

Art A Day CHALLENGE: What's Next?

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

Visual Arts Goal: Apply criteria to evaluate and interpret a variety of artistic works.

English Language Arts Goal: Effective readers use context clues to determine the meaning of words/phrases/concepts.

Visual Arts Enduring Understanding: Analyzing the structures and contexts of various artistic works provides insight into the creator's intent, and informs performance or interpretation

English Language Arts Enduring Understanding: Effective readers use context clues to determine the meaning of words/phrases/concepts.



Jan Brett
American
Alooki ducked inside from: *The Three Snow Bears*
Book Published 2007

How do artists communicate intent? How can the viewer "read" a work of art as text? What are the effects of the author's stylistic choices?

Words to know:

Prediction is a guess about what will happen in the future

Illustration is a visual representation of text or an idea.

LOOK at the illustrations by Jan Brett. Jan Brett is a children's book author and illustrator. She is well known for extremely detailed watercolor **illustrations**. She gives animals of all types personalities and uses

her travel and even her own pets as inspiration for her many characters. In her stories, she also provides very special details around the borders of her pages. In these borders she usually adds details of what other characters are doing in the "meantime" while the main character is solving a problem. Also the borders give clues about what is about to happen next. This gives young readers the ability to make **predictions** with confidence. Authors and illustrators use context clues to keep readers excited about what might happen.

READ a Jan Brett book and pay particular attention to the borders and pictures to the left and right of the centered character. Discuss with students how they can make a prediction using the context clues. A great example of this can be found in *The Three Snow Bears* (above), but there are many great examples in Jan Brett books. With the class, fill in a making predictions chart (found below).

CREATE an illustration! Think about or invent a time when many things were happening at the same time for example: think about what it is like when your family was trying to get ready for school and work in the morning. In the center of your illustration, draw what the main character is doing (maybe it is you and you are eating breakfast. Around the border, include what other characters are doing or are getting ready to do (maybe your little brother is putting his shoes in the fish tank, your dog ripped open the trash, your grownups spilled coffee all over their shirts and your cat is sneaking out the front door). If you are using your real life, how can you exaggerate the moment to make it funny or exciting? How can you create context clues so the viewer can make **predictions**?

Reflect: How do artists communicate intent? How can the viewer "read" a work of art as text? **Writing Journal Prompt:** Tell your story. Discuss what is happening and what will happen next and explain how you illustrated the context clues!

My Prediction Chart for _____

My Prediction	Why I predict this	Was I correct?