

# ART EXPLORER'S TRAIL

## Welcome to Louvre Abu Dhabi!

Do you think you have what it takes to be an Art Explorer?

Art Explorers have the unique ability to identify special connections between works of art from different cultures and civilisations.



**Find** the clues on the cards.



**Explore** our collection and learn about the story of our museum.



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

**Good luck and let the journey begin!**

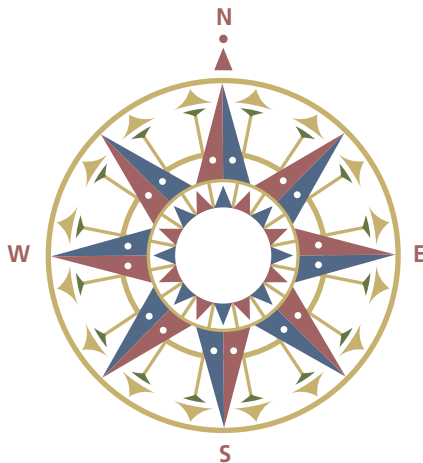
### Enter the **Grand Vestibule**

**1**

Do you notice a large compass on the floor? Walk towards it and step into its centre.

Try and locate the North position. Turn your body North East. Move towards the artworks in front of you.

**What artworks do you see?**



**Hint:** Use the illustration to help you locate North East.

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Congratulations, you have found the golden masks from Northern China, Peru and Lebanon or Syria.

Even though the three masks come from distant lands, **what material do they all have in common?**



Found it!

It's gold! Gold is a precious metal that captures light. Many civilisations universally believe that gold symbolises eternal life.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Walk over to  
**Chapter 1 – The First Villages**

**2**

Solve the riddle to find the oldest and largest statue of a human representation in the gallery.

***I have two heads but one body.  
Who am I?***

Now find a similar but smaller object within the same gallery.

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Congratulations, you have found the *Two-headed monumental statue* from Jordan and the *Plank idol with two heads* from Cyprus.

**Why do you think people made these types of figures?**



Found it!



When people started to settle and form the first villages, human figures were made for ceremonies or rituals.

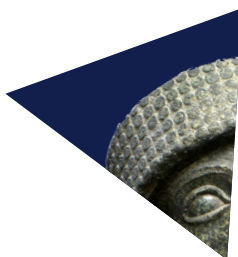
**Proceed to the next card!**

Move along to  
**Chapter 2 – The Great Powers**

**3**

As the villages became bigger, and the peoples' needs increased, true leaders were necessary. This is how first kings of humanity came to be.

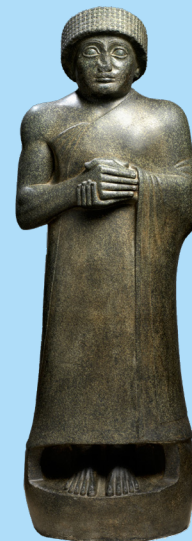
Using the details below, find two different yet great kings.



**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Good job! You have found two great leaders, *Ramesses II pharaoh of Egypt* and *Gudea prince of Lagash, Iraq*.

**What type of ruler do you think each of them was?**



Found it!

Although, both represented power, Gudea was a leader who displayed humility while Ramesses II showed authority.

**Proceed to the next card!**

We have arrived at  
**Chapter 3 – Civilisations  
and Empires**

**4**

Are you up for testing your unique explorer skills? Solve the following riddle:

***What imaginary creature has the head of a human, the body of a lion, and the wings of a bird?***

Now seek another hybrid animal, that hails from China with the face of an alligator, horns of a deer, the wings of a bird and can breath fire.

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Well done! You have found both works of art which represent hybrid animals placed at the entrance of palaces or temples, the *Winged Dragon* from China and the *Sphinx* from Greece or Italy.

**Why do you think they were put there?**



Found it!

They were believed to have protective powers.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Enter into  
**Chapter 4 – The Universal Religions**

**5**

Move towards the first showcase and look for an artwork with the details below.



**Did you know?**

Arabic calligraphy and vegetal patterns are characteristics of Islamic Art.

Look around and find an artwork on the wall with similar details.

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Well done! You have found the *Architecture Frieze* from India and the *Mosque Lamp* from Egypt or Syria.

These artworks come from different countries.  
**Why do you think they have similar features?**



Found it!

The similar characteristics come from the spread of the Islamic civilisation throughout both countries.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Carry on to  
**Chapter 5 – The Asian  
Trade Routes**

6

Find a majestic colourful horse that stands next to a figure of a lady in blue. One of the reasons this type of horse was imported and bred was for the popular sport of polo in China.

