

Unit 5

21st Century Skills Project

Looking at art in class

Note: For this activity, each student needs to bring a printed copy of a famous painting. If possible, try to ensure students bring different types of art and artists.

**1 Critical thinking**

Display the famous paintings on the wall, as if it were a museum.

Walk around the room and look at the paintings. Try to analyze the style, the colors, and the feelings they bring out.

In groups of three, discuss which painting you like best. If you have to choose only one painting to display in your class permanently, which one would it be and why?

**2 Collaboration**

In the same groups of three, write a ten-question quiz about the paintings in the room. You can ask about the artist, the style or the theme of each painting. For example, *Which painting is a landscape? Which artist was left-handed? Which painting displays an animal?*

Exchange your quiz with a different group. Answer the questions.

Return the quiz to the group who gave it to you. Grade the quiz. Share the answers with the whole class.

**3 Creativity**

In different groups, choose a character from one of the paintings.

Write a short story about that character. Give the character a name, a goal, a series of problems, and a resolution.

Share your short story with another group.

**4 Communication**

In the same groups, choose a different character from a painting or the artist of one of the paintings.

Write five questions to ask the character or the artist.

Role-play the interview in groups.

**5 Evaluation**

Answer the questions individually.

1 Which is your favorite painting of those displayed in the class?

2 What do you think about art? How does it make you feel?

3 How can art help you with language? Do you think it should be used more in class? How?
