Ready to play?
This guide is your blueprint to help you unlock your imagination. Discover some of the coolest areas of the Gallery of California Art. Look closer, think deeper, and get creative—together!
Questions?
Ask an OMCA Gallery Guide.

Look for this special magnifying glass at each stop along the way.

This hand means it is okay to touch something in the gallery.

Images. Cover: Matthew Millman. Inside cover: Terry Lorant. Back cover: Dino Morrow. Inside panels (from top to bottom, left to right): Millman; OMCA; Millman; OMCA; Seng Chen; Morrow; Shaun Roberts.
1. **Meet a Giant Robot**

   *Wave your hand.* Move your body around in front of the *Ape Guardian*. Can you get the robot to make a noise?

   *Stand guard.* A guardian can protect a person, a special thing, or a secret place. If you were a guardian, what or who would you protect from harm?

   **FUN FACT** Clayton Bailey made this robot out of found scrap metal. Is there any “junk” your family throws away that could be reused to make an art project?

2. **Hide and Seek**

   *Look closely.* Find these hidden things in *Aristotle’s Cage*: a propeller, the number six, two skeletons, a motorcycle, and a television.

   *Invent your own game.* Identify other hidden things in this secret desert world and play “I spy” with others in your group to see if everyone can find them, too.

   **FUN FACT** Michael McMillan likes to make tiny, mysterious worlds. In this work, he used orange juice cans to make the oil drums, and collected the rocks at Lake Merritt, next to OMCA.

3. **Tell Your Story**

   *Observe and imagine.* Look at the portrait wall for inspiration! What types of people do you see? What stories do they tell?

   *Draw your portrait.* Start by looking in the mirror. Draw what you see. How does your self-portrait tell your story?

   **FUN FACT** These portraits are displayed in a modified salon-style with artwork hung on the wall from floor to ceiling. Can you imagine every inch of every wall of your home covered in art like this?
Miyo and Cat

Create an adventure. Make up a story about the person and the cat based on what you see in the painting.

Strike a pose. How would you pose for a portrait? What would you pose with to tell your story?

FUN FACT Miné Okubo painted this portrait of her mother with her cat and Bible. The town in the background is Riverside, CA, where the artist grew up.

Gnarly Patterns and Colors

Think about your reaction. What do you think Barry McGee’s painting, Untitled, is about? Is there anything you like or don’t like about it? Compare your interpretation with someone else in your group.

Find your balance. Using your phone or camera, snap a selfie or group photo in a surf pose in front of this painting.

FUN FACT Barry McGee is known for his graffiti in addition to his artwork found in galleries and museums. He is also an avid surfer and has said that art is “the next best thing to nature.”

Racing to Innovate

Pose looking your toughest. Using your personal device, take a photo of yourself in front of QuickNess. Then, find three details that make this bike unique.

Share your ideas. Do you think this is art? Does it belong inside an art gallery? Talk about why or why not with others in your group.

FUN FACT Arlen Ness designs and builds customized Harley Davidson motorcycles by modifying and adding on to the originals. His motto is “always innovate, never imitate.”
Don’t Worry!
Pace yourself—it can be hard to see everything in one trip. A museum visit is exciting, but doesn’t need to be overwhelming. Use the map to plan out a few stops, and then just let your adventure unfold organically.

Relax
See the comfy seating in our galleries?
That’s for you! Need to refuel? Blue Oak café has you covered. You can also enjoy your snacks from home in our gardens. Energy to burn? Let yourself run free on the lawn, where there is ample open space, sculptures, and wildlife galore.

The Essentials
Gotta go? Restrooms are located outside the galleries on every level. All restrooms are wheelchair accessible and feature baby changing stations. Tired feet? Look for lounges in every gallery, or venture into the gardens for outdoor seating and fresh air. Too much stuff? Unload in our free lockers located on every floor.

Get Around
Feel free to cruise around the galleries with your stroller. Wheelchairs are available to check out at the ticketing desk. An elevator provides easy access to all three floors, and can be found down the hallway to the left of each gallery entrance.

Books & Blankets
Sometimes you just need to lie down in the grass. We get it. Enter Books & Blankets! Check out this cozy offering at our ticketing desk, and you’ll get the best of both worlds—engaging, age-appropriate reading material and a soft blanket to sprawl out on and relax.

Take It Home with You
Okay, not the paintings and sculptures, but the next best thing—something from the OMCA Store! From small figurines to stuffed animals, educational books to mind-bending games, and toys to unique gifts, you’ll make your kid’s day with this move.

Make It Count
Didn’t see it all? Here’s an easy way to come back again: apply the price of your admission to an OMCA Membership. A Family Membership is only $95, and pays for itself in just two visits.

Share the Fun
If a tree falls in the forest... well, you know the saying. Spread your love for OMCA on social and tag it #MuseumOfUs.