

Before the Walk!

Print this guide, using both sides of a sheet of paper, and fold!

Discussion

- What do you think public art is? Why do we have it?
- Can you think of any public art in your neighborhood?
- Look up the meanings of sculpture, statue and mosaic.

Stories

- Read the story of *The Tortoise and the Hare*...talk about when you look at #2!
- Read or watch *The Jungle Book*...talk about when you look at #6!
- Read *Make Way for Ducklings* together...talk about when you look at #8!

After the Walk!

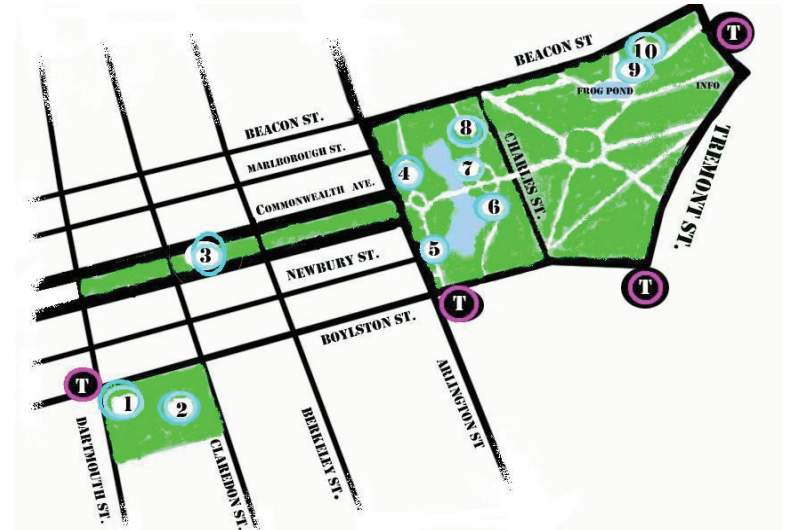
Discussion and Hands-on Projects

- Draw a picture of your favorite piece of artwork! Why do you like it?
- If you were going to make a piece of public art, what would you make it out of? Can you paint it or make it out of clay?
- Can you make a mosaic like the one you saw at the Frog Pond? Try cutting up pieces of colored paper and gluing them to look like they are mosaic tiles! Can you make them look like a picture or a cool design?
- On the map of the Boston Marathon, you saw the pathway about 20,000 people run every year. Can you make a map of pathway you take every day?
- Please check the website, www.publicartboston.com, for activities and ties to the Mass. Curriculum Frameworks!



Public ART QUESTions

A guide to talking about art with kids in Boston



Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events
Mayor Thomas M. Menino



In **Public ART QUESTions**, we highlighted 10 pieces for you and the kids in your life to explore. We have provided a few questions to get your conversations started, but try to see what thoughts and stories come up as you all talk about what you see....remember there are no right or wrong answers to any of these questions!

1. **Boston Athletic Association/ Boston Marathon Memorial**
 - Check out the map on the ground. How do you think the artist made it?
 - A marathon is 26.2 miles; do you think you could ever run that far? What does 26.2 miles look like?
 - Spend time carefully looking at all the different people on the posts around the map. What are they each doing?
2. **The Tortoise and the Hare**
 - What is the story of The Tortoise and the Hare? If you don't know it, can you make one up?
 - Was there ever a time you felt as fast as a rabbit or as slow as a turtle?
 - What are two other animals that could race? Who would win?
3. **General John Glover**
 - General John Glover led a group of fisherman to help George Washington cross the Delaware River during the Revolutionary War! What do you think his personality was like? How can you tell?
 - What do you notice about the clothes he is wearing? What do they say about him?
 - Do you see anything missing on this statue? (hint: check his right hand)
4. **Small Child Fountain**
 - Have you ever seen a sculpture of a little kid before? What was the kid doing?
 - If you were a sculpture, how would you pose?
 - Do you think that a real child was the model for this statue? Imagine that child's story.

5. **Boy and Bird Fountain**
 - This is another fountain with art featuring a child. Is this one different from the last one? How?
 - What is the child in this fountain doing?
 - What normally happens when you go near birds?
6. **Bagheera Fountain**
 - What animals are in this artwork?
 - How does the artwork make you feel?
 - Originally the artist named this piece *Night* but then she changed its name to Bagheera (the panther from Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*!) Do you think having a different name changes the meaning of the artwork?
7. **Triton Babies**
 - According to mythology, Triton is a merman: a sea god with a fish tail. Who do you think the children are in this artwork?
 - Have you ever played in the water? Where were you?
 - Would you ever want to live in the water like Triton? Why?
8. **Make Way for Ducklings**
 - What do you see in this artwork?
 - Have you ever seen real ducks walk in a line like this?
 - Do you think each duck has a different personality? Can you name a personality character for each duck?
9. **Frogs of Tadpole Playground**
 - How many frog sculptures can you find?
 - What is each of the frogs doing?
 - Do these frogs seem different than the ducks in *Make Way for Ducklings*? How? Which ones seem more real?
10. **Mosaics in Tadpole Playground**
 - What do you see in this artwork?
 - How do you think the artists made the mosaic?
 - Most of the pieces you've seen have only one color. How do the colors in this piece make you feel?