

Cincinnati Art Museum

# MyCAM

Art Safari

Family Art Hunt





# **Lions & Tigers & Bears, Oh My!**

Are you ready for an Art Safari?

Animals big and small, furry and feathered  
have turned the art museum into a zoo.

Which animals will you find on your hunt?

Grab some paper, a pencil and your imagination and have fun!



# Down on the Farm

Old CAMDonald had a farm!  
We have a barn bursting with a  
bumper crop of beasts for you to find.



*This robust red rooster is ready to strut through the galleries.*

## ACTIVITY:

A big red rooster, a blue-faced man, a donkey playing the violin - what a strange dream.

Draw a picture of your slumber stories.



Marc Chagall (1887-1985), Russia, *The Red Rooster (Le Coq rouge)*, 1940, oil on canvas, Bequest of Mary E. Johnston, 1967.1426

## LOOK AGAIN:

Chagall used his imagination, dreams and memories for inspiration.

Do you create art based on your dreams and memories?



*Baa-baa black sheep have you any wool? Lead your handsome herd to find this fluffy flock.*

## ACTIVITY:

Imagine you and your friends are each one of these sheep.

What are you talking  
(or baaing) about?  
Share your lamb lingo.



Anton Mauve (1838-1888), The Netherlands, *Shepherd and Sheep*, circa 1880, oil on canvas, Bequest of Mary Hanna, 1956.117

## LOOK AGAIN:

Mauve used the color mauve (no connection) in the sky of this painting.

Looking at the sky, what time of day do you think it is?

*Set your time machine to 4500 BC, location the Nile River. This animal will be grazing along its banks.*

## **ACTIVITY:**

We don't exactly know what type of animal is on the side of this vessel.

Why kind of animal do you think it is? Draw a picture.



Egypt, Black-Topped Redware Beaker with a Depiction of a Barbary Sheep, 4500 BCE-3650 BCE, clay with incised decoration, Museum Purchase with funds provided by the Oliver Family Foundation, 1999.61

## **LOOK AGAIN:**

This object, from 4500 BC, is the oldest work of art in the museum's collection.

How do you think it came to be in Cincinnati?



*It would be a bit bull-headed not to add this great guy to your pasture.*

## ACTIVITY:

The Sumerians, who crafted this bull, invented the first writing. They used pictures for words.

Create a story about this bull using only pictures.



Iraq, *Votive Calf*, circa 2400 BCE, bronze, hollow-cast around a ceramic core, Mary Hanna Fund, 1957.32

## LOOK AGAIN:

This votive calf is from ancient Iraq from an area called the Fertile Crescent.

What rivers run in this region?



*Now here is a horse of a different color. Add this marvelous mare to your art farm.*

## **ACTIVITY:**

Ceramic horses would be included in a person's tomb to show their importance.

What other things do you think they would include in a tomb?



China, Horse, 8th century, earthenware with three-color (sancai) lead glazes, Museum Purchase, 1950.49

## **LOOK AGAIN:**

This horse is blue, green and brown. If you were going to paint this horse, what colors would you choose?



# Domestic Bliss

It's raining cats and dogs and maybe even cows and lions on this hunt of our favorite furry friends.



*Find this furry family friend hanging outside this quaint cottage. A perfect pet looking for a pat.*

## ACTIVITY:

Have each member of your group pick a person (or the dog) in this painting.

Have a conversation about what you think is going on.



Thomas Gainsborough (1727-1788), England, *The Cottage Door*, circa 1778, oil on canvas, Given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Williams by their children, 1948.173

## LOOK AGAIN:

Gainsborough painted several versions of *The Cottage Door*.

Why do you think he liked painting this scene?



*Cats are curiously cuddly characters. Head to ancient Egypt find this fabulous feline.*

## **ACTIVITY:**

Cats can be both soft and cuddly but also fierce and protective.

Draw a picture of your favorite furry feline.



Egypt, *Head of Cat*, 712-30 BCE, cast bronze with gold earring, Gift of Millard F. and Edna F. Shelt, 1947.382

## **LOOK AGAIN:**

Bastet, the Egyptian goddess, was always shown as a house cat.

Why do you think she was represented in this way?

*This perfect pooch loves his dapper dad.*

## ACTIVITY:

Symons poses with a greyhound, the fastest dog on earth.

Imagine you can run as fast as this pooch, where would you go and why?

