

Making Curriculum Connections & Finding works of art

Making Curriculum Connections: When you are looking for an appropriate work of art to connect to a specific curriculum unit, first brainstorm a list of ideas and words that have to do with that unit. Here are some things to think about:

- **Time or Place:** What is the time and/or place associated with this unit? This could be specific (Colonial America, Ancient Egypt) or general (communities)
- **Illustration:** What are the images or things associated with this unit? For example, a unit on community involves: images of people, families, workplaces, houses, etc.
- **Concepts:** What are the main concepts that will be learned/thought about in this unit? If you are unsure what the main concept(s) are, ask the teacher what concepts she/he hopes the students learn. For example, a unit on community is about people living & working together, and sharing customs & ideas (which can be illustrated as holiday celebrations, etc.)

Finding Works of Art: From your brainstormed list, you probably have 2 or 3 "leads" you want to explore. Here are some online resources for browsing or searching for images of works of art. Of course, going to the library to browse the art books is often the best way to get started when you are feeling truly "stumped."

- **Art Image Archives:**
 - **The ArtChive** (www.artchive.com): Organized by artist name and category (American Art, Abstract Expressionism, etc.). Images are generally of good quality and large size.
 - **Artcyclopedia** (www.artcyclopedia.com): Search by artist, title, or museum (location) of the artwork. You can also browse by movement. The site primarily provides links to images on museum/gallery sites.
- **Quality Museum Sites:** There are lots of Museum websites out there. Here are some that are particularly good resources for images and information. Many museum even supply lesson plans.
 - **Peabody Essex Museum** (www.pem.org) The Peabody Essex museum has a great collection of Asian Art and more. Check out the "ArtScape" where you can build a saved collection of images.
 - **Metropolitan Museum of Art** (www.metmuseum.org) Check out the "timeline of art history," where you can browse by time period & location, much like flipping through a big art history survey book.
 - **Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco** (www.famsf.org) Check out the "imagebase" search at the top of every page and the "my gallery" section where you can browse images and create your own gallery of saved artworks.
 - **Getty Museum Education** (www.getty.org/education) Search lesson plans by grade level & subject.
 - **National Gallery of Art** (www.nga.gov) Search the large collection by artist, title or subject.
 - **Smithsonian National Museum of African Art** (www.africa.si.edu) Images & information on African Art.
 - **Smithsonian Freer Gallery of Art & Arthur M. Sackler Gallery** (www.asia.si.edu) American & Asian Art including Ancient Egypt, Near Eastern & Islamic Art.