

Family Artful Conversations: Art and Places

For children ages 4 to 9 years old



Here are **three tips** for engaging in an artful conversation with your children.

- Take some time to look closely at the artwork. Prompt them to talk about their observations.
- Ask follow up questions about their observations, such as “What makes you think this way?”
- Look out for some visual elements found in the artwork. Discuss the different shapes, colours and patterns they see.

Artwork # 1

DBS Singapore Gallery 2 (on display until October 2020)



Teo Eng Seng
The Net: Most Definitely the Singapore River
1986
Paperdyesculp and net, 350 x 350 cm
Gift of the artist
Collection of National Gallery Singapore

Let's explore!

**Looking at art
through questions:**

1. Look closely at the artwork. What does it remind you of?
2. What do you think this artwork is about?
3. How do you think the artist created this artwork?
4. What do you think the objects on the net are made of?
5. If you could touch these objects, what do you think they would feel like? Why do you say so?
6. Imagine you were the artist. What materials could you use to make the objects on the net?

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The Net: Most Definitely the Singapore River
1986
Paperdyesculp and net, 350 x 350 cm
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About the artwork

While the objects hanging from the fishing net are colourful and vary in size and shape, they are unidentifiable. Instead, they give the impression of being random pieces of rubbish that might have been found in the Singapore River many years ago. Did you know that people often threw things into the river back then? Over time, the river became polluted and smelly. It took ten years for the Singapore River to be cleaned.

About the artist

The objects attached to the fishing net are made from paperdyesculp, a term the artist Teo Eng Seng invented to describe his preferred technique of using dyed paper pulp as an artistic medium.

Artwork #2

DBS Singapore Gallery 2



Tan Teng-Kee
Space Sculpture No. 1
1976
Metal, 107 x 228 x 123 cm
Gift of the artist
Collection of National Gallery Singapore

Let's explore!

Looking at art through questions:

1. What does this artwork remind you of?
2. What do you think this artwork is about?
3. How do you think the artist created this artwork?
4. What do you think the thin, long rods are made of?
5. If you could touch the rods, what do you think they feel like? What makes you say so?
6. Imagine you were the artist. What other materials do you think you could use to make such thin, long rods?

Artwork #2

DBS Singapore Gallery 2



Tan Teng-Kee
Space Sculpture No. 1
1976
Metal, 107 x 228 x 123 cm
Gift of the artist
Collection of National Gallery Singapore

About the artwork

Space Sculpture No. 1 shows Tan Teng-Kee's interest in lines and space. The thin metal rods are arranged in different directions. The rods look as if they had been falling freely but froze when time came to a stand-still.

About the artist

Tan Teng-Kee is known for using scrap industrial materials in his sculptures. He turned the rubbish from factories or shipyards into interesting artworks. His use of such found materials reflects the rapid urbanisation of Singapore in the 1970s.



Artists have always been inspired by the places they visit or dream about. The next time you visit an interesting place, fire up your imagination to dream up stories of different colours, shapes or people you see!