Gallery Activity: What Does a Photograph Say to You?

Sketch a photograph of your choice:

Title and artist: ______________________________

• Photographs are made to convey a certain vision or idea. Even snapshots are not made randomly.
• You may not know exactly what the photographer intended, but you can identify the meaning a photograph has for you personally.

Choose a photograph before answering the questions below. (It does not have to be the same one you sketched.) **Do not read the description on the wall label until the end!**

1. What is your first impression of the photograph?

2. What is happening in the photo?
3. What can you tell (or guess) about the photographer's intention in taking this picture?

4. What is the focal point of the picture and how has the photographer achieved it?

5. Are graphic elements such as tone, line, contrast, or perspective important to the composition or the meaning of the picture? If yes, in what ways?

6. What more does the photograph reveal?

7. List words that describe the emotional impact the photograph has on you.

8. Read the information on the wall label. Has your understanding of the picture or your reaction to it changed? Why or why not?