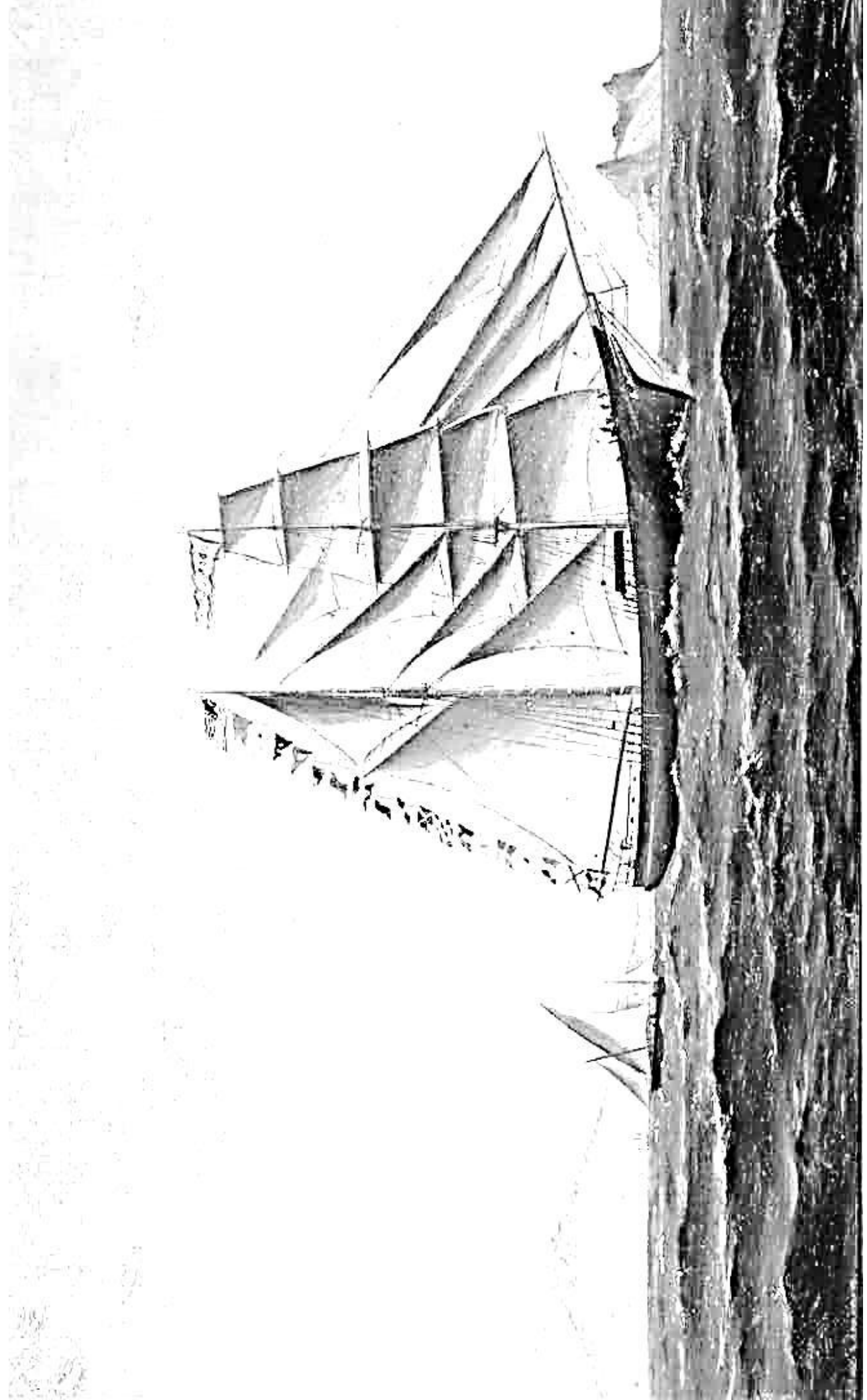
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F. Luis Mora
1913





Colorful *Summer Girl*

Using as many colors as possible, create your own version of the painting *Summer Girl* by Robert Reid

Consider:

- How many different colors can you use to make a skin tone? Is your *Summer Girl* set during the day or night?
- What colors will she wear? Why did you pick those colors?

