

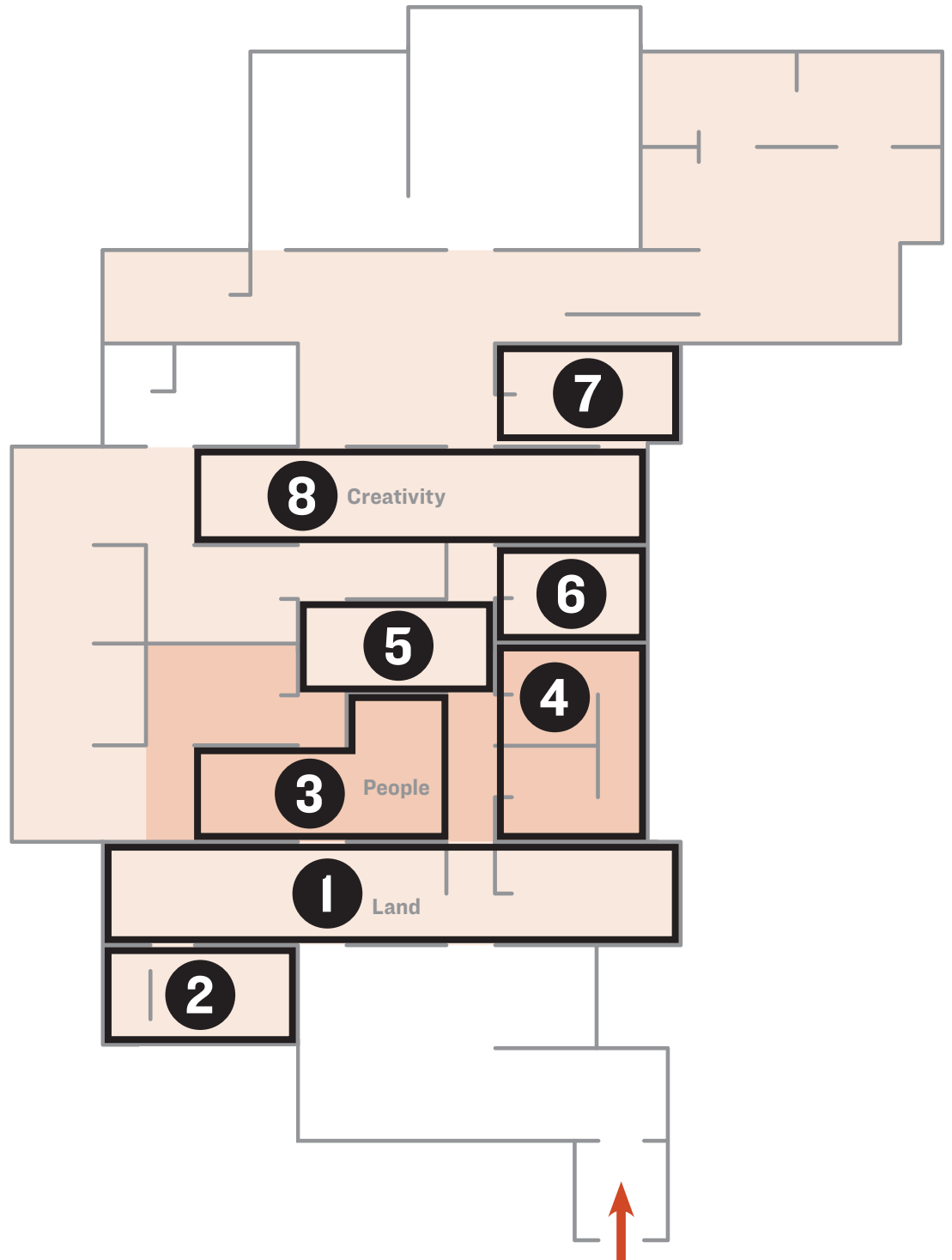
GRADES 4–8

GALLERY OF CALIFORNIA ART

Welcome to the Oakland Museum of California's Gallery of California Art! What can you discover with your group?

- 1 CALIFORNIA LAND
- 2 ART OF THE GOLD RUSH
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1

CALIFORNIA LAND

A landscape is an artwork that shows nature or the environment.

Choose two landscapes—one that feels familiar to you, and one that does not.

Use your five senses to imagine what it feels like there. Is it hot or cold?
Can you feel the wind? What do you smell?

Now imagine what you're doing while there. Are you resting? Playing?

Use the space below to write or draw your thoughts.



