**Describe it!**

A picture may be worth a thousand words, but how can we describe what we see? Students develop observation skills and build descriptive language as they use synonyms and adjectives to describe works of art.

**Guiding Questions**

* What is happening in this picture?
* How would you describe this work of art to someone on the telephone?
* What else can you see?
* Can you use another word to say that?

**Suggested Works**

1. *Venus and Cupid with Vulcan*, c. 1530, Domenico Beccafumi
2. *Death Comes to the Banquet Table*, c. 1630 – 40, Giovanni Martinelli
3. *Serpents and Insects,* 1647, Otto Marseus van Schrieck
4. *The Milk Vendor*, 17th century, Abraham Willemsens
5. *The Lawyer’s Office,* 1545, Marinus van Reymerswaele
6. *Portrait of Robert Morris,* 1782, Charles Willson Peale
7. *Portrait of Marie Antoinette, Queen of France,* c. 1788, Elisabeth Louise Vigée-Lebrun
8. *Forenoon,* 1847,Asher B. Durand
9. *The Cardinal’s Friendly Chat*, c. 1880, Jehan Georges Vibert
10. *Portrait of Estelle Musson Degas*, 1872, Edgar Degas
11. *Still Life with Box*, 1918, Jean Metzinger
12. *The Ice-Hole, Maine*, 1908, Marsden Hartley
13. *On a Sailboat*, 1916, Albert Gleizes
14. *Lady Strolling on the Rambla in Barcelona,* 1925, Joan Miro
15. *Abstraction of Chair and Miro,* 1943, Hans Hofmann
16. *Unique Forms of Continuity in Space*, 1913, Umberto Boccioni
17. *Standing Ganesha*,India, Tamil Nadu, Chola Dynasty, c. late 12th – early 13th century
18. *Temple Figure*, 18th Century, Hawaiian Peoples
19. *Shark Masquerade Headdress,* n.d., Ijo Peoples, Niger Delta Region
20. *King’s Tunic*, late 19th – early 20th Century, Yoruba Peoples