



MUSEUM FROM HOME

Art Explorers' Story Hour | May 2020

WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY?

Look!

What do you see in this picture?

Do you think this person is happy? Why do you think that?

Learn!

What makes you happy?
Dancing? Singing? Baking?
Walking in the woods?
Family and friends?

This person is playing the piano. The head is tipped up because the piano player is also singing.

Benny Andrews is the artist who made this painting. Langston Hughes wrote some poems about how people sing to be happy. Andrews read the poems and then created this painting.

Look at the piano player's fingers. Do they look like they're moving? Why do you think the artist painted them like he did?



Benny Andrews, *Hey!* (*The Langston Hughes Series*), 2005, oil on paper, painted fabric, and paper collage, 22 1/2 × 15 in. Clara S. Peck Fund. 2017.14.

Do! Let's do some activities that can make you feel happy...

Do you like to help in the kitchen? Here are some things you can do with some help from an older person:

- Spread butter on crackers or toast
- Slice bananas
- Peel and slice hard-boiled eggs
- Sort fruit
- Make a mini-pizza
- Mix ingredients in a bowl
- Squeeze oranges or lemons for juice or flavored water



Do you like to be outside?

- Get a bag or other container and go on a walk. It can be on the sidewalk, in your yard or in the woods.
- Look around and pick up some things that you find interesting: flowers, blades of grass, stones or twigs.
- When you get home, sit down and sort your collection. What is similar about the things you collected?

Do you notice things that are the same color? (*Ex: green, brown, pink, yellow*)

Do you notice things that have the same shape? (*Ex: round, square, straight lines*)

Do you notice things that have the same texture? (*Ex: soft, fuzzy, hard, flaky*)

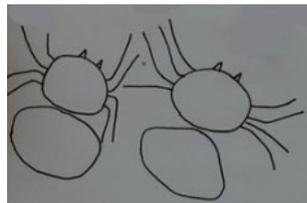
- What shapes do you see? You can create more shapes using your found nature objects.
 - Bendy things like flower stems are good for circles
 - Straight things like grass are good for rectangles



Do you like to make art?

- Gather some small objects. These can be from around the house or from your outside walk.
- Choose a few objects to lay on a sheet of paper.
- Trace around the objects.
- Remove them from the paper and then draw legs, hair, wheels, petals or anything you like!
(*See examples on next page*)

Below are examples using rocks to trace. What did this person make? What kinds of pictures can you make by tracking rocks?



Think about what makes you happy and then do it!



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Art Explorers' Story Hour Art Hunt
May 2020

What Makes Me Happy?

Use the clues below to find something in your house that makes you happy.



Find something yellow. Do you think yellow is a happy color?



Look around for something that is soft like a blanket or pillow.



Can you find a toy that you like to play with together with your family?



Find something you draw with.

What is your favorite color?



Look for a teddy bear or stuffed animal friend.

Who makes you happy?

A friend? A pet?
A family member?