Magical Paintings

Write a short story about a work of art using observation, descriptive vocabulary, and creative thinking.

---

**MATERIALS**
Blank index cards (2 per person), paper and pencils

**LENGTH**
25–30 minutes

---

**STEP 1**
Go to our online database and pick a work of art from our collection: emuseum.toledomuseum.org

**STEP 2**
Spend 2–3 minutes looking at the work of art closely.

**STEP 3**
After close looking, discuss what you see.

**STEP 4**
Generate a list of verbs related to the work of art. Write one verb on an index card.

**STEP 5**
Next, generate a list of nouns from the work of art. Write one noun on an index card.

**STEP 6**
You will be writing a legend about the chosen work of art and you've already got your title! Use the index cards to complete the following sentence:

“How the __________ learned to __________.”

NOUN  VERB

**STEP 7**
Spend 15-20 minutes creating your short story that explains the work of art you and illustrates:

“How the __________ learned to __________.”

NOUN  VERB

If time allows, read your story aloud.