How to use these cards:

Follow the prompts on the cards to...

**SPY!** What do you see?

**THINK!** What do you think is going on? What do you see that makes you say that?

**PONDER!** What do you wonder more about?
TIPS FOR LOOKING

Look closely and discover details in the artwork. Look for these Elements of Art:

**Line**
Lines can be straight, curvy or zigzag.

**Shape & Form**
Basic shapes can be found in many works of art and can be geometric, organic and even 3D.

**Color & Value**
The hue of an object is its color. It can be lightened or darkened to give it value.

**Texture**
The surface of an object and how it feels. Visual texture can be created to make the surface look like something different than it really is.

**Space**
Objects take up space in a gallery. Space can also be an illusion of distance or depth created within a work of art.

**How does the art make you feel?**
Happy, Sad, Silly, Confused, Excited, Hungry, Relaxed, Hopeful, Frustrated, Confident?
Look carefully at the details and bright colors in this artwork. Notice how the person's head is tipped back at a steep angle. Look at the hands and fingers. Do they look like spaghetti fingers? How do these body movements express how the person is feeling?

Do you notice anything about the piano player's pants? They are jean material. Can you see the crinkles? It has texture!

Imagine what it sounds like to hear this person playing the piano. Is it fast or slow? Loud or quiet? This artwork was inspired by the musical poetry of Langston Hughes. The poems use *lyrical meter*, or rhythm inspired by blues music. Try reading the poem on the label next to this artwork.

Artist Benny Andrews expresses his passion for blues music through his artwork. He uses his voice as an artist to celebrate African American culture and the history of blues music in Harlem, New York. What is your passion? What do you love to do?

In addition to creating art, Andrews taught art to college students and people in prison. He believed that the arts are for everyone. All people should have the option to study and create art if they want to.

He was the first person in his family to graduate from high school. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and went to art school in Chicago. He paved his own path and followed his dream of what he wanted to do in his life. What are your dreams?
SPY: Take a moment to walk up to this artwork. Look at the scenery. What do you see? Consider how tall this painting is and the scale of the person compared to the trees and rock formations. Is this place awe-inspiring?

THINK: Tomas Hill was an American artist who painted this landscape about 100 years ago. He was part of the Hudson River School of painters, a group of artists who painted the scenic landscapes of the United States territories to capture its beauty and magnificence. Is this a place you would like to visit? What places do you visit that make you feel connected to the land?

PONDER: Yosemite is a National Park in CA. Paintings like this one inspired the US government to create a National Parks system to protect these areas of land. What is the land being protected from? Who was living on this land before it became a national park?

What do you see? Look closely at the bold lines, geometric shapes and brilliant bright colors.

What activity is taking place? Where are the students looking? Are they focused on what they are making?

What do you notice about the perspective (angle) of the two students and the room?

Artist William H. Johnson was born in South Carolina. He moved north to New York City at the age of 17. He worked a variety of jobs and saved enough money to pay for an art education at the National Academy of Design. He received many awards for his art and was respected by his teachers and fellow students.

Think about the teachers in your life. Teachers are heroes! Education gives you more options in life as you grow. Is there a special teacher that you remember? What was the most important thing they taught you?

In the 1920s, about 100 years ago, Johnson was part of the African American artistic community known as the Harlem Renaissance. It was a celebration of African American heritage in Harlem, a Black neighborhood in New York City. This was a time when there was a lot of creativity in music and visual art.

Art Class connects to Johnson’s experience teaching in a Harlem community center. This center gave young artists opportunities to follow their dreams. It was funded by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), a program of the New Deal in the 1930s and 1940s. What do you love to do? Think about the next steps that you can take in your life to get you closer to following your dreams.
Look closely.
Do you see trees, sky and grass? Notice the texture.

Do you see words around the outside edge of this artwork? Read the words. You may have to tilt your head as you read.

Artist Faith Ringgold was born in Harlem, NY. Her family was part of the Great Migration (movement) of African Americans who moved north during the 1900s.

Do you make art with anyone in your family? Ringgold learned how to quilt from her grandmother. Her family tradition of quilting inspires her artwork.

What traditions have been passed down in your family?

Imagine what happens next in the scene.
The writing around the picture is a message from Aunt Emmy to the character, Barn Door. What journey lies ahead for Barn Door? What will Barn Door say to Aunt Emmy?

Ringgold’s art is a story. The words are a part of her art. They add another layer of meaning, making her style unique and different. She uses her voice as a Black artist to share about the history of how some people were not always treated the same as others.

Think about how important it is to treat other people how you want to be treated - with kindness and respect!
Look closely at this sculpture. What do you see? Where is the mother looking, and where is the child looking?

Does the surface appear to be rough, sharp, smooth or curvy? Notice the position of the bodies and how the arms and legs rest.

Artist Elizabeth Catlett is known for her artwork that shows people working and caring for children. She aims to show everyday lives. In this sculpture she brings attention to the relationship between the young child and their mother.

Who takes care of you?
What special things do you do with the people you love in your life? Do you play games, sports, cook, make art or visit new places together?

Imagine growing up 100 years ago when Elizabeth Catlett was growing up.

This was a time when Black people and children were not allowed to visit art museums in certain places. Was this fair?

Catlett grew up to be an artist and a teacher. She worked hard so her students could visit art museums and have the same options as other students to pursue what they love.

As an award-winning Black artist, she used her voice to make artwork that shows Black people living in the world.
Look closely at this artwork. What colors do you see? Notice the lines, words and drips of paint. Do you see squares and shapes that are repeated, over and over?

Do you see an image of a child and a dog? What other images do you see? The more time you spend looking, the more details you will discover.

Artist Radcliffe Bailey creates work using mixed media. He combines paint, ink and other materials into his art to create texture, depth and add meaning. He creates a visual story about his African American heritage and the memory of slavery.

Do you see any symbols? A symbol is something that represents something else. Can you find these symbols?

- piano keys
- axes
- leaves
- boat
- hat
- flag
- mountain range
- What other symbols can you find?

This artwork is inscribed with the names of these places: Brazil, Cuba, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and Suriname. In history, many people who lived in these places were enslaved. They were not free to live their lives how they wanted. Some people were able to escape and seek refuge, a safe place with shelter. They were able to build a new life with a community of people.

Many people are seeking refuge today from other countries. Imagine you had to flee your home and start over in a new place. What would be important to remember? What symbols would you use to share about your past and your story?