

REYNOLDA

EXPLORE REYNOLDA (AGE 2+)

Art and the Five Senses



Childe Hassam, *Giant Magnolias*, 1904.
Oil on canvas. Reynolda House Museum of American Art,
Original Purchase Fund from the Mary Reynolds Babcock
Foundation, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, ARCA, and
Anne Cannon Forsyth, 1967.2.2



Maurice Prendergast,
The Bathing Cove, ca.
1916-18. Oil on canvas.
Reynolda House
Museum of American
Art, Gift of Barbara
Babcock Millhouse,
1982.2.1

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WHAT YOU NEED

- objects in your home or from outside
- Childe Hassam's *Giant Magnolias* and Maurice Prendergast's *The Bathing Cove* on this card or on your computer screen. To learn more about each artwork, visit reynoldahouse.org.
- objects in your home

DISCOVERY ACTIVITY

Start by looking together at either Childe Hassam's *Giant Magnolias* or Maurice Prendergast's *The Bathing Cove* and discuss the following questions:

- What do you **see** in this image? Name the different elements; for older kids and adults, use adjectives to describe what you see (for example: "a shiny, blue and white vase")
- What do you think happened before the moment in this painting? What do you think will happen next or later?

Then, consider the four other senses besides sight for each artwork:

- What would you **feel** if you could **touch** the different items or elements in this painting?
- What would you **smell** if you were in this painting?
- What might you **taste** if you were in the painting? (or, if you do this exercise with other paintings, is there anything in this painting that you might eat? What would it taste like?)
- What would you hear if you were inside the painting? Perhaps it would be a sound you would hear at this moment, or before or after the moment in the painting.

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SENSORY ACTIVITY

Looking at one artwork at a time, collect items in your home or outside that would:

- have the same **feel** as an item or texture painted by the artist (For example, Childe Hassam painted a hard, ceramic vase with a shiny finish. Maybe you have a vase, or maybe there's a glass or tile that would feel the way you imagine the vase would feel.)
- have the same **look** as an item or texture or area of paint (maybe it has the same color or shape)
- have the same **smell** as an item or element of the painting
- have the same **taste** as an item or element of the painting (You might have to use your imagination a little bit: what might the air taste like? If you were in Maurice Prendergast's painting, would you be eating anything?)
- **sound** like something in the painting or be a sound that you might hear if you were in the painting (For example, can you make or create a noise that might sound like a magnolia leaf falling to the table?)