

The Journey by Selma Bortner



Looking Questions:

- What do you see?
- Who do you see? How many people? Animals? Which group is more important? Why do you think so?
- Where is this scene?
- Which parts of this picture are light? Dark?
- Find the foreground, middle ground, and background. What textures and patterns do you see?
- What story do you think the artist is telling? Why is she depicting this?

Activity #1: Be the Character

Imagine that you are one of the figures in the boat. Write a story with a beginning, middle, and end from that person's or animal's point of view. Relate how your journey began, what happened, and how it ended.

Activity #2: Animal Drawings

Study and discuss the animals in *The Journey*. What personalities do they have? Create an animal that symbolizes your personality using white pencil on black construction paper. Add color with oil pastels. Imagine an environment for this animal and add it to the background.

Image credits: *The Journey*, 1998, Selma Bortner, (b.