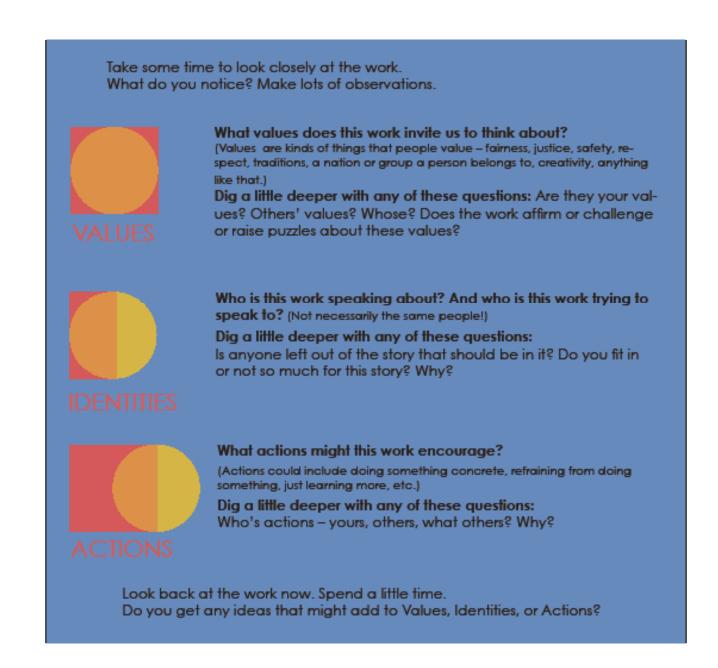
Values, Identities, Actions

A routine for exploring some rich civic aspects of works of art.



Share your experience with this thinking routine on social media using the hashtags **#PZThinkingRoutines** and **#ValuesIdentitiesActions**.

PROJECT ZERO



This thinking routine was developed as part of the Arts as Civic Commons project at Project Zero, Harvard Graduate School of Education with generous support from Independent Schools Victoria. Explore more Thinking Routines at pz.harvard.edu/thinking-routines

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A THINKING ROUTINE FROM PROJECT ZERO, HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Values, Identities, Actions, cont'd

A routine for exploring some rich civic aspects of works of art.

VIA is a relatively straightforward routine for explaining some rich civic aspects of works of art. It is quite easy to facilitate in most settings. Here are a few fips to make the experience a success.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN



SELECTING WORKS OF ART

A key aspect of a good VIA session concerns choice of the work or works. A festile work for VIA has one or more fairly easily discernible civic thenes, where matters of Values, Identities, and Actions invite comment.

Often, such works feature a deliberate civic statement of sume sort __but not always. The work might have been fishioned for other reasons altegether and still happen to invite civic connections. In other words, VIA is not necessarily an attempt to interpret the work as intended by an artist but an attempt to see the work through a civic lens.

You might select works in advance that you feel would support a good conversation. But also, it after phys well simply to say a few words about what makes for a good VIA conversation and turn participants loose in a gallery, or with a book of set, etc., to make their own choices. If students are having difficulty saying something about the set, you might use any of the Viewing Meres or Dialogue Meres to support their discussion.

FACILITATING THE ROUTINE



FACILITATION

Often no direct facilitation is necessary. You can distribute the routine on paper and ask participants individually or in small groups to go through the steps. For a large group taking together, or perhaps for people trying VIA for the first time, it may make sense to lead the participants through the process. This can be done with a bundant or orally.

The top question under each of V, L, and A is the key question. Be sure participants get to that one. As to the "dig a little deeper" questions, there is no need to cover every single one. That 's a lot of conversation! You can pick and choose according to what explorations look most premising for the work of set in question and the participants.

You can make chaires with the age of the participants in mind. For younger participants, feel free to freus on particular questions and rephrase them if needed. However, he positive minded about what younger participants can tackle. They often have more to say than one might imagine about digging-deeper questions.

WRAPPING UP

Participants using VIA individually or in small groups often explore VIA more richly if they expect a general conversation involving all participants at the end, where people briefly and informally report in bendlines. You can facilitate that conversation.

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