

CLARIFYING THE CRITIQUING PROCESS

TELL ME A STORY

Creating a story about a work of art is a great way to engage students and peak their curiosity. Students will develop their creativity as well as observational, speaking, and writing skills. They will practice “reading” pictures and symbolism and cultivate a connection to the work of art. This activity can be done with a class, in small groups, or individually and is a great introduction for many art projects.

AGE:

Preschool – Adult

TIME:

10 - 15 minutes

DIRECTIONS:

- ◆ Show students a work of art that is narrative. Pictures with people work the best.
- ◆ Do not give them any information about the work.
- ◆ Have students come up with a story about the picture.
- ◆ Ask basic question to direct the students:
 - Who are these people?
 - What are they doing?
 - Where are they going?
 - What is going to happen next?

MODIFICATIONS:

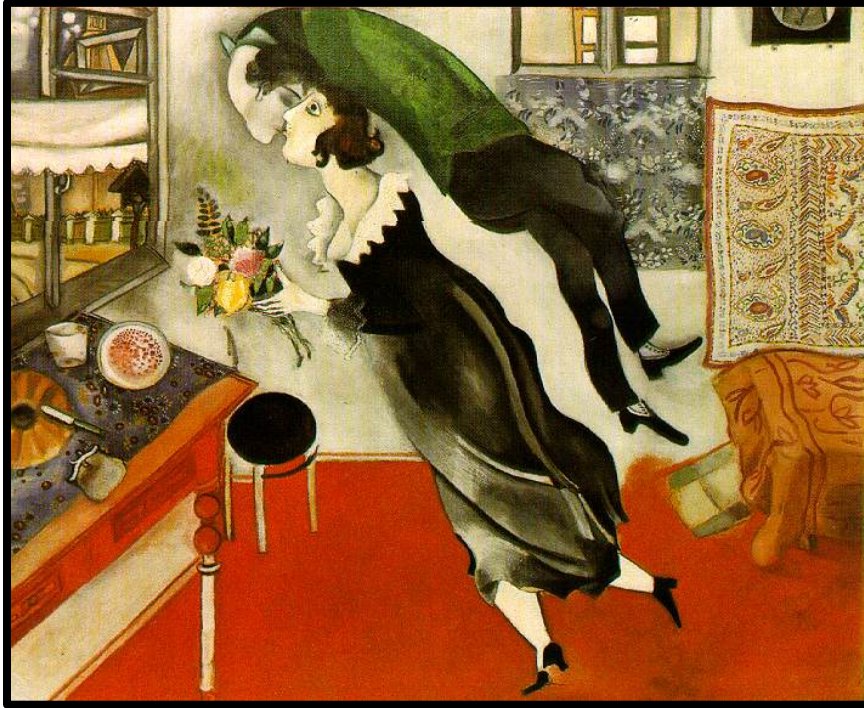
Have the class build a story one sentence at a time. Go around the room having the students add a sentence on to the previous one.

Provide a reading to go along with the picture. Have the students use both the written part and the visual to develop a story.



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TELL ME A STORY EXAMPLE



Marc Chagall

Birthday

1915

Image retrieved on March 13, 2015 from <http://archive.com>

Preschooler

The princess and prince are messing up the room by knocking themselves over. They are kissing because they are a princess and prince. There is a table that is going to break; maybe it's glass. They are getting ready to go to the Ball. They will fly to the Ball. She has flowers for her wedding so she can dance.

High School (12th grade painting students)

A woman feels the presence of a ghost of someone she loves. She is preparing for the anniversary of his death. His presence surprises her yet she appears happy. The color of her clothing looks as if she is in mourning. The setting is eerie with a gloomy exterior contradicting the bright interior.