Share with a friend what you imagined.

2

ART OF THE GOLD RUSH

Explore the Gold Rush gallery. What evidence can you see about life during the Gold Rush?

Find a person that you think has an interesting story. What details do you notice about this person? Think about what they're wearing, their body language or expression, or what's around them.

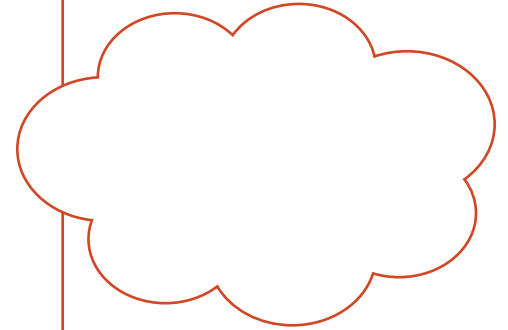
Now imagine yourself as this person during the Gold Rush. Fill out the diagram to the right.



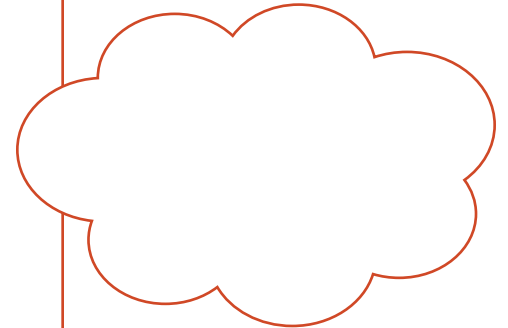
What details in the artwork help you imagine this person's dreams, worries, and/or reasons for coming to California?

DRAW THE PERSON.

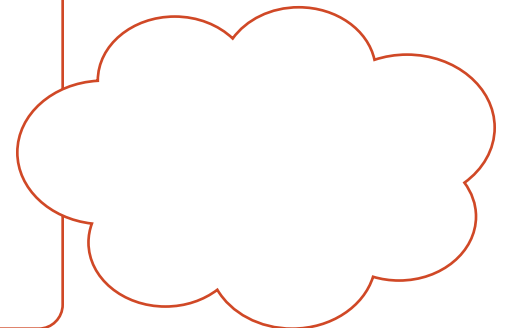
What are your dreams?



What are your worries?



Why have you come to California?

