Barnes Art Adventures—Pre-K–1

Explore and Create

Early learners experience an interactive show that uses art to explore new ideas, places, and cultures. Students look at nature in art—including depictions of plants, animals, and real or imaginary landscapes—and even find out what it means to try something new.

The show features artworks and stories from artists and writers with diverse backgrounds and perspectives. In each episode, a story is read aloud and followed by a discussion about artwork where students are introduced to key concepts and vocabulary. Students and their adults work together to respond to the show’s activities, and grown-ups can use the chat feature to share the child’s experiences during the show. Teachers can explore more with post-show materials to share with students.

Runtime: 30 minutes

Episodes—Winter/Spring 2021

EXPLORE AND CREATE: FAVORITE FOODS
Thursdays, January 7 & 21, 9–9:30 am
Young learners explore artworks from the Barnes Foundation while considering their favorite foods. We will begin with a look at Giving Thanks by Horace Pippin, followed by a search for our favorite foods in still life paintings.

EXPLORE AND CREATE: COLORFUL CLOTHES AND COSTUMES
Thursdays, February 4 & 18, 9–9:30 am
In this episode, we consider how artists use different colors to create vibrant costumes and clothing. Students see and experience Nick Cave’s spectacular Soundsuits and then search for costumes in the Barnes collection.

EXPLORE AND CREATE: FLOWERS, COLORS, AND SHAPES
Tuesday, March 2 & Thursday, March 18, 9–9:30 am
We celebrate spring with a look at the colors and shapes of flowers in the Barnes collection. Students learn about fraktur art and view flower-inspired works, including a Pennsylvania German chest.

EXPLORE AND CREATE: CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES
Thursdays, April 8 & 15, 9–9:30 am
This month, we read a story about trees and look at related artworks in the Barnes collection, including Woman in the Garden by Qiu Ying. A special guest helps students learn about connections to cherry blossom trees in Philadelphia and around the world.
EXPLORE AND CREATE: LINES AND PORTRAITS
Thursdays, May 6 & 20, 9–9:30 am
In this episode, inspired by our special exhibition *Soutine / de Kooning: Conversations in Paint*, students explore how artists use lines to create portraits.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT BARNESFOUNDATION.ORG/TEACHERS.