Collection Connection:

Robert Reid studied painting in Boston, New York, and in France. He is considered an **IMPRESSIONISTIC** painter. Impressionism is a way of painting that is very fast, often painted outside, and painted in real places. These paintings are made this way because artists want to show how light can change colors and shadows (watch how your backyard looks different in the morning, afternoon, and night). This type of painting often looks like it is moving because the artists leave visible brush strokes and unmixed paint on the canvas.

Did you know that the way *Summer Girl* is sitting is considered a “power pose”? The viewer (you) looks up at her, so she looks bigger than you. She has her hand on her hip and her sleeves rolled up; she is ready to get to work. *Summer Girl* also looks out at the viewer (you), watching you watch her.

Searching through your books, TV shows, and with your adult’s help can you discover 5 female artists, designers, or illustrators?



It's a Biggs World!

Using items found in nature create your own Environmental Art to display in an “outdoor gallery.”

Consider:

- Can you build with stones or twigs?
- What designs can you make out of leaves, flowers, or rocks?
- Why did you choose to use that/those items to create art with?

Collection Connection:

Environmental art can be created from many different types of media (the materials used to make art, for example paint, pencil, and ink). Environmental art, however, focuses on the environment by drawing attention to a specific place, habitat, or issue. Often environmental art is created using non-traditional media that can be found in nature. Some examples of tools used to create environmental art are twigs, rocks, dirt, grass, flowers, or shells. Many environmental artists create their work by using these natural objects and stacking, wrapping, or placing them in patterns to highlight something about their location.

Did you know there are many famous artists who create environmental art. The Biggs Museum has even exhibited the sketches for massive environmental sculptures by the husband and wife team Christo and Jeanne-Claude. Other artists whose works have been influential include Andy Goldsworthy, Agnes Denes, Barry Underwood, Robert Smithson, and Nils-Udo.

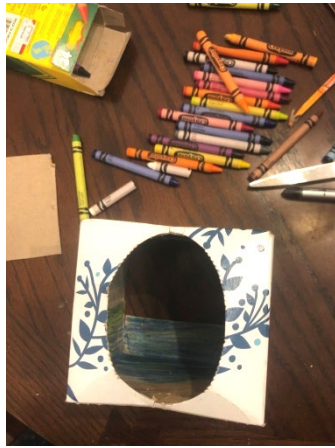
How many different patterns and sculptures can you make with the same materials!

Tissue Box Art

Mini Diorama

Supplies: Tissue box, scissors, tape, glue, staples, and crayons, paint, or markers.

1. Using an empty tissue box, cut out the sky portion of your landscape.
2. Using crayons, markers, or paint decorate the inside of your mini-diorama. Be sure to decorate the top and sides as well!
3. Using the extra parts of the tissue box or paper, create the scenery for your diorama.



Notes: For an extra challenge try using only paper with no tape or glue.

Want to make it more immersive? Try using scale and adding larger items in the foreground (at the very front) and smaller items towards the back of the tissue box.

Toilet Paper Roll Art

Junior Fritz Jacquet Faces

Supplies: Toilet Paper Roll and crayons, paint, or markers.

1. Using an empty roll of toilet paper, pinch an area you would like the bridge of the nose to be, place your hand on the top of the roll and begin pressing down.
2. Once your roll has squished in the middle, reach inside and use a combination of poking and pressing to make different shapes to help you make a squished face.
3. Once you have a face you like, color it with crayons or paint it to add character.



Notes: try turning your toilet paper roll upside down to see a face. Use your imagination.