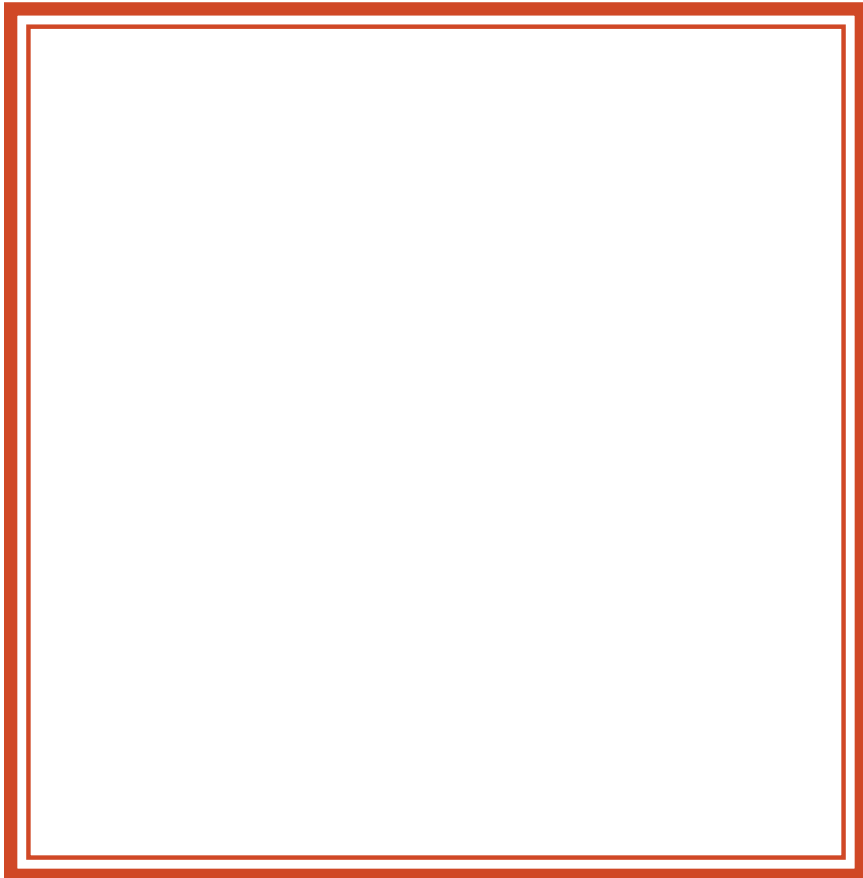


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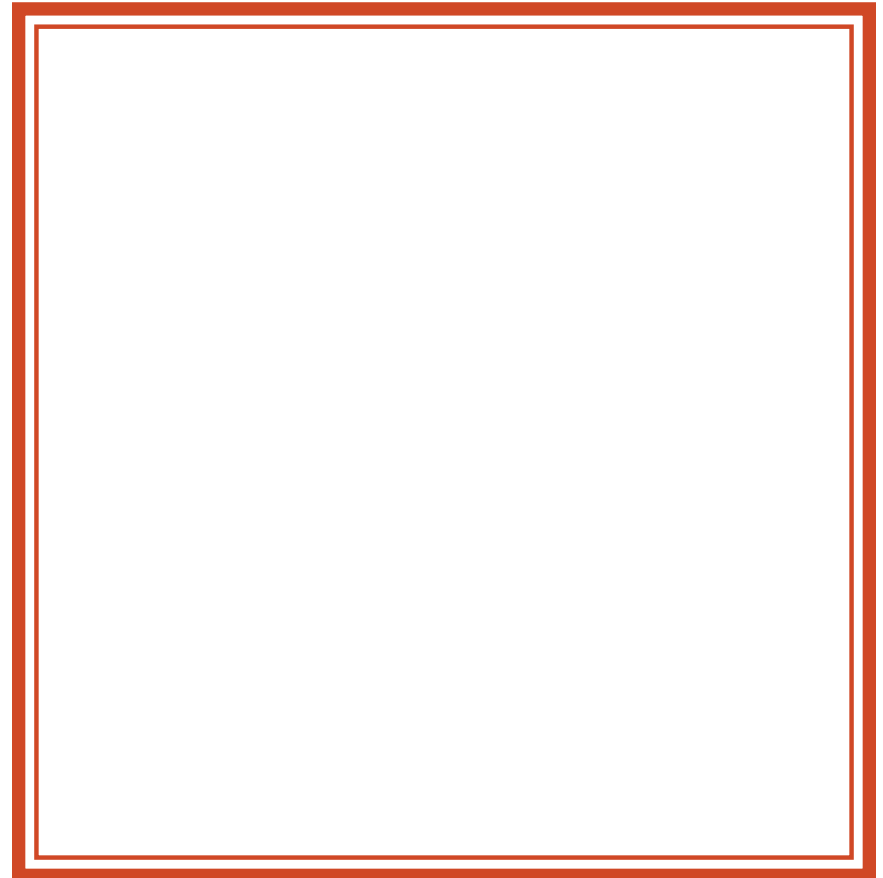
ASSEMBLING IDENTITY AND THE PORTRAIT WALL

A portrait is an artwork that represents a person.

Choose a portrait. **Draw or write five details—like body language, facial expressions, or objects—that you notice.** What might they tell us about the person in the portrait?



Now draw your own portrait. What details can you include to tell others more about you?



4

DOROTHEA LANGE

Dorothea Lange used photography to try and create change in the world.

Explore Lange's photos and discover some of the messages she was trying to share.



Choose a photo to investigate.

1. What is happening in the photo?
2. What message do you think the artist was trying to communicate?
What do you see that makes you say that?

Create a short caption for the photograph.



Now, read Lange's original caption.

