

## What Actually Is a Museum?

### Things to Discuss Before Visiting an Art Museum

Ask your children to define a museum. Then look it up in the dictionary and discuss the meaning.

Try to find out the history of the building that houses the museum you are going to visit.

Discuss with your children the difference between permanent and temporary exhibits.

Discuss how works of art come to be housed in a museum --by donation, purchase, or on loan. Look for those details on the placard beside each piece of art.

Other museum vocabulary: docent, curator, artifact, exhibit, gallery, display case



### Follow Up Activities

- \* Put photographs into a scrapbook or notebook.
- \* Label sketches and store them.
- \* Make a notebooking page with a piece of art you studied plus a narration.
- \* Use any free pamphlets, museum maps, or brochures to make your own scrapbook or notebooking pages.
- \* Give a presentation for someone else.
- \* Be a "living painting!" Dress up and pose like what you saw in a piece of art.
- \* Try your hand at reproducing in a particular artist's work or in his or her style.
- \* Plan your next trip!