



A Day at HKMoA
Picture Book
Supplementary Guide

A Day at HKMoA is a picture book created by young illustrator Joanne Liu, on invitation by the Hong Kong Museum of Art. Specially designed for children aged 2 to 6, the book portrays a little girl walking into the unfamiliar world of the art museum and seeing all the fascinating pieces of art, leading her to explore her various imaginations in everyday life.

We have designed a special supplementary guide for the *A Day at HKMoA* picture book, which we hope will be useful for adults in creating an imaginative world, where they can guide their child in discovering the exhibition while exploring the fun content of the picture book.

This guide uses the examples of four works in the exhibition, each accompanied with introductions and suggested family activities. We hope this interactive and lively approach would encourage children to look for artistic elements in daily life while expanding their creativity and imagination.



Wang Yinxian (1943 – 2018)

Zhang Shouzhi (1932 -) (designed)

Large teapot with ribbed decoration and overhead handle
1993

Yixing purple clay

H 16.8 cm W 20.8 cm

The K. S. Lo Collection

C1994.0082

Introduction

Inspired by the organic form of a snail, this curved teapot was the product of a collaboration between contemporary Yixing potter Wang Yinxian and pottery designer Zhang Shouzhi. It is a combination of form and function, through the fusion of traditional Yixing clay teapot craftsmanship and modern design aesthetic. A curved line, giving it a simple form with rich dynamic, penetrates through the entire body of the teapot. Along with the geometric changes between line and surface, an interesting negative space is formed between the spout and handle, creating a contrast between movement and stillness, emptiness and solidity, and channelling the beauty of rhythm.

Suggested Family Activities

Difficulty ★

Role-Playing

Ask your child to imagine themselves as a snail-shaped teapot. What expressions, movements and sounds will they make in each of the following situations?

1. When they are filled with hot tea.
2. When they are lifted up.
3. When they are pouring hot tea.

Difficulty ★★

The Observer

The inspiration for the curved teapot came from the snail. Using the picture, discuss with your child in what ways they look similar to one another.

Suggested angles:

1. Their brown colour.
2. The handle of the teapot looks like a snail's shell.
3. The teapot's spout looks like a snail's head.

Difficulty ★★★

The Inventor

Have your child talk about their favourite animal, its appearance and living habits; assist your child in designing an item or tool they use in everyday life based on the features of the animal's appearance, and encourage your child to share their ideas with others.



Liu Shou-kwan (1919 – 1975)

Zen painting

1970

Ink and colour on paper

179.8 x 96 cm

AC1976.0053

Introduction

A pioneer in Hong Kong's New Ink Movement, Lui Shou-kwan's work blends the abstract elements of Western art with Chinese ink wash painting, to create a Zen atmosphere through pure colour shades and ink. Rich and varied layers of ink feature in the work, with square and solid brush strokes dominating the lower half of the painting. These features portray the lotus leaves while drawing attention to the scarlet lotus flower, giving it liveliness as though it is burning like a flame — communicating an aura of epiphany and conveying profound imagery.

Suggested Family Activities

Difficulty ★

Geometric Association

What geometric shapes can your child associate the painting with?

Tip:

Try dividing the painting into different sections and observe them (for example: triangles, circles, squares, rectangles, dots, lines, and surfaces).

Difficulty ★★

Elements of Art in Everyday Life

All items found in everyday life can be simplified into basic visual elements, including geometric shapes such as dots, lines, surfaces, circles, squares, and triangles. Guide your child in exploring the natural world and finding where these visual elements are hidden.

Difficulty ★★★

From Shapes to Flowers

Find some colour paper, cut it into different geometric shapes, and use them to create flowers of different shapes and sizes.



Lin Fengmian (1900 – 1991)
Autumn landscape
1977 - 1978
Ink and colour on paper
67.5 x 68 cm

FA1991.0010

Introduction

Lin Fengmian is known as the Father of Chinese Modern Art. Having spent some time in his early years in France as a student, he became a pioneer of the art reform movement in China. This landscape painting shows how bold brush strokes were used to paint the background in black, creating a backlit effect through mottled brilliant colours that bring out the autumn leaves.

Suggested Family Activities

Difficulty ★

Features of the Seasons

Can your child describe what is special about autumn? What do they feel about the natural scenery of the other seasons?

Tips:

1. The features of the four seasons include:

Spring: Warmer temperatures, drizzles, sometimes humid and foggy weather, green leaves sprouting on trees, flowers blooming, and all animals and plants coming alive.

Summer: Hot, rainy, occasional typhoons, and plants flourishing.