Sir Joshua Reynolds , (1723-1792), England, *Richard Peers Symons, M.P. (Later Baronet)*, 1770-1771, oil on canvas, Museum Purchase: Bequest of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Wichgar, The Edwin and Virginia Irwin Memorial, John J. Emery Endowment, Fanny Bryce Lehmer Endowment, Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Leyman Endowment, and gift of Mary Hanna, by exchange. Acquired in honor of Chairman of the Board John W. Warrington for 50 years service as Trustee of the Cincinnati Art Museum, 1941-1991, 1991.62



## LOOK AGAIN:

Symons is posed with art from classical Italy to appear more intelligent.

If you were painting him today, what would you include?

*Our lovely lion may not be the first thing you think of as a pet-but he has a special place in our heart.*

## ACTIVITY:

Our lion is very regal with his anklets and earrings (now missing).

Draw his picture, complete with his royal regalia.

Iran, *Seated Lion*, Late 12th Century-Early 13th Century, earthenware with turquoise glaze, Museum Purchase, 1958.518



## LOOK AGAIN:

This figure probably served a courtly or ceremonial function.

At the museum he is our mascot. What role would you have him play?



*This handsome heifer is dedicated to an ancient mother.*

## ACTIVITY:

The cow was sacred to the goddess Juno, suggesting this heifer was part of an altar dedicated to her.

Draw an animal who is important to you.



Italy, *Heifer from an Altar Relief*, 1st century CE, marble, John J. Emery Fund, 1946.9

## LOOK AGAIN:

As queen of the Roman gods, Juno protected the nation.

What animal represents the person(s) who protects our nation today?



# By Air or By Sea

By air and by sea, these captivating creatures capture our creativity as they glide through the winds and waves.

*Beautiful birds soar through the night sky on this valuable vase.*

## **ACTIVITY:**

Golden birds take a midnight flight over water lilies on this vase.

Write a poem as if you were flying through the night.

*Vase*, 1900, The Rookwood Pottery Company (estab. 1880), manufactory, Kitaro Shirayamadani (1865-1948), decorator, United States, stoneware, Black Iris glaze line with copper and silver electrodeposits, Museum Purchase: Lawrence Archer Wachs Fund and a generous gift from Judge and Mrs. Norman A. Murdock, 2004.68



## **LOOK AGAIN:**

This vase is an incredibly important example of art pottery.

What do you think makes this vase so important?



*A fish frolics with a dragon on this voluminous vessel.*

## ACTIVITY:

The dragon rules the sky,  
the fish rules the water.

They are having a debate  
about which is better,  
the sky or the water,  
who will win?



*Aladdin Vase*, 1882, The Rookwood Pottery Company (estab. 1880), manufactory, Maria Longworth Nichols Storer (1849-1932), decorator, United States, earthenware, Limoges glaze line, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James J. Gardner, 2002.94

## LOOK AGAIN:

The artist who decorated this vase was fascinated by Japanese art.

Can you find examples of Japanese influence in this vessel?

*A bowl or a mini-ecosystem for sea creatures?*

**ACTIVITY:**

This charger is the home to a variety of water animals.

Look closely, can you name them all?

Draw your favorite.



*Charger*, circa 1880s, Barbizet Studio (estab. circa 1850, closed circa 1890), attributed manufactory, France, glazed earthenware, Gift of Mrs. J. Louis Ransohoff, 1923.943

**LOOK AGAIN:**

To make this plate, the artist made molds directly from the creatures represented.

Do you think this makes them look more lifelike?



*This lobster, eager to make it back to the sea, is ready to make a quick escape.*

## **ACTIVITY:**

This lobster needs to find his home under the sea.

Draw a picture of a place you think he would like to live.



Maria Longworth Nichols Storer (1849-1932), United States, *Basket*, circa 1897-circa 1900, copper electroplated on tin, Gift of Maria Longworth Storer, 1903.395

## **LOOK AGAIN:**

Many creatures live in the sea.

How many can you name?



*This tree dweller does not have wings, he has a bushy tail.*

## ACTIVITY:

This vase represents a certain season, what is it?

Write a haiku about our furry friend at this time of year.



Japan, *Vase and Lid*, circa 1880, bronze, overlaid applied copper, silver, gold, and red paint, Museum Purchase, 1887.52

## LOOK AGAIN:

Images of squirrels in trees first appeared in Chinese art in the Yuan dynasty.

Why do you think this was a popular subject?



# A Thing of Myth

A mythical menagerie  
is a marvel in the making.  
Seriously symbolic, these amazing  
animals are more than meets the eye.