Want to do more with your funny face? Try adding extra adornments like feathers, glitter, fake eyelashes, pompoms and yarn.

Collection Connection at the Biggs 1:

Exploring your Biggs Backyard: (75 minutes)

Materials:

- Sketchbook or paper
- Color pencils, pencil, marker, and crayon
- Images of: Stephen Tanis' *Bulbs*, Ann A. Biggs' *Paeoniacea delavayi*, Scott Woolever's *Chesapeake Bay Blue Crabs*
- Plants

Instructions:

After showing examples of scientific sketchbooks documenting flowers and plants Campers will go on their own adventure to sketch real plants and label them with descriptive words.

Explanation:

We are going to get up close and personal with plants by creating our own Explorer sketches and plant studies. Plant studies have been around for hundreds of years, many Mediterranean and Middle Eastern societies kept special books that had detailed drawing of plants that were labeled so people could make medicine. One important example is the **Kitab al-nabat wa-'l-shajar**, or the "Book of Plants" was written in the mid 800's by Abu Hanifa Dinawari, the founder of Arabic botany.

Along with using detailed sketches of plants for medical reasons, many explorers keep sketchbooks of things they see while traveling. This started long before cameras were in phones, thus sketching was the best way to capture what you were seeing. These sketches were often paired with notes about the location with on-the-spot reactions from the explorers. Some important explorers who kept journals were: **Captain Scott**, **Charles Darwin**, and **Adela Breton**. Their sketches were used to help identify types of plants, important sites/sights, and capture experiences that were unique to their own travels.

Start with 2 sketches of plants inside the home. Sketch the same plant from 2 different views. Once finished, go outside to sketch 4 plants! Remember you are an explorer so be sure you don't touch the plants.

In your journal note: texture, location, smells, or other qualities that might be important to identify the plant later on.

Standards: VA: Cr2.1.Ka, VA: Cr2.3.Ka, VA: Cr2.1.1a, VA: Cr2.3.1a, VA: Cr2.3.3a, VA: RE.7.2.Ka, VA :Re.7.2.1a,

Collection Connection at the Biggs 2:

Representing Me:

Materials:

- Paper or Cardstock
- Napkins or cloth for smudging/cleaning

Mixed Media Options:

1. Crayon & Watercolor
2. Color pencil & Oil (coconut/Vaseline/baby oil)
3. Marker & Crayon
4. Marker & Oil
5. Marker & Color pencil

Instructions:

Selecting one of the options for mixed media create a self portrait using symbols of things you like or places you have been. Use the following statements to help you create your portrait:

1. My name is: _____
2. My favorite color is: _____
3. My favorite food is: _____
4. I like to: _____
5. My favorite activity is: _____
6. I collect: _____
7. My favorite thing about me is: _____
8. My favorite place is: _____
9. If I could do anything, I would: _____
10. My family is made up of: _____
11. My favorite memory is: _____

Explanation:

Billy Colbert's *Lessons* explores what it means to be an African American. This includes all of the symbols, histories, and futures. His work contemplates the idea of "packaging an identity." That is, to take all of the different things that makes up an entire race of people:

how they see the world, how the world sees them, and the roles that these experiences place on people. For example: if you read a lot people may not think you are good at sports. If you are a ballerina people might not expect you to also do karate. If you like to build stuff with tools people might not think you're also good at baking cupcakes.

Everyone is made up of many different elements that come together to form an identity. In other words all of the different things you like- say dinosaurs and unicorns or football and baking – make up who you are. All of your different likes and dislikes help shape how YOU see the world.

With this mixed media self-portrait project you will explore what it means to be you while also experimenting with how different materials (or **media**) interact to create art as unique as you are. This project has two variations: either draw your portrait and fill the entire background with symbols representing what makes you YOU **OR** draw an outline for your portrait and make your face out of symbols representing you.

