University Museums

Visual Literacy: Critical Thinking and Object Learning Worksheet

1. Describe the Art Reminder: Make a distinction between facts and inferences, but use both. Describe the object so someone who is not looking at it could visualize it. Count, list, categorize, shape, color, texture, etc.
2. Interpret the Art Reminder: Give potential meanings (think about how the artist's design creates meanings/communicates ideas). Consider the object's culture or context. What alternative explanations can you come up with?
3. Evaluate the Art Reminder: How well did the object communicate? Consider your emotional reaction. What is the object's purpose? How could the object have communicated more effectively?
Question for Discussion: How might a similar exercise help you in your discipline?