



EVERSON MUSEUM OF ART

THE STORY TELLER

Jacob Lawrence

Jacob Lawrence's work tells a story of his life and that of the Black American experience. *The Migrants Cast Their Ballots*, 1974, pictured here, is part of the Everson Museum collection. It is a serigraph; also known as a silk-screen print, where one color is printed at a time so several screens are used to create a multi-colored image. The image is built up layer upon layer. The strong graphic characteristics, much like in sign painting, are evident in this print.

Lawrence's Migration Series (60 panels) is his most famous work that depicts the migration of African Americans from the rural South to the urban North from 1916-1970. As with all his work, personal lives are intertwined with moments in history.

LOOK, THINK, SHARE, AND WONDER

Take inspiration from Lawrence's work from the Everson's collection and talk about what you see. Follow the easy steps below. Are you ready? Let's go!

STEP 1 LOOK: Take a moment to look at what's going on in this picture.

STEP 2 THINK: What's going on in this picture?

STEP 3 SHARE: Take turns talking about what you see.

STEP 4 WONDER: What do you see that makes you say that?



Jacob Lawrence
The 1920s... Migrants Cast Their Ballots, 1974,
Screenprint; ed. 45/125, 32 x 24 inches, Everson Museum of Art
Gift of Lorillard, 75.33.8

An art-making activity is provided for you on the back of this sheet.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

ACTIVITY

Create a work of art that tells a story about your own life in the graphic art style of Jacob Lawrence

Begin by sharing a story from your life that is a vivid memory. Look through family photos to find a picture of a fond memory for inspiration, then create an image inspired by that memory using the steps below

MATERIALS

Blank sheet of paper

Construction paper (several sheets)

Pattern paper

Glue

Scissors

Pencil

STEP 1: Find a photo of a fond memory

STEP 2: Using a blank sheet of paper and pencil draw lines to create a sketch inspired by that photo or use the templates provided. Use Lawrence's technique of angular profiles and basic shapes to create your own.

STEP 3: Cut out the figures and shapes from your sketch. Place each cutout over either construction paper or patterned paper, use a combination of both if you like. Trace each individual shape and then cut each shape out using scissors.

STEP 4: Choose a sheet of construction paper for your background. You can even use several colors if you want to show a sky and ground as shown in the picture below. Lay each cutout shape over the construction paper and glue each piece in place.

This activity was created by Museum Educators at the Everson Museum of Art. To learn more about The Everson Museum of Art visit www.everson.org

