Art Explorers Guide: Exploring by Medium

What’s a Medium?

Medium is what you use to make the artwork. “Material” is a synonym for medium.

Examples of medium: Paper, Crayons, Metal, Watercolor, Oil

Metal is a medium, but you can also get more specific in the types of metal like bronze, silver, or gold

Answer the following questions to learn more about mediums

1. What are your favorite mediums to use when you make art?

2. Which of the following mediums are soft? (circle your answer)
   - Bronze
   - Wool
   - Hair
   - Metal

3. Which of the following mediums are metallic (made of metal)? (circle your answer)
   - Oil
   - Bronze
   - Gold
   - Aluminum

Did you know?

Metal is a very durable (long-lasting) medium, which is why it has been a valuable medium used to make currency (money) and special artworks that people chose to take to their graves.

But since metal can be melted and made into a completely new artwork, it is also rare that very old metal works survive in their original state since the metal was a valuable resource that people reused.
Explore in 3 Ways

In the Galleries:

You can always learn more about the artwork and what medium the artwork is made of by reading the label closely.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist's Name</th>
<th>Artist's nationality, the year the artist was born-(died)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title of Artwork, year the artwork was made</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
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<td>Donor information</td>
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<td>More info about the art</td>
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Online: You can search the Mia catalog online by medium (for example, type “medium: ‘gilded bronze’”) on arts mia.org.

The world around you: Play “I spy...” in the places around you (your house, park, etc.) and see how many different examples of your chosen medium you can find in a day!