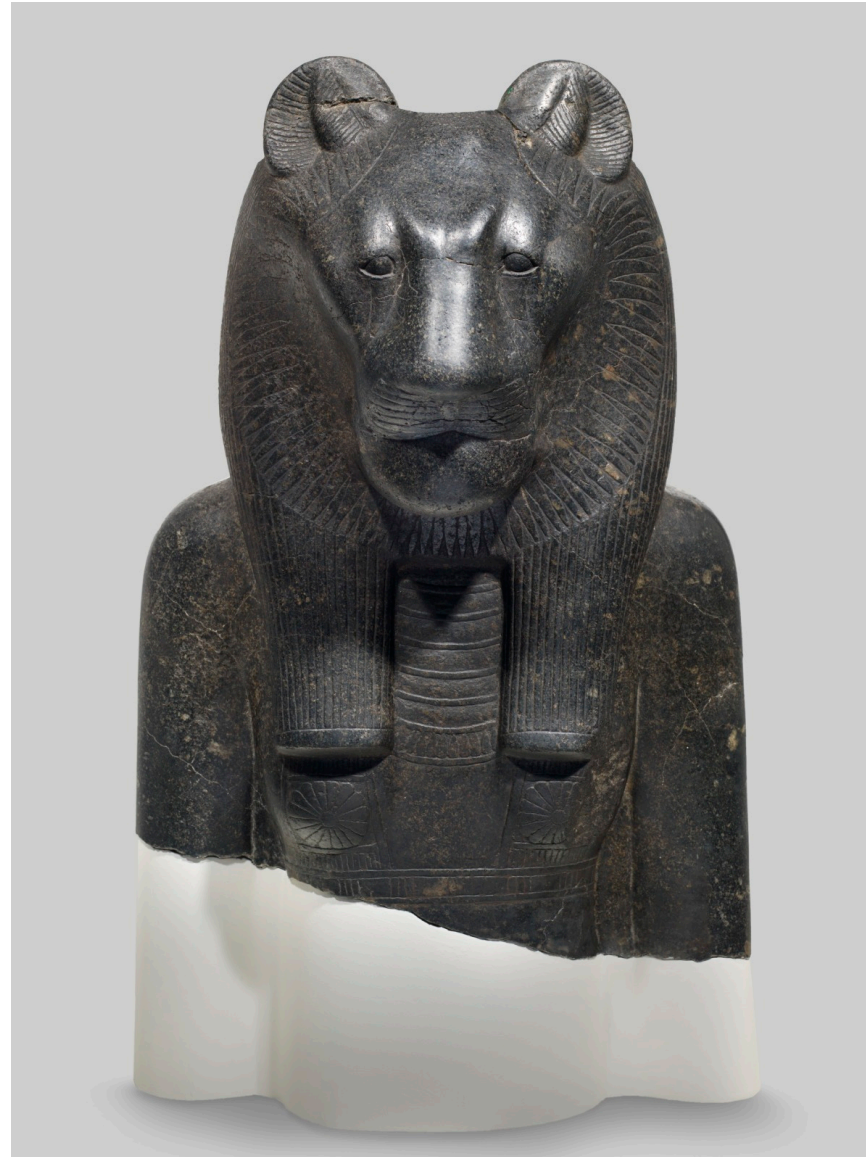
*Are you brave enough to face this lion-headed goddess?*

**ACTIVITY:**

Sekhmet was the goddess of the sunset, destruction and wisdom.

Draw a picture of Sekhmet. Add symbols to represent her areas of power.

Egypt, *Bust Fragment from a Colossal Statue of Sekhmet*, 1390 BCE-1352 BCE, black granite, John J. Emery Fund, 1945.65



**LOOK AGAIN:**

Pharaoh Amenhotep III had hundreds of Sekhmet statues made for his tomb.

Why do you think he chose Sekhmet for this purpose?



*Where are your dragons? Earth, Fire & Water are waiting for you in the CAM's Cincinnati Wing.*

## **ACTIVITY:**

These dragons represent Earth, Fire and Water.

Imagine they are having a conversation, share what they are saying.



*Plaque: A Trinity of Dragons - Earth, Fire and Water, circa 1882, The Rookwood Pottery Company (estab. 1880), manufactory, Kitaro Shirayamadani (1865-1948), decorator, earthenware, Standard glaze line, Gift of William Held MacConnell, James M. Smith, Ernest V. Thomas, 1974.365*

## **LOOK AGAIN:**

Dragons can be good or bad. These dragons are good.