**Look closely and pay attention to the colours used within the figure.**

**Walk around the gallery and find a bowl with the same splash of colours.**

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Amazing progress! You have found a *Bactrian Horse* from China and a *Bowl* from Iran.

**How do you think these colours reached Iran from China?**



Found it!

The use of the Chinese Sancai glazed technique in both places shows the movement of artistic styles through trade between both countries.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Let's explore  
**Chapter 6 – From the  
Mediterranean to the Atlantic**

7

Seek a basin covered with marvelous strange animals.

**Try to identify the types of animals on the basin. Find the one that roars the loudest.**

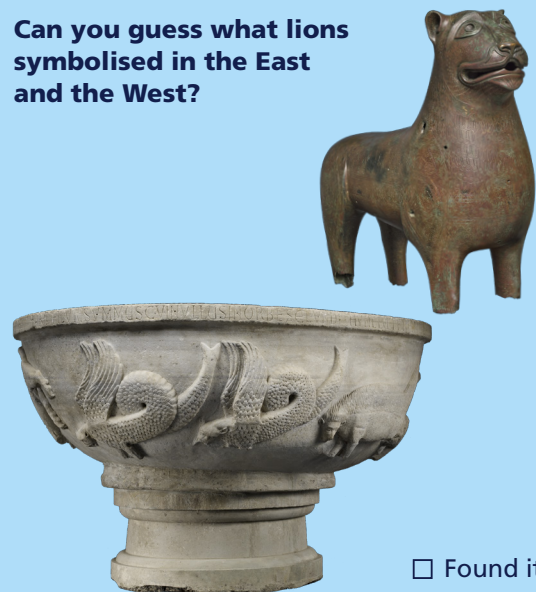
Now notice the artworks within this gallery.

**Try and find this roaring animal which stands with pride alone.**

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Hurray! You have found the *Bonifilius Basin* from Northern Italy and the *Monumental Lion* from Spain or Southern Italy. In Medieval times, about a 1000 years ago, fantastic animals with symbolic meaning were often used in artworks from the East and the West.

**Can you guess what lions symbolised in the East and the West?**



Found it!

Both countries used animals as symbols. Lions represented courage in the West and power in the East.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Move to the room of explorers  
**Cosmographies**

8

Search for a metal globe with engraved stars.

Let's locate another device that represents stars within the sky.

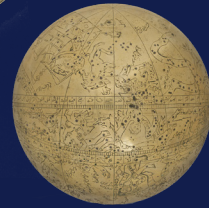


Hint: It's metallic, shiny and looks like a clock!

Flip this card to find out the right answer!

Congratulations, you have found the *Celestial Globe* from Pakistan and *Astrolabe* from Morocco(?).

What was the use of these two objects?



Found it!

They represented the sky, showing the stars' location and distance which was used for science and navigation.

Proceed to the next card!

Move to  
**Chapter 7 - Thinking the State**

9

Look for a bronze head with a beaded crown.

Have you found it? It is a representation of one of the past kings of the Kingdom of Benin, in present-day Nigeria.

Now walk around to find an object showing a Spanish ruler who also portrayed the past.



Hint: He is riding a horse.

Flip this card to find out the right answer!

Look at you go! You have found the *Equestrian Portrait of King Philip V* from Spain and the *Oba Head* from the Kingdom of Benin, Nigeria.

Just like the Oba, Philip is represented with clothing and accessories that shows his power and dignity. **Why do you think both kings used them?**



Found it!

The coral beaded crown worn by the Oba and the lavish French court wig worn by Phillip V were elements that emphasised power and dignity.

Proceed to the next card!

Move to  
**Chapter 8 – Early Modern  
Globalisation**

**10**

Solve this riddle to find a red and gold object.

***This can be found  
in your house  
But it's not a  
breakfast tray  
It's where clothes  
and other things  
Can be neatly  
stored away***

Now look around the gallery and find a dream like painting with three people from China.

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Great! You have found the *Commode Decorated with Red Lacquer* and the *Chinese scene painting*. Both of these artworks were made in France.

**Why do you think French artists made these artworks?**



Found it!

Europe started receiving objects from East Asia, inspiring many artists. They imagined and used motifs from distant lands and mixed them with European styles.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Move to  
**Chapter 9 – A New Art of Living**

**11**

Find a painting that shows the following details:



Find another painting displaying similar types of objects.

