

Guess My Object!

Ages: 4–11 (Pre-K–Grade 5)

Duration: 20 minutes

Materials needed:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Found objects in your home
- Your five senses: sight, smell, touch, hearing, and taste

Procedure:

A naturalist collects information about what they observe in different environments, bringing back knowledge to people who may be unfamiliar with the place they have explored. The naturalist is tasked with finding a way to capture, describe, and depict the plants, animals, landscape, sounds, smells, and sensory feelings that they experience in these environments, to share with people who do not have the ability to see their discoveries in-person. In this activity, you will be a naturalist in your own home.

- 1. Find an object in your home that you find particularly interesting.** This can be something big or small, natural or man-made.
- 2. Once you choose an object, become a naturalist and use your five senses to describe in detail the subject.** Use the worksheet below labeled “Guess My Object!” to accomplish this task. Write what it looks like, smells like, feels like, sounds like, and—only if it is safe—what it tastes like! Draw a sketch of your object. Use labels to add descriptions in words as well as through the drawing.
- 3. Challenge someone!** Ask someone to try to guess your object without telling them what it is. They can only ask you YES or NO questions, and they can ask a maximum of 20 questions. Keep all your observations in mind and in front of you on this sheet without showing them.

Share your work:

Take a picture of the worksheet and post it to Instagram using the hashtags #MuseumFromHome and #NaturalistsJourney, and tag the Hudson River Museum.

Worksheet for *Guess My Object*

Choose an object to observe: _____

List at least five observations. Use as many of your senses as you can to describe your object. What is the object? Where is it usually found? How is it used? Who uses it? What is its purpose?

Look

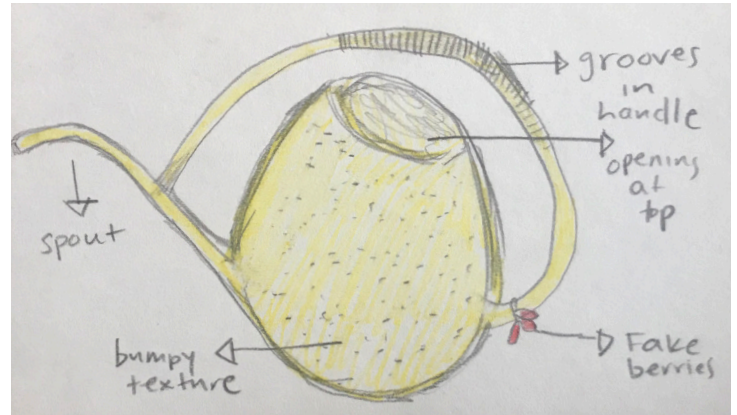
Feel

Smell

Listen/hear

Taste (only if it is safe!)

Draw a picture of the object here. Use labels to add details in writing.



My object: Watering Can

LOOK: yellow color, slightly bumpy surface texture, handle that curves all the way from the back and connects with long curved spout in front. Fake berries wrapped around handle. The berries are red and smooth. The can has a large opening at the top - I can fit my hand inside.

FEEL: A slightly bumpy feel. Feels like plastic material. The handle has grooves instead of bumps. When I hold the handle I feel the grooves. It is dry inside. It is light, not heavy.

SMELL: No smell!

LISTEN: No sound unless I tap it.

TASTE: Not tasting - it is not edible food!