

## PORTFOLIO COPY

### BACKGROUND READING FOR ART PRESENTER

Joan Miro (hwahn mee ROH) (1893-1984)  
Kindergarten

Sources: Teaching Through Art Series; Teaching Guide for My Weekly Reader Art Gallery

Joan Miro was born near Barcelona, Spain. He began drawing at an early age and was a boyhood friend of the famous artist Picasso. When he was only fourteen he got to go to a famous art school, and when he was twenty-six he moved to Paris, France, to continue his art studies.

Miro was a leader in an art movement called the Surrealist Art Movement. That meant that he drew ordinary objects in a different way. He painted by using his imagination. His paintings were dreamlike and make believe. He used bright colors and painted lots of shapes.

Miro's art is full of fun and delight and can mean anything that you want it to mean. The painting that we are going to look at today is called *People and Dog in the Sun*.

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### ART PRESENTER PROGRAM

Kindergarten

*People and Dog in the Sun*  
**Joan Miro**

1. What do you see in the picture?

\*Three people

\*One dog

\*One sun

\*One star

\*Turn the picture upside down and talk about what they see now.

2. Name all the colors that you see in the painting.

3. Which color do you see the most?

4. Name all the different shapes that you see.

5. Does it look like the people and dog are moving or standing still? Would it make the picture better if they looked like they were moving, or do you like them still?

6. Let's come up with some other titles for the painting. What are some ideas?

7. When you look at this painting, how do you feel?

8. If this painting belonged to you, what room of your house would you hang it in?

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EXTENDED ACTIVITIES TO ACCOMPANY *People and Dog in the Sun*

Joan Miro

### 1. Lines and imagination

Materials: white paper, bright colored crayons, a black marker

Create a picture in the style of today's painting--we do this by taking a line for a walk.

Have students draw a wide scribble or doodle on their paper with a black marker. Then, encourage them to use their imagination to find people or animals in the shapes and lines. Find a point where two lines come together and draw a face. Turn the paper upside down and add another doodle or scribble. Add another face to create a second person or animal in the drawing. Add color with crayons. If time permits, give their picture a title and share with the class what they found in their own picture.

### 2. Construction paper picture

Materials: glue stick, scissors, construction paper, white paper

Give each student a piece of white paper. Then, either give students pieces of construction paper already cut into different shapes, OR give them the pieces of construction paper and have them cut out shapes. Don't give them whole sheets of construction paper or a lot will be wasted. Show the class the example of a picture made with pieces of different shapes. Tell the class they should use their imagination to create a work of art using various shapes and gluing them to the paper. Students may want to arrange their shapes on the paper before gluing. The picture does not have to be a person. It could be something you like to do, eat, play with, or something you have invented.