

Mini Art Lesson:
SPEAK TO ME IN YOUR WAY SO THAT I CAN HEAR YOU by Jeffrey Gibson

This Mini Art Lesson honors Pride Month and queer artists of color by exploring the work of **Jeffrey Gibson**, an artist of Choktaw and Cherokee heritage who infuses historical and contemporary elements of Native American culture into his art. Follow along for step-by-step instructions to create garments of healing with kids ages 2–6 and fabric banners inspired by Gibson’s own artwork with kids ages 7 and up.



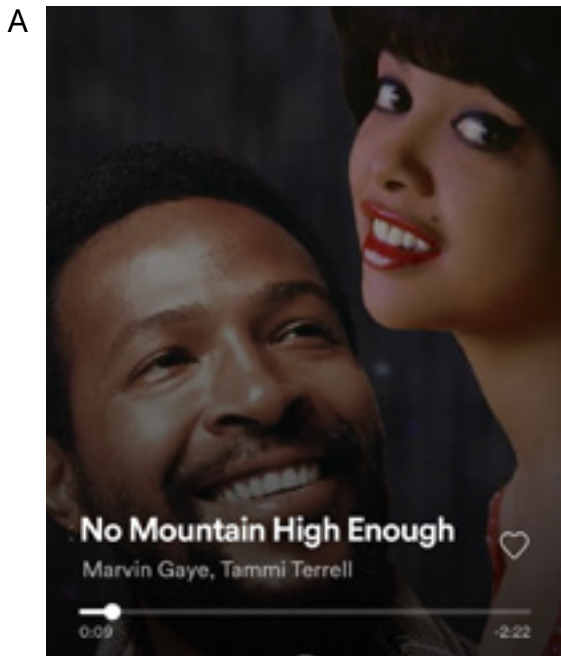
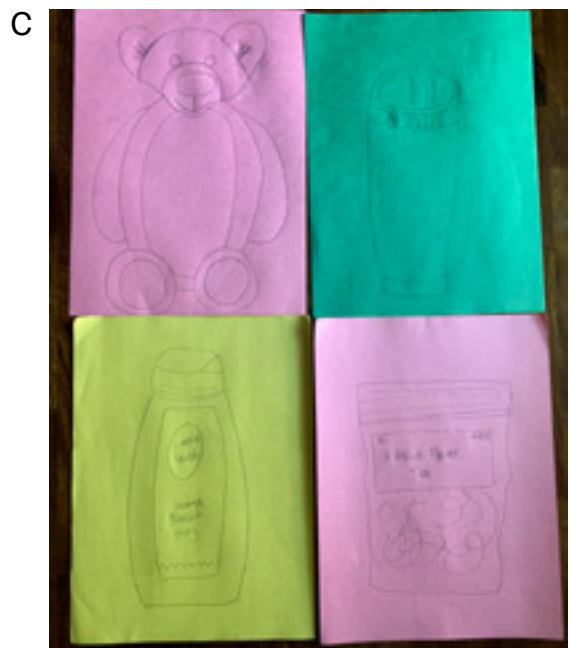
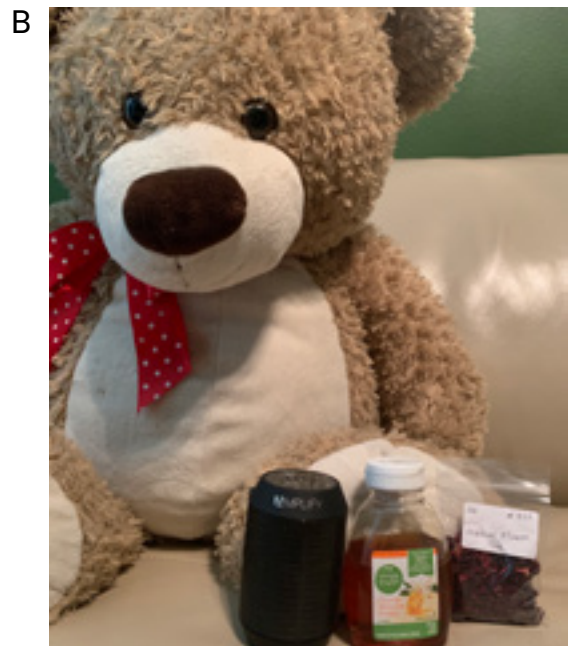
FOR AGES 2–6:
LET’S PLAY

Jeffrey Gibson’s sculpture honors a tradition of jingle dress dancing meant to support healing and wellness and represent pride for Native culture. In this lesson, we’ll decorate our outfits with symbols that help heal us.

Step 1: Talk with your child about a song that makes them feel good. (A)

Step 2: Gather 3–5 items they need, or would like to have, when they’re feeling sick. (B)

Step 3: Now, draw separate pictures of these items. Be sure to leave enough room around each drawing so it can be cut out. (C)



FOR AGES 2-6:
LET'S PLAY (cont.)

Step 4: Cut each drawing out and safety pin it to an outfit of your child's choosing. (D)

D



FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE

Jeffrey Gibson is a multimedia artist, meaning he creates work in various media and uses a range of materials in his art. Today, we're going to create a banner using text inspired by Gibson's unique way of forming letters and words.

Step 1: Can you identify the letters and words in this artwork? (A)

Step 2: Let's begin by creating the base of your banner. Find an old T-shirt that you don't wear anymore and cut out a large shape for your banner. (B)

A



B



FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE (cont.)

Step 3: Now, find a quote or a phrase that's important to you. Create the words in this phrase using other fabric, paper, and any other materials you may have. Get creative with the way you form your letters! (C)

Step 4: Arrange your phrase on your banner in a creative way and glue them down onto your base. (D)

Step 5: Add other decorations, patterns, shapes, and images onto your banner with the remaining fabric and other materials you've collected. (E)

Step 6: Celebrate your artwork by finding a special place to hang up your banner. (F)

D



E



C



F



From top: Installation view of Jeffrey Gibson: *When Fire Is Applied to a Stone It Cracks*, Brooklyn Museum, February 14, 2020–January 10, 2021. (Photo: Jonathan Dorado); For ages 2–6: (Photos: Tayler Milburn, Brooklyn Museum) For ages 7+: Jeffrey Gibson (American, born 1972). *WHEN FIRE IS APPLIED TO A STONE IT CRACKS*, 2019. Acrylic on canvas, glass beads and artificial sinew inset into custom wood frame. Courtesy of the artist and Kavi Gupta, Chicago. © Jeffrey Gibson. (Photo: John Lusic); (Photos: Noé Gaytán, Brooklyn Museum)