FWMoA's Pre-K Program offers early learners an introduction to the museum and visual literacy through the connection between art and storytelling. Teachers can select between three different classroom lessons that pair an artwork from the collection with a picture book and artmaking activity. Then, visit the museum for a tour and time in our recently redesigned Learning Center.

This programming is available for FREE to public and private schools in the following counties thanks to the generosity of the Lincoln Financial Foundation: Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells, and Whitley.

WE VISIT YOU: CHOOSE YOUR PROGRAM

1. What is an Art Museum?

This program, intended for classes visiting FWMoA, introduces and prepares students for a museum experience by exploring “museum manners” and highlighting how an art museum visit is different from other museums. Students will discuss a family portrait, read My Museum, and draw their own portrait.

2. Creating a Classroom Quilt

Focusing on Faith Ringgold’s “story quilts”, students will look at a print of Tar Beach and use it to discover the story the artist is telling. They will touch quilt samples from FWMoA’s Amish quilt collection, read Tar Beach, and create their own story quilt square, which we will "stitch" together to form a classroom quilt.

3. Don Quixote’s Adventure

Using a print by Irving Amen, students will decide what part of the story the artist has chosen to show, read Don Quixote and the Windmills, and create a drawing of what adventure they would take Don Quixote on next: to the Fort Wayne Zoo, the pumpkin patch, or their house!

4. Buggin’ Out

Exposing students to 3-dimensional art, this program uses a sculptural vase by Charlie Cummings to discuss repetition, symmetry, and how materials help tell the story. After reading Du Iz Tak, students will create their own patterned bug.

YOU VISIT US

A museum field trip lasts an hour and is split into two parts: 30 minutes on an object-based talking tour led by a docent and 30 minutes in free choice exploration in the Learning Center.

An extension of the exhibition space in the main galleries, the Learning Center communicates directly with the art on view throughout the museum. In the Learning Center students will find artworks from the museum’s permanent collection, a space to create and display artwork, a variety of blocks and building tools to construct 3D designs, and a quiet nook for reading and inspiration.