**Flip this card to find out the right answer!**

Bravo for finding the *Painting Lesson* from Germany and the *Gallery in a Museum* from France.

Look at the walls in both paintings and compare them to the walls of Louvre Abu Dhabi museum.

**What differences do you find?**



Found it!

Artworks were initially displayed privately to spark conversation and creativity. They were later divided into groups marking the beginning of museums for the public.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Move to  
**Chapter 10 – A Modern World**

# 12

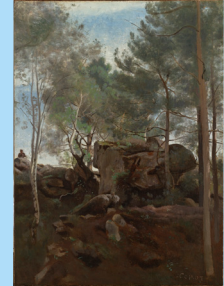
Walk around the room and discover a painting with a view of the peaceful roads of the French countryside.

Find another painting that has trees and looks like a forest.

Flip this card to find out the right answer!

Congratulations, you have found *The Road to Verrières* and the *In Fontainebleau Forest: Pines and Birch Trees in the Rocks*; both were made in France.

**Find three similarities between these artworks.**



Found it!

The three similarities are the blue sky, big trees and muddy grounds. During the industrial revolution, artists looked for inspiration by leaving their studios to paint in the open air.

**Proceed to the next card!**

We have arrived in  
**Chapter 11 – Challenging Modernity**

# 13

Find a painting that is composed of primary coloured squares and rectangles.



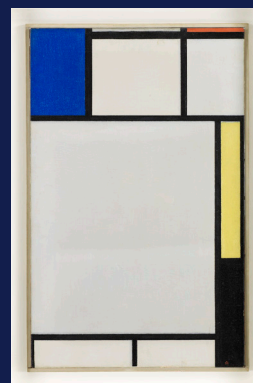
*Fact: Did you know that it is the first artwork of the museum's collection.*

Now, look up, down and around to find an object with similar colours.

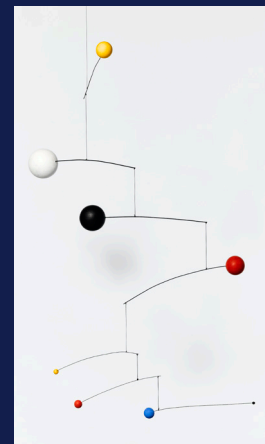
Flip this card to find out the right answer!

Well done for finding *Composition* by Piet Mondrian made in France, and *Untitled* by Alexander Calder made in the United States.

**What makes these artworks different from all the other ones you explored in this journey?**



Found it!



Unlike the previous artworks, these two do not include people or landscapes. The artists relied on simple shapes, colours and textures to create art known as abstract art.

**Proceed to the next card!**

Exit the main galleries

14

Walk towards the giant tree of light under the dome.

Look around for an artwork that resembles the rings in a tree trunk.

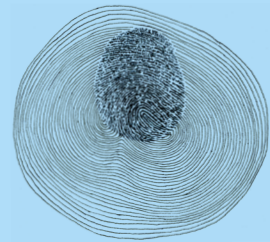
Once you find it, focus on the centre of its rings. **What do you notice? What might be the connection between the two artworks?**

Flip this card to find out the right answer!

Congratulations, you found the artworks *Leaves of Light* and *Propagation* created by artist Giuseppe Penone.

Penone used the thumbprint of the late Sheikh Zayed, a symbol of how a single act can cause a ripple effect, such as his act of planting the seed of unity in the Emirates. The rings extending out are similar to the rings of a tree trunk, ever-growing.

The mirrored leaves on the tree reflect the UAE as a respectful, diverse country.



Found it!

Proceed to the next card!

## SKETCH, SNAP AND TAG!

Now, try and think about how you, as an Art Explorer, can leave your mark by sharing your experience at Louvre Abu Dhabi for other museum art explorers around the world.



Sketch or snap a picture and tag us @louvreabudhabi



Congratulations, you have discovered the artworks and their connections. Louvre Abu Dhabi celebrates human creativity across different cultures and civilisations.

Let's play one last game!

1- Unscramble each clue word below.

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8 1

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5 4 6

2- Copy the letters in the numbered cells to the large box to reveal the final word.

			V				
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8



Please scan the QR code below  
and enter the correct answer to  
redeem your certificate.



