My name is ..........................................................

I am ........................................................... years old

I am in Grade ................................................................

I go to .............................................................. School

Note: This activity booklet is designed for our young visitors and their adult companions to use together as they explore the artworks on view.

For further information contact education@louvreabudhabi.ae
Welcome to Louvre Abu Dhabi!

I am a little blue hippopotamus from Egypt. I am almost 4000 years old! Follow my footprints as you go on an exciting journey in the museum.

In this visit, you will discover many fascinating artworks and precious objects from around the world.

Have fun! And be sure to observe, discuss and explore the artworks in this activity booklet.

Remember, the closer you look, the more you discover!

During your visit, please remember to:
1. Admire the art with your eyes, not your hands.
2. Use your pencil only for writing and drawing in the galleries – no pens or markers please.

Hippopotamus, funerary figurine
Egyptian civilisation
Egypt
About 1850 BCE
Faience, painted decoration
Louvre Abu Dhabi

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Untitled I-IX is a series of nine paintings created by American artist Cy Twombly. In this work, Cy Twombly drew white lines on a blue background that express his emotions.

Take a closer look at the white lines repeated in each painting. What do you think the white lines could represent? Does it change across the series? How is each painting different from the others?

**CREATE YOUR OWN SERIES**

In this series, Cy Twombly starts with straight and angular marks before creating wide loops in the lower parts of the paintings.

Use your pencil to draw a line of loops in the top part of the first box. Repeat the exercise just below. Try to lose your grip on the pencil to make wide loops.

Play with lines making some thicker, thinner, lighter etc. You can even draw similar marks on top of each other!

Have fun making more and more marks in the second and third space provided.
This little statue is a huge mystery. We don’t know its function or what it really represents, but if we look closer, we can recognize two human forms! We are not sure if they are family members, a couple of ancestors or maybe even siblings.

Walk around the statue and see how different parts of the body are represented by using only geometric shapes and lines. Can you spot the eyes, nose and hair of each figure? Now try to find elements of clothing and jewellery. There is a belt and a necklace!

GEOMETRY

Use your pencil to draw a human figure using only geometric shapes and lines inspired by the artwork. You can draw yourself, a friend or a family member. Have fun drawing different geometric patterns such as circles, squares, triangles and rectangles to indicate the different body parts and clothing or jewellery the figure is wearing.
The sphinx is a fantastic creature with a lion’s body, bird’s wings and a human head depicted in a number of cultures in the Eastern Mediterranean region. The Greeks usually represented it as a winged female and often placed it on grave monuments as a protector of the dead.

Look at the face of the sphinx. Does she look happy, sad or scary? Look closer at her lips, maybe you will notice a smile?

THE RIDDLE OF THE SPHINX

In Greek legends, there was a myth about a famous sphinx. It would devour passersby who could not answer its famous riddle. Oedipus, a mythical Greek king, was the only one who was able to solve the riddle. Can you solve the riddle of the sphinx? Who walks on four legs in the morning, two at noon, and three in the evening?

- Bear
- Lion
- Human
- Bird

CREATE YOUR OWN MYTHICAL CREATURE

At home, find magazines or newspapers with interesting animal pictures. Cut different animal parts out and glue them to the human head drawing on this page to make your own imaginary creature.
Standing next to one another, these two statues seem to be wearing the same style of clothing which is composed of folded layers of fabric. However, the two were sculpted in regions located very far away from each other!

The statue on the left comes from Rome, Italy and likely represents a politician, known as an “Orator”. The one on the right comes from a region called Gandhara, which is found in present-day Pakistan. This statue represents a Bodhisattva, a spiritual guide in the Buddhist religion.

**FIND THE DIFFERENCES!**

Look at the illustration of the Orator and Bodhisattva.

Compare the illustrations to the real statues in the gallery. Some of the details have been changed. Can you spot the 4 differences?
In Hindu mythology, Shiva has many roles, one of which is the lord of the dance as he is depicted here. In this statue he has four arms. Each object that he holds or gesture he makes reflects the qualities he is meant to symbolize.

For example, the upper right hand holds a little drum to reference creation, while his upper left hand holds a flame to indicate destruction. Do you notice an extra eye on Shiva’s forehead? It represents his wisdom and insight. Can you find all of these details on the statue of Shiva?

**IMITATE**

Look at the sculpture’s pose. Now pair up with someone (or look in a mirror) and use your body to recreate the pose of this sculpture.

Can you imitate Shiva’s posture? How long can you stand still with one foot raised like Shiva? Help each other to get it right!
This octagonal box was made in China of very precious materials. Its wooden structure is covered with tortoise shell, mother-of-pearl and painted amber beads. There used to be a large mirror inside the box. Such mirrors were rare and prestigious items at the time.

