

This fall's tour pre-lesson explores **How to Look at a Work of Art** through a series of short 10-minute "**bell-ringer**" activities.

You can do one activity each day the week before your UMFA tour or do them all at one time! We hope you and your students enjoy looking at and having fun with art!





What is the first thing you notice about this work of art?

Unidentified artist, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kuba peoples, *Mask* (*Nagady Amwaash*), 20th century. UMFA2006.31.1



Let's Zoom in!

What materials did the artist use to create this mask?

As a class, make a list of different materials you see.



Let's Zoom In!

Were any of the these on your list? Can you find all of the materials?

WOOD

PAINT

COWRIE SHELLS

RAFFIA

BEADS

FABRIC

STAPLES



Material/Texture

Describe these materials through different texture words (examples: hard, smooth, bumpy, rough, etc.). Write them on the board next to the materials!

WOOD

PAINT

COWRIE SHELLS

RAFFIA

BEADS

FABRIC

STAPLES MATERIALS



Discuss!

- Why do you think the artist picked the materials they did to create this mask?
- Are the materials natural or human-made?
- Are they expensive?
- Does the material last a long time or is it fragile?
- Are the materials easy to find or difficult?

WRAP UP!

End the activity by finding the same textures in your classroom!

Pay extra attention today to the materials and textures all around you!

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