## CREDITS



**Grand Vestibule**  
*Gilded Funerary Mask*, Northern China, 907 – 1125,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi



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– Abu Dhabi / Photo Thierry Ollivier  
*Gold Funerary Mask*, Lebanon or Syria (?), 600-300 BCE,  
Musée du Louvre



© Photo RMN - Franck Raux  
*Gold Funerary Mask*, Peru, 100 BCE - 700 CE,  
Musée du quai Branly, Jacques Chirac  
© Musée du quai Branly, photo  
Thierry Ollivier, Michel Urtado



**Chapter 1**  
*Plank idol with two heads*, Cyprus,  
2300 – 1900 BCE, Louvre Abu Dhabi



© Department of Culture and Tourism  
– Abu Dhabi / Photo Thierry Ollivier  
*Monumental statue with two-heads*, Jordan,  
Ain Ghazal, About 6500 BCE,  
Department of Antiquities of Jordan  
© The Jordan Museum / Jonathan Gibbons



**Chapter 2**  
*Ramesses II, pharaoh of Egypt*, Egypt, Tanis,  
1279 – 1213 BCE, Musée du Louvre



© Photo RMN - Hervé Lewandowski  
*Gudea, prince of Lagash*,  
Neo-Sumerian Kingdom, Iraq, Girsu, About 2120 BCE,  
Musée du Louvre



**Chapter 3**  
*Sphinx*, mythological creature, Greece or Italy,  
600-500 BCE, Louvre Abu Dhabi



© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier  
*Winged dragon*, Northern China,  
475 - 221 BCE, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Mohamed Somji – Seeing Things



**Chapter 4**  
*Architectural frieze carved with Quranic verses*,  
Northern India, Rajasthan (?), About 1200,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier



*Mosque Lamp inscribed with the name of Emir Tankizbugha*,  
Egypt or Syria, 1386, Musée du Louvre  
© Photo RMN - Hervé Lewandowski



**Chapter 5**  
*Bowl*, Iran, 800 - 1000, Musée du Louvre  
© RMN - Grand Palais (Musée du Louvre) /  
Jean-Gilles Berizzi



*Bactrian horse*, China, 700 – 800, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism  
– Abu Dhabi / Photo Thierry Ollivier



**Chapter 6**  
*Basin inscribed with the name Bonifilius*,  
Northern Italy, About 1300, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Hervé Lewandowski



*Monumental Lion*, Southern Spain or southern Italy,  
1000 – 1200, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Hervé Lewandowski



**Cosmography**  
*Celestial Globe*, Pakistan, Lahore, 1625 - 1626,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism  
– Abu Dhabi / Musthafa Aboobacker  
– Seeing Things



*Astrolabe*, Mumammad Ibn Ahmad Al-Battuti,  
North Africa, Morocco (?), 1726 - 1727,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier



**Chapter 7**  
*Equestrian Portrait of King Philip V*, Italy, 1702 - 1705,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier



*Commemorative head of an Oba*, Ancient Kingdom of  
Benin (Nigeria), 1800 -1850, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier



**Chapter 8**  
*Commode decorated with red lacquer from China*,  
Bernard II van Risenburgh, ca 1753 - 1756, France,  
Paris, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier



*A Chinese Scene*, Jean-Baptiste Pillement, Paris,  
France, 1765-1767, Louvre Abu Dhabi.  
© Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi /  
Photo APF



**Chapter 9**  
*The Painting Lesson*, Germany (?), post - 1650,  
Johann Heinrich Schönfeld  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Musthafa Aboobacker / Seeing Things



*A Museum Gallery Devoted to Ancient Roman Art*,  
Paris, France, 1793, Hubert Robert, Musée du Louvre  
© PHOTO RMN - René-Gabriel Ojeda



**Chapter 10**  
*The road to Verrières*, France, 1872, Alred Sisley,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism –  
Abu Dhabi / Photo Musthafa Aboobacker /  
Seeing Things



*In Fontainebleau Forest. Pine and Birches Among the Rocks*,  
France, Fontainebleau, 1845-1850, Camille Corot,  
Louvre Abu Dhabi  
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Photo APF



**Chapter 11**

*Composition with Blue, Red, Yellow & Black*,  
Piet Mondrian, France, Paris, 1922, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
© Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi /  
Photo Thierry Ollivier



*Mobile – Untitled*, Alexander Calder, United States,  
New York, about 1934, Louvre Abu Dhabi  
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Society (ARS), New York  
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Photo by: APF



**Chapter 12**

*Leaves of Light – Tree (Germination series)*  
Giuseppe Penone  
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Photo Hufton+Crow



*Propagation (final sketch) (Germination series)*  
Giuseppe Penone  
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