1. How does Lange's caption differ from your own?
2. How does the label help you better understand the photo?

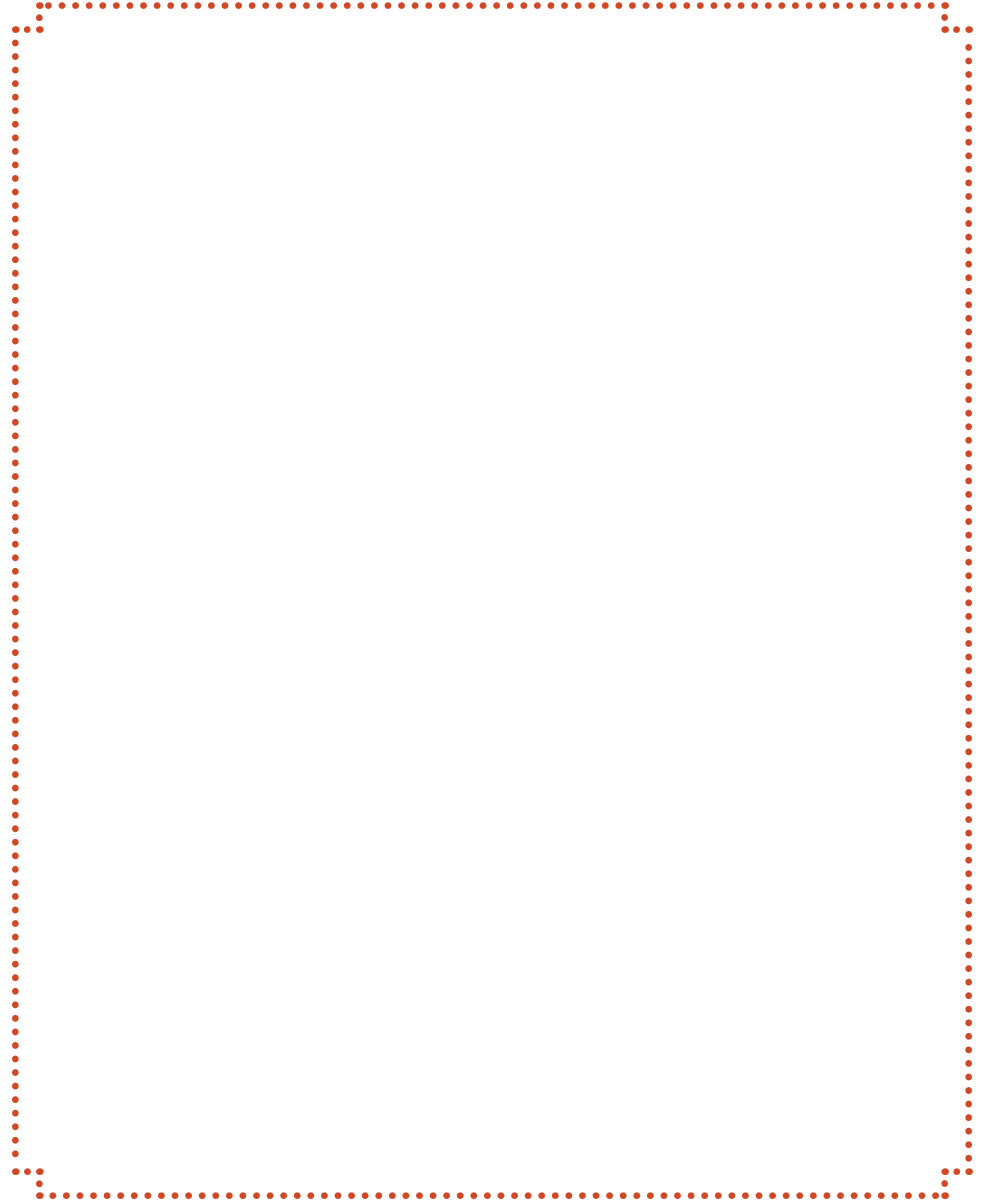
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HUNG LIU

Hung Liu's paintings were often inspired by stories from her childhood.

Find an artwork of Hung Liu's that tells a story you find interesting. What is happening in the painting? What do you see that makes you say that? Who are the characters? What are they doing?

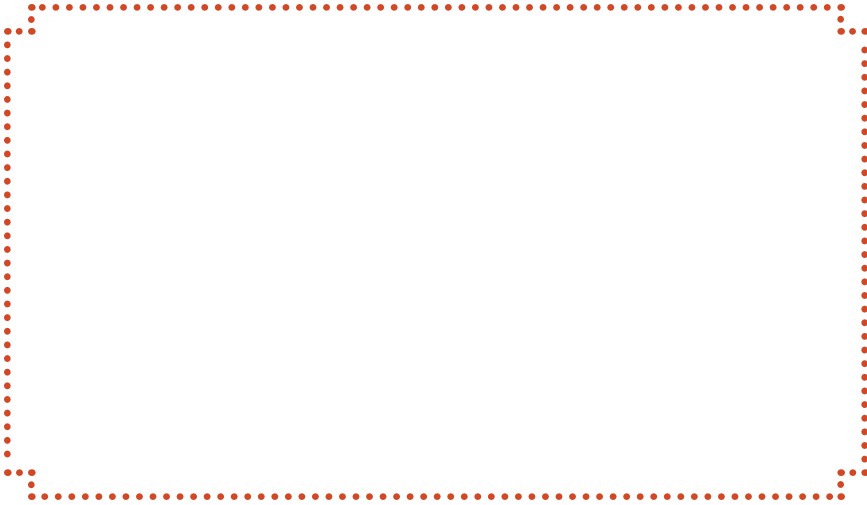
Write or draw what might happen next.



