EXPLORE ON FOOT

What can you discover when all you need is a pair of walking shoes? Right outside your front door is a world to explore—the street, neighborhood, or piece of land you call home. Take a walk through your town, city, or nearby park. What sounds do you hear? Listen to the rhythm of someone riding a bike, a bird chirping, the wind that blows through the trees, and more. Paying close attention to what is around you can help spark your imagination or recall a fond memory.

SEE!

Horace Pippin’s artwork, West Chester, Pennsylvania on view in the gallery at WAM and pictured here.

GUIDE TO LOOKING

What do you see?

If you were in this painting, what would you hear?

Who do you imagine lives here?


CREATE!

A WALKING COLLAGE

Researchers have found that walking for just 30 minutes increases creativity for up to two hours afterward. Go beyond your front door and see the world creatively around you! Bring along a bag or tote to collect items you find when you explore on foot.

A collage or assemblage is an arrangement of various materials in an artwork. While creating a collage, you may arrange or rearrange pieces to take a fresh look at familiar objects. All collected items offer exciting possibilities! How can they be used to create textures, shapes, color, and movement in a composition? What kinds of feelings and emotions do they possess? Creating a collage is excellent for experimentation and discovery.
MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED

A collection of found items from your walk
Cardboard, heavy-weight cardstock, or a piece of scrap wood for base (an old shoebox lid works great!)
Glue (tacky, hot glue, school—the type appropriate for the materials)
Paint or markers (if desired)

DIRECTIONS

1. Bring a bag along on your walk. As you walk, look for things that would be okay to collect and not part of someone’s property. You might decide to gather a variety of items you find along the way. Only collect found objects that are safe to handle. Check with an adult if you are unsure. Natural items such as leaves, twigs, petals, feathers, or pieces of bark are often good choices.

2. After collecting your items, sort through them and start to think about how to organize them onto your surface. Practice arranging them until you are satisfied with a final composition.

3. Working with one object at a time, glue them onto your surface. Some items may require more glue to stick than others.

4. Let the glue dry completely.

5. Add in color with paint or markers if desired.

6. Be sure to snap a picture of your creation and share it on Instagram with WAM at #WAMartcation to be entered to win a special prize!