Elementary Curators: Part 1

Collections, Collections, Collections!
Museums come in many shapes and sizes and often focus on collecting and exhibiting a particular kinds of objects.

Here are some different kinds of museums you may have visited: history, anthropology, archeology, natural history, historic houses, battlefields, state and national parks, aquariums, zoos, botanical gardens and our favorite…ART!

Did you know: In the state of Utah there are over 200 museums! How many have you visited? How many can you explore online?
What is a Collection?

Museums are places where **objects** of importance are collected. Often these objects share **common traits** like these teapots from NEHMA’s collection.

Museums keep these objects **safe** so they can share them with the public in perpetuity – which is a big word that means **forever**!

These collections can be made up of many different things depending on what kind of museum it is.

**Do you collect anything?** How did you decide what to collect? What does your collection mean to you? How do you share it with others?
Welcome to NEHMA

NEHMA collects Modern & Contemporary American Art with an emphasis on art in the American West.

NEHMA’s collection includes over 5,000 artworks by approx. 1,845 artists!

Many kinds of artwork are part of NEHMA’s collection including: paintings, sculpture, photography, video, drawing, printmaking, installation, and ceramics (art made of clay).

What kinds of artwork do you see here? What kinds of artwork do you like to create?

Roy De Forest, Construction, 1961
Wood, carpet and oil paint, 22 x 18 x 3 in.
Gift of the Marie Eccles Caine Foundation

Gordon Onslow-Ford, Voyager in Space, c. 1978
Parles paint on panel, 39.5 x 33.5 in.
Gift of Paule Anglim

Robert A. Widdicombe
Cadillac Ranch, Amarillo Texas, 1979
Ektacolor RC print, 13.6 x 13.6 in.
Museum Purchase with the Charter Member Endowment Fund
NEHMA’s Collections

Click on the link below to view the first of 3 videos about Collections!

Elementary Curators Part 1: Welcome to NEHMA
Inside the Vault

Join us for a behind-the-scenes look inside the NEHMA vault!

Click on the link below to view the second of 3 videos about Collections!

Elementary Curators Part 2: Inside the Vault
Your Collections

Click on the link below to view the third of 3 videos about Collections!

Elementary Curators Part 3: Collections
Creating a Museum at Home

What is your collection?

• How could you organize your collection?

• What is the best way to store your collection and keep it safe?

• If you were to make a record about your collection, what would be important information to write down?

Do your family or friends have collections? Ask others what they collect and share your collection with them!
Art Challenge

• Come up with an interesting way to arrange your collection: by size, by color, where they are from or whatever you choose.

• Arrange objects thoughtfully and show them off to a parent, family or friends.

• If you like, draw or take pictures of your arrangement.

See how many different ways can you arrange your collection!
Thanks for joining us!

Check out more amazing art from NEHMA’s collection online: collection.artmuseum.usu.edu
Core Standards

Fine Arts

Kindergarten
Standard K.V.P.1: Select art objects for personal portfolio and display, giving explanation for choices.
Standard K.V.P.2: Identify places where art may be displayed and explain the purpose of the portfolio or collection.
Standard K.V.P.3: Explain what an art museum is, and distinguish how it is different from other buildings and venues.
Standard K.V.R.1: Recognize art, identify its uses within one’s personal environment, and describe what an image represents.

1st Grade
Standard 1.V.P.1: Explain why some objects, artifacts, and artworks are valued over others.
Standard 1.V.P.2: Ask and answer questions such as where, when, why, and how artwork should be prepared for presentation or preservation.
Standard 1.V.P.3: Identify the roles and responsibilities of people who work in and visit museums and other art venues.
Standard 1.V.R.3: Classify artwork based on different reasons for preferences.

2nd Grade
Standard 2.V.P.1: Categorize artwork based on a theme or concept for an exhibit.
Standard 2.V.P.2: Distinguish between different materials or artistic techniques for preparing artwork for presentation.
Standard 2.V.P.3: Analyze how art exhibited inside and outside of schools (such as in museums, galleries, virtual spaces, and other venues) contributes to communities.
Standard 2.V.R.1: Perceive and describe aesthetic characteristics of one’s natural world and constructed environments, and categorize images based on expressive properties.

3rd Grade
Standard 3.V.P.1: Investigate and discuss possibilities and limitations of spaces, including electronic, for exhibiting artwork.
Standard 3.V.P.2: Identify exhibit space and prepare works of art, including artists’ statements, for presentation.
Standard 3.V.P.3: Identify and explain how and where different cultures record and illustrate stories and history of life through art.

4th Grade
Standard 4.V.P.1: Analyze how past, present, and emerging technologies have impacted the preservation and presentation of artwork.
Standard 4.V.P.2: Analyze the various considerations for presenting and protecting art in various locations, indoor or outdoor settings, in temporary or permanent forms, and in physical or digital formats.
Standard 4.V.P.3: Compare and contrast purposes of art museums, art galleries, and other venues, as well as the types of personal experiences they provide.

5th Grade
Standard 5.V.P.1: Define the roles and responsibilities of a curator, and explain the skills and knowledge needed in preserving, maintaining, and presenting objects, artifacts, and artwork.
Standard 5.V.P.2: Develop a logical argument for safe and effective use of materials and techniques for preparing and presenting artwork.
Standard 5.V.P.3: Cite evidence about how an exhibition in a museum or other venue presents ideas and provides information about a specific concept or topic.

6th Grade
Standard 6.V.P.1: Analyze the similarities and differences associated with preserving and presenting two-dimensional, three-dimensional, and digital artwork.
Standard 6.V.P.2: Individually or collaboratively develop a visual plan for displaying works of art, analyzing exhibit space, the needs of the viewer, and the layout of the exhibit.
Standard 6.V.P.3: Assess, explain, and provide evidence of how museums or other venues reflect history and values of a community.