Talk about dragons from books or tv- are they good or bad?

*You might get all wrapped up in your search for this slithering serpent.*

## ACTIVITY:

This king and queen are bound tightly with a garland that turns into a snake.

Write a short love poem about this happy couple.



India, Serpent King (Nagaraja) and Queen, 9th Century CE, stone (gabbro), Museum Purchase with funds provided by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bimel, Jr, 1998.55

## LOOK AGAIN:

Nagas are water serpent deities that appear in both Hinduism and Buddhism.

Why do you think they appear in both religions?



*The meaning behind this relief is a Mithraic mystery. Join the crowd to determine its true meaning.*

## ACTIVITY:

You are one of the animals on this relief - either a dog, snake or scorpion.

Write this story from that point of view.



## LOOK AGAIN:

Mithraic students were called syndexioi or those "united by the handshake."

Create a handshake for your own secret society.

Italy, *Mithraic Relief with Bull*, 150 CE-200 CE, marble, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher E. Nyce, 1968.112



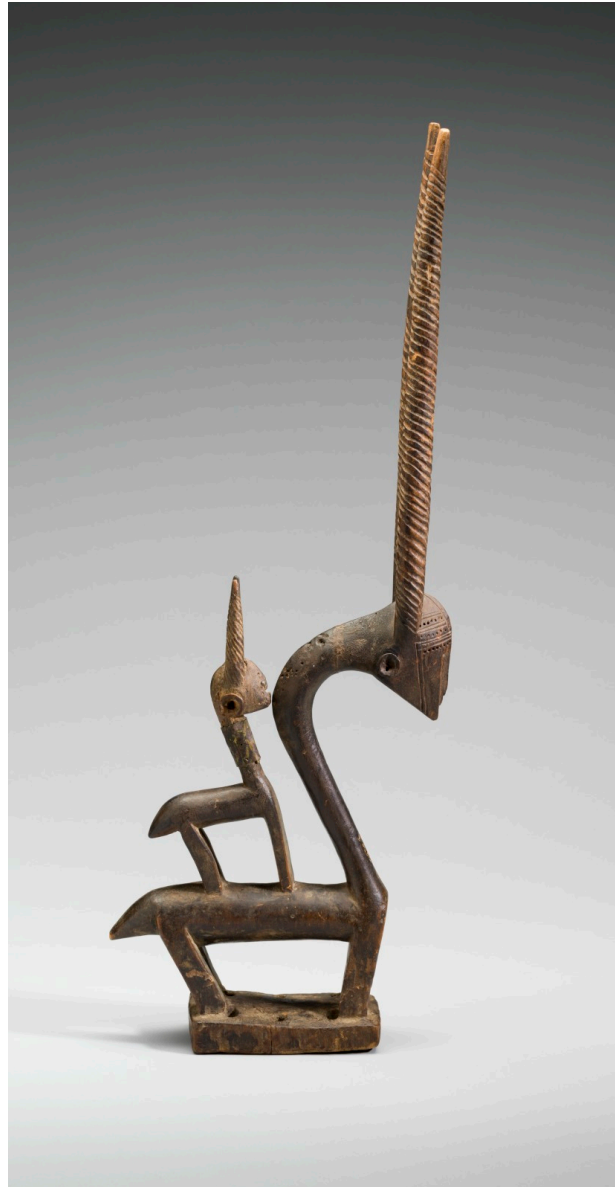
*Mama and baby antelope are waiting for you in the African gallery.*

## ACTIVITY:

This headdress is danced during planting and harvesting seasons to ensure success.

Draw a picture of a person dancing in this headdress.

Unattributed Bamana Artist, Mali, *Head Crest (Chi wara)*, early to mid-20th century, wood, Gift of Mary Mills Ford, Olive Lloyd Mills and Marcia Mills Bogart in memory of Edward Lloyd Mills, 1964.157



## LOOK AGAIN:

The Chi Wara is named after an antelope-like creature who introduced farming to humans.

Why is he shown as an antelope?



# Saddle Up!

Giddy up and away we go.  
Saddle up your trusty steed for the last  
stop on this awesome art safari.

*Your chariot, or at least the horses for it, awaits you in ancient Greece.*

## ACTIVITY:

The four horses on the top of this pyxis were likely part of a chariot.

Draw their missing chariot.



