

## Eight Activities for Families with Young Children Visiting the Art Center

### Getting started

- Follow your child's lead; young children are drawn to artworks that feature people, animals, bright colors and shapes, as well as natural elements.
- Remind your child that artwork cannot be touched; please help up preserve the art for future generations.
- Limit your visit; an hour, or maybe even half an hour, may be enough time. Remember you can always come back – admission to the Art Center is free for everyone!

### 1. Find an artwork that interests you and think about your five senses:

1. If you were able to climb into the artwork describe what you see around you.
2. Describe how those items feel (example: rough, smooth, cold).
3. What do you hear (example: dog barking, clock ticking, water dripping)?
4. What do you smell (example: oranges, flowers, fresh cut grass)?
5. Can you taste anything (example: hot chocolate, fresh baked bread, fruit)?

### 2. Play "I spy" in a gallery

- I spy something...(example: I spy something with a blue stripe or something made from wood).

### 3. Find an artwork you really like

- Make up your own title and discuss why you named it that.

### 4. Go on a treasure hunt and find:

- Something green
- Something made from metal
- Something round
- Something bumpy
- Something shiny
- Something that moves
- Something square
- Something you make up

### 5. Find an artwork that features a person or people

- Move your body to mimic the pose of the people in the artwork. Talk about how that body position makes you feel.

### 6. Find an artwork with a pattern

- Talk about the pattern and discuss what shapes make up the pattern. Then, see if you can find that same pattern in another artwork.

### 7. Find a painting with a frame and one without a frame

- Look at the two paintings. Do you prefer the painting with the frame or the one without? Discuss why you made that decision.

### 8. Find a sculpture you like

- What did the artist use to make this sculpture (wood, metal, mirror)? Talk about why the artist used those materials.