6

SELF-TAUGHT ARTISTS

Find an artwork with lots of details and look closely. **How many things can you notice in one minute? Have a friend time you, and write or draw as many details as you can below.**



STOP

Take a few more minutes to look again. What's a new interesting detail that you notice?



Art can make us feel lots of different things. **Circle words below that describe how this artwork makes you feel. Or, write in your own words!**

WORRIED

JOYFUL

SURPRISED

THOUGHTFUL

SAD

TIRED

ANGRY

PROUD

7

RADICAL ACTS

Artists can use art to speak about issues that matter to them.



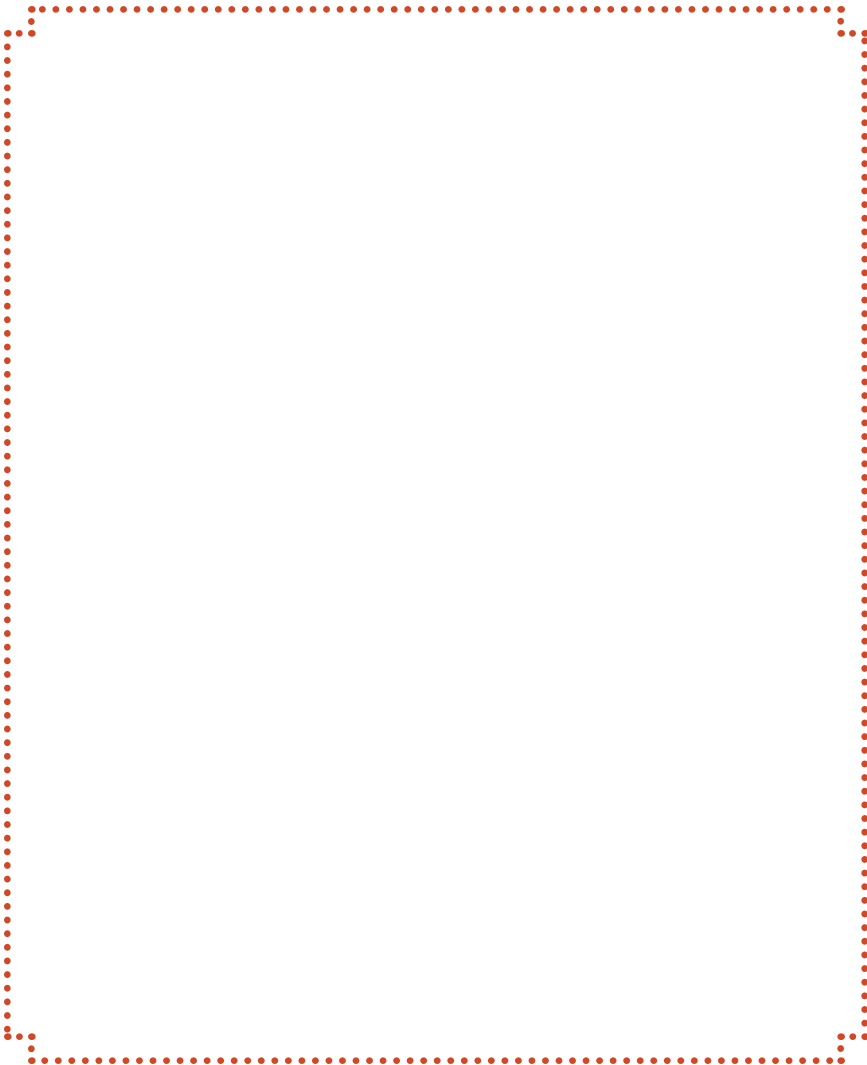
Choose a poster that “speaks” to you, or feels important.

1. Why do you think it is important?
2. What colors and images are used?
3. What else helps communicate the poster’s message?

What is an issue you care about? What do you feel is important for people to know about this issue? **Create a poster that shares this message with others.**

CREATIVE CALIFORNIA

Find an artwork made from surprising materials. **Based on what you see, what materials did the artist use to make this?** What are these materials usually used for? How has the artist used them differently?



Think of a unique material you would like to create an artwork with. **Draw or describe below how you would create art with that material.**