Fine objects like this box served to contain diplomatic gifts from the court of the Chinese emperor.

### LOOK

Take a closer look at this octagonal box. Which of these elements is **not** a motif or a design that decorates the case?

- leaves
- flowers
- birds
- sword
- sun
- fruit

### DECORATE

Use your pencil 🖊️ to decorate this octagonal box by drawing plant and animal motifs that are popular in your culture.

At home, add vivid colours to your decorations.
This monumental lion is a unique bronze sculpture. Look closer at the animal’s mouth: you will notice a tube that might have once produced a lion roaring sound thanks to a mechanism in the belly of the animal. This sculpture was most likely a prized possession in a ruler’s court.

**Monumental lion: acoustic automaton (?)**
Southern Spain or southern Italy
1000–1200
Bronze
Louvre Abu Dhabi

**MECHANICAL ANIMALS**

The lion is one of the most universal symbols of strength, courage and power. If you were to design your own mechanical animal that would make sounds, which animal would you choose? What does this animal represent to you? Where would you place it? Write your ideas below.

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**Did you know?**

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**Monumental lion: acoustic automaton (?)**
Southern Spain or southern Italy
1000–1200
Bronze
Louvre Abu Dhabi
LOOK
Can you recognize the different flowers on this dish? Try to find the four following flowers in the Iznik dish.

Tulip  Rose  Carnation  Hyacinth

CREATE
Use your pencil to decorate your own dish with unique patterns. They could be floral, geometric, figurative, etc.

At home, add vivid colours to your design.
Take a look at this magnificent sculpture. We can see exhausted, thirsty horses which, according to classical mythology, were unleashed from the chariot of Apollo (the Greek God of Music and the Sun) - who travels the skies from dawn to dusk.

Look around this sculpture, where can you find an image of the sun? You will also notice that the horses are helped by tritons. These are mythical creatures which appear as half-men, half-fish!

This sculpture was created for King Louis the 14th to be placed at Versailles Palace. By displaying this sculpture in his palace, young King Louis wanted to associate himself with Apollo.

**IMAGINE**

Look carefully at this magnificent sculpture. Where would you place it?

Try to imagine the location you would choose to display Horses of the Sun and match the sculpture to a space or a location of your choice.
A tapestry is a heavy fabric woven with rich, colorful designs or scenes, usually hung on walls for decoration. This tapestry from France shows a Chinese emperor seated on a boat decorated with dragons and garlands before the eyes of an empress. A tapestry like this tells a story.

Can you imagine the conversation taking place? What do you think the emperor is saying? Who could the other people on the tapestry be?

**FIND THE DETAILS**

Take a closer look at this tapestry. Which of these elements can you find in it?

- Emperor
- Sail boat
- Tortoise
- Umbrella
- Bells
- Goose
- Rose
- Shells
- Emperor’s sword
- Pagoda
- Dragon
- Flag
Paul Gauguin was a French artist born in Paris who loved to travel and was fascinated by other cultures, particularly Japan. He was inspired by everyday subjects and bold colours often found in Japanese prints made from a woodcut printing technique. Take a closer look at this painting.

What do you think these boys are doing? Are they hugging? Dancing? Fighting? What do you think the other boy on the top right corner is doing?

CIRCLE THE COLOURS

In many of his works, Paul Gauguin simplified landscapes into flat bands of contrasting colours. Take a closer look at Children Wrestling. Which colours dominate this painting? Circle the colours:

- Red
- Orange
- Yellow
- Pink
- Black
- Brown
- Green
- Blue
- Purple
- White
- Grey

DISCUSS

Many artists are inspired by visiting new, exciting places. Paul Gauguin left the city for a simpler, countryside environment in Brittany, France where he painted this painting. Which place do you dream of traveling to? Discuss with your friends.

Use your pencil to sketch a scene of this place.

At home, add vibrant colours to your sketch.

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Picasso did not just use paint in his works. He often attached pieces of newspaper, musical notes and even wallpaper to his paintings — a technique known as “collage”. This work by Picasso is made with layered paper cut-outs, white gouache and black ink.

**FIND THE SHADOW**

Here are three shadows of the woman in Picasso’s artwork. Find out which one of them matches the original.
In many of her works, Maha Malluh recycles and reuses things around her. The objects she chooses often tell stories about the people who used them. The cooking pots displayed in this gallery were used to prepare special meals in Saudi Arabia. When people cook and eat together, they share many exciting stories and tales.

The pots in this artwork recall and celebrate Arab histories and traditions.

**STORIES OF OBJECTS**

Now it’s your turn!
Use this space to tell a story about a memorable meal you had with special people, family or friends.

Write about the experience, the memories you made, the smells and colours and most importantly how it made you feel.

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Well done!