Autumn: Cooling temperatures, dry air, pleasant winds, harvests, and tree leaves turning red, orange and yellow.

Winter: Cold weather, continuous dry air, north winds, leaves withering and falling, and snow in certain places.

2. Seasonal Feelings

	Human feelings	Colour associations
Spring	Gentle, thriving	Green
Summer	Enthusiastic, energetic	Red
Autumn	Mature, melancholy	Yellow, orange
Winter	Cold, lonely	White, blue

Suggested Family Activities

Difficulty ★★

Temperatures of Colours

The temperature of each season varies from cold to warm — so do different shades of colours. Guide your child in learning about the warm, cold and neutral palettes, and have your child pick four things that represent for them each of the four seasons.

Tips:

Warm palette: Red, orange, yellow

Cold palette: Green, blue, purple

Neutral palette: Black, grey, white

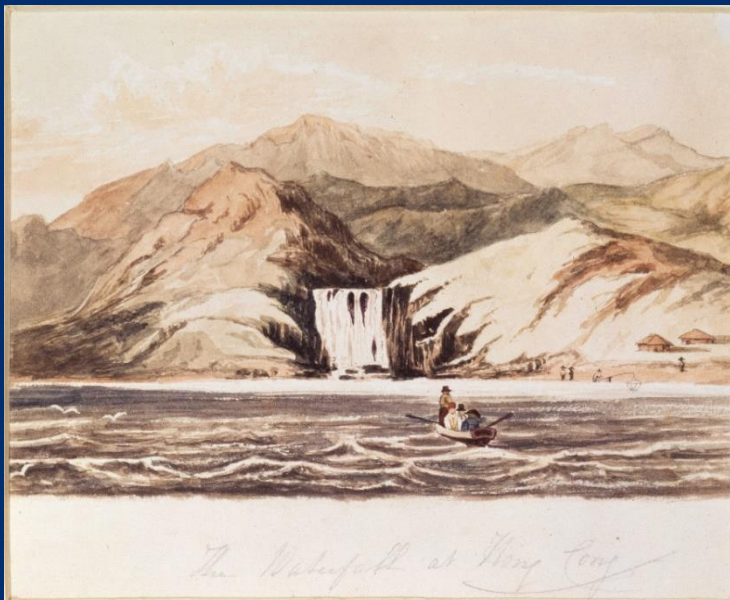
Difficulty ★★★

Colourful Plant Samples

Life is full of colours. Together with your child, collect plant samples of different colours from the natural world that represent each of the four seasons, and make a little booklet. Paste the different types of plants on the booklet and form three-dimensional drawings, to create an album of plant samples for the four seasons.

Tip:

Observe changes in the form and colours of different plants (for example: leaves, branches, flowers, and grass)



William Havell (1782 – 1857) (attri.)
Waterfall at Aderdeen, Hong Kong
ca. 1816
Watercolour on paper
10.5 x 16 cm

AH1964.0363

Introduction

This small painting is one of the earliest visual records of Hong Kong, believed to be the work of one of the envoys at the Embassy, completed on the ship to China in 1816.

The ships of the Embassy docked in Hong Kong waters after a long voyage. The mission discovered that the small desolate island was not only a natural haven, but also a source of fresh water.

The painting depicts the sailors towards the waterfall, which still stands today in Waterfall Bay Park beside the Wah Fu Estate in Aberdeen, with its water flow decreasing since the construction of Pok Fu Lam Reservoir.

Suggested Family Activities

Difficulty ★

My Neighbourhood

As your child grows up, how much do they know about their own neighbourhood? Do they know where the supermarket closest to their home is? Where are the bus stops and metro stations?

Tips:

1. Is the neighbourhood where they live busy or quiet? Are there a lot of trees and parks?
2. What are their favourite places in the neighbourhood?
3. Do they like their neighbourhood? Why?
4. Which market does mum like to go to the most?

Difficulty ★★

Neighbourhood Landscape

If you live in Aberdeen, does your child think that Waterfall Bay Park, beside the Wah Fu Estate, is the most special place in the area? If you live in Sha Tin, does your child think the Shing Mun River is the most special place in the area?

What other places does your child think are the most interesting in their neighbourhood? Bring your child to take pictures or make drawings at these places, to record the details of their own neighbourhood!

Difficulty ★★★

The Historian

What does your child know about the neighbourhood they live in? Try searching for information together with your child, through the internet or other channels such as books or visiting neighbours and encourage your child to share the results of their research with different people!

Suggested angles:

1. How did the neighbourhood get its name?
2. What stories does the neighbourhood have in its history?
3. Have any important people lived in the neighbourhood?