Things to consider:

1. What do you think will happen when you mix crayon with watercolor or marker?
Remember crayons are water resistant, like a pair of rain boots.
2. Will adding more color pencil or pressing harder with the oil change how the oil spreads the color (or **pigment**) from the pencils?
3. If you choose to use oil. Use a cloth to clean your hands and paper regularly.

Standards: VA:Cr1.1.Ka; VA:Cr1.1.4a ; VA:Cr1.2.1a ; VA:Cr1.2.2a ; VA:Cr1.2.3a ;
VA:Cr1.2.5a ; VA:Cr1.2.6a ; VA:Cr1.2.8a ; VA:Cr2.1.PKa ; VA:Cr2.2.Ka ;
VA:Cr2.1.PKa ; VA:Cr2.1.Ka ; VA:Cr2.1.1a ; VA:Cr2.1.2a ; VA:Cr2.1.3a ;
VA:Cr2.1.4a ; VA:Cr2.1.5a ; VA:Cr2.1.6a ; VA:Cr2.1.7a ; VA:Cr2.1.8a

I Spy the Elements and Principles of Design

Look Inside

1. Shape:

- Rectangle
- Circle
- Triangle
- Sphere
- Cube
- Organic Shape (something that is not a simple shape)

2. Color: For extra fun, have one person call a color and count down from 5 while everyone else try to touch something that color.

- Blue
- Green
- Red
- Yellow
- Brown
- Black
- Purple
- Indigo (dark blue-purple)
- A Cool Color (blue, green, purple)
- A Warm Color (red, orange, yellow)

3. Texture:

- Soft
- Rough
- Smooth
- Scratchy

4. **Value:** Can you find 5 items in your home that are different shades of red and line them up in order of dark to light? Make sure to put away all the things you find!

5. **Pattern:** Can you find 3 patterns in your bedroom? Can you create a pattern in your living room?

6. **Line:** Can you find all these different types of lines in your house?

- Squiggly line
- Straight Line
- Thick Line
- Thin Line

7. **Emphasis:**

- Open the door to your bathroom; draw the first thing you see.

- Look out a window; draw the first thing you see.

I Spy the Elements and Principles of Design

Look Outside

1. **Space:** Pick two items outside and figure out how far apart they are using a ruler, your feet, your adult's feet, and in hops.

2. **Rhythm:**

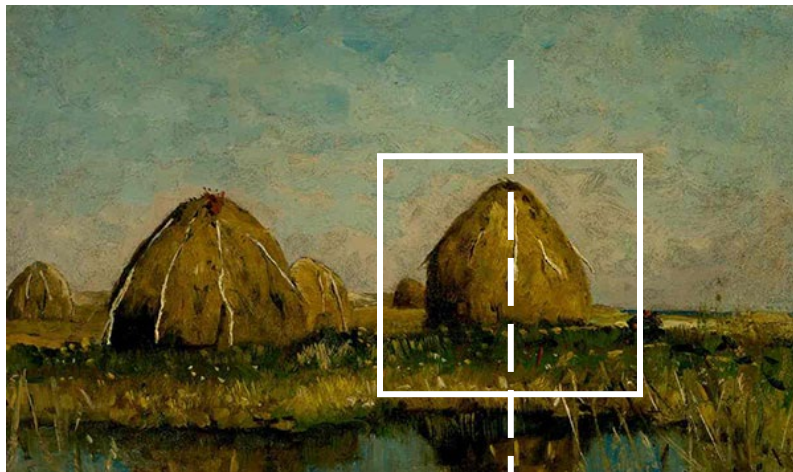
- A pattern of lines
- A pattern of rectangles

3. **Scale:**

- Something bigger than you
- Something smaller than you
- Something smaller than your hand

4. **Balance:**

- Something Symmetrical - a mirror image, or something that looks like it can be folded in half and match on each side.



- Something Asymmetrical – something that is not a mirror image.



5. **Unity:** Take a picture of something outside you like. How many of the I Spy terms can you use to describe why you like it?