Greece, *Lidded Geometric Pyxis*, circa 750 BCE, clay with painted decoration, Museum Purchase: Gift of Mrs. J. Louis Ransohoff, by exchange, 1989.111

## LOOK AGAIN:

This pyxis likely held small valuable objects like jewelry.

Why do you think its lid was decorated with four horses?

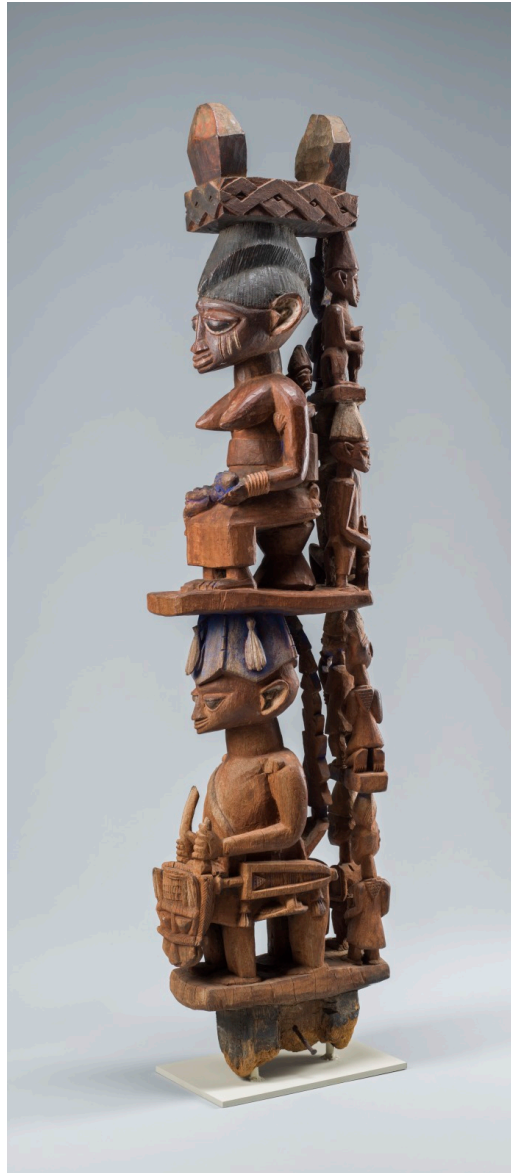


*Make way for the VIP on his regal ride. Head to Africa to find this craftily carved colt.*

**ACTIVITY:**

The man on this horse is accompanied by a number of people.

Draw a picture showing each of these people following their leader.



Agunna of Oke Igbera (d. circa 1930), Nigeria, *Palace Veranda Post*, 1890-1910, wood, pigment, Museum Purchase: Lawrence Archer Wachs Fund, 2003.271

**LOOK AGAIN:**

Why do you think the Yoruban people carved these posts for their porches?

*Your horse has reared, your friend is wounded and you have one arrow left - what do you do?*

## ACTIVITY:

The power of this bronze horse is magnificent.

How would you feel riding this brave steed?



Randolph Rogers (1825-1892), United States, *The Last Arrow*, 1879-1880, bronze, Gift of O.J. Wilson, 1888.293

## LOOK AGAIN:

The artist created this work so that it might illustrate "Indian life and character."

Do you think he was successful?

*No horse to ride, hop on an elephant instead. These portly pachyderms are great in a battle.*

## ACTIVITY:

You and a friend are riding these elephants while fighting tigers.

What would you say to each other? Take turns sharing your conversation.



*Loving Cup*, 1893, Tiffany & Co. (estab. 1837), silver, gold gilt and ivory, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fleischmann III, 2004.9

## LOOK AGAIN:

This *Loving Cup's* decoration is inspired by India.

Why do you think Tiffany & Co. chose this subject matter for this silver vessel?



*Scrap metal, bronze, slate, mud and sticks come together to create this magnificent mare.*

## ACTIVITY:

This may not be a horse you would want to ride but she is majestic all the same.

Imagine she is your horse, what would you name her and why?



Deborah Butterfield (1949-), United States, *Horse No. 1*, 1983, red mud, sticks, metal armature, Henry Meis Endowment and various funds, 1984.94

## LOOK AGAIN:

Butterfield's art focuses on one subject: the horse.

What about the horse do you think she finds so interesting?

**MyCAM** is based on JourneyMaker, the family interactive experience designed and developed by the Art Institute of Chicago.

The museum worked with Paperplane Creative and Clifton Labs to bring JourneyMaker to the Cincinnati.

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