



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

Movement Mondays: Still Life Scavenger Hunt



Create a still life using objects you find in your home!

A **still life** is a work of art depicting mostly inanimate, motionless, objects. These objects are either **natural** (food, flowers, plants, rocks, shells, etc.) or **man-made** (drinking glasses, books, vases, jewelry, coins, pipes, etc.) It is most common for artists to paint still lifes. However, other types of media such as sculpture or collage are also used to represent still lifes.

The southern artist **Benny Andrews**, known for his use of collage and fabric in his paintings, made many works of art representing still lifes. He often used bright, contrasting colors in his still life collages.

QUESTIONS? EMAIL
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Supplies

Found Objects

Instructions

Step 1: Look around you. What is moving around you? Try to define the type of movement you see (fast, repetitive, unique...). Now, name five objects that are completely still. Which one is your favorite? What is so appealing about it? Think about the colors, shape, texture... You can also look in magazines, books or online to find pictures of still lifes. Notice the types of objects that are often shown.

Step 2: Adventure time! Explore your house and collect items to use to build your still life. Be sure to ask a parent or guardian's permission to use the objects that you find. Don't worry about making sure you have everything you need - you can always go back and find more objects.

Step 3: Think about the background before you start building. Would it look better on the kitchen floor or on a bedroom window? Once you are ready, organize your objects. Get creative with your placement. What happens when you change the place of an object? Does this change the balance of the assemblage (how the objects relate to each other)?

Step 4: Snap a picture, and then clean up your supplies. Make sure to put everything back where you found it. You might even eat some of your art if you used fruits!

Step 5 (Optional): Start the project over, using different types of objects. How different does it look from the first one? Does it tell a completely different story?

Vocabulary

Still life- the representation of inanimate objects

Assemblage - a category of sculpture that uses *found objects* to create a new structure

Balance - Balance refers to how the elements of art (line, shape, color, value, space, form, texture) relate to each other and how it reflects as a whole.

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