

From Picture to Poetry: 2nd Graders Read, Talk, and Write about Art

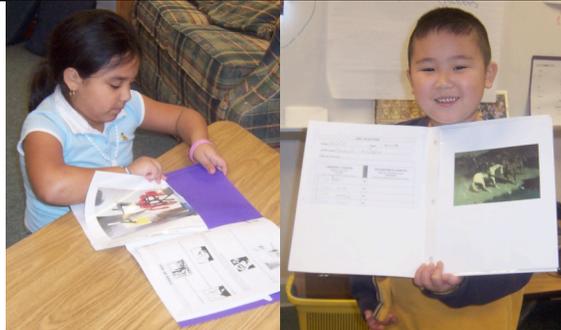
The journey of how 2nd Graders learned how to look at, talk about, write about, and feel art through a field trip to the Smithsonian American Art Museum is outlined below.

1. Talk about Art



Before the trip we learned how to analyze and talk about art. In this picture, we were talking about colors and how the artist used mostly cool colors so the warm red color really popped out!

2. Choose Reproductions



We each choose two reproductions from the Smithsonian American Art Museum to think deeply about. We made folders to keep our art and learning tools organized!

3. Analyze Art



We analyzed the art before we went to the museum. We observed and interpreted the art. We also thought of questions, sounds and smells.

4. Go to the Museum



We were walking up the steps to enter the museum. We felt happy and excited because we couldn't wait to see our art with our partners!

5. Compare and Contrast



We gazed up at the art! We compared the original works of art with the reproductions in their folder.

6. Reflect



We would meet in the hall to talk about the paintings and how seeing the real piece of art was different from the painting in our folders! We were so surprised to learn that the art was much bigger and showed many more details than the reproduction.

7. Write Poems to Synthesize the Art



We wrote poems when we returned to school! We published our poems on Powerpoint then had an authors' celebration to share our writing and to reflect on what we learned about reading art and writing poetry! We can't wait to go back to the museum and write more poetry!

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

“Going to the museum helped me write my poem. When you look at the art, you write down the things you see and you soon will have a poem. Like beginning with the wind is blowing in the night.”

-Britny

“The art is so interesting that my head is bursting with ideas! WOW!”

--Daniel

“I was surprised at how big my piece of art was at the museum! I thought about all the feelings in the art. I thought and I thought and I thought until I finally had the simple image of what was happening inside the painting and outside the painting. I imagined seeing inside a house and was thinking of a dream when I wrote my poem.”

--Jimmy

“I learned that when you see the real art, you can see the real size and the textures that you can’t see on the copies we look at. When I saw the real piece of art, the poems just jumped out at me! When I got back to school after going to the museum, I hardly had to write anything on my art analysis sheet because I suddenly had so many ideas and lines for a poem!”

--Elena

“How I got my poem is by looking very close to the picture. I couldn’t find it by looking at the little picture in the classroom. I found it in the museum.”

--Natasha

“It was interesting how people wrote completely different poems about the same piece of art!”

--Natalie

“The real paintings we saw at the museum stay stuck in my mind!”

--Nancy

“Art makes me feel, well, different. Different art forms different feelings. For example, if you see a painting of people having a fiesta then you will probably feel like partying or feel excited. Every single poem or piece of art has a different feeling. If you write a poem about a piece of art then they may have the same feeling. It might feel soft like the moon. Good.

--Parker

Going to the museum helped me because when you’re just trying to make up a poem it’s really hard, but when you’re trying to write a poem from what you see it is a lot easier.”

--Colin