

By participating in the Stop, Look, Listen, and Touch tour, students will learn about the Walters Art Museum and will be introduced to four of the elements of art: line, shape, color, and texture. Use the suggestions below, either before or after your visit, to encourage further inquiry in the classroom.

ACTIVITIES

- Do a classroom hunt for the elements of art – have students walk slowly around the classroom and record all of the lines, shapes, colors, and textures they see in the room, using a chart or worksheet. Share your answers afterwards – are students surprised at how the elements are around them all of the time?
- Explain to students that color is a very important element because it can help to communicate the mood of a work of art. Discuss for a minute what moods are, and make a list of all of the moods that students can think of. Can artwork have a mood? Why or why not? If a painting looks very calm and peaceful, what colors might be in it? What about a scary picture? (You can use works of art or book illustrations to help with this discussion). Give students the attached worksheet of a line drawing of *The Ecclesiastic* from our collection. Have students look at the image, decide what mood the picture should be, and choose crayons that communicate that mood. When they have colored their pictures, compare them as a class and see how many different ideas everyone had. Finally, show them a color printout or overhead of the actual painting. Are students surprised? What do they think about the mood of the picture now?
- Use the elements of art to make a collage of your school, or another familiar space. Have students use a different medium for each element of art to help them to consider them each separately. Create an outline of the school building with markers, concentrating on LINE. Collage the SHAPES of the windows and doors with pieces of construction paper or tissue paper (see Eric Carle and Leo Lionni books below for great collage references). Students could make crayon rubbings to show the TEXTURE of the brick or other material that the school is built from, then collage parts of the rubbings onto the picture. They can fill in any details using carefully selected COLORS from a box of crayons.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Mouse Paint, Ellen Stoll Walsh
Little Blue and Little Yellow, Leo Lionni
My Many Colored Days, Dr. Seuss
Babar's Museum of Art, Laurent de Brunhoff
The Art of Eric Carle, Eric Carle

Name _____



What colors do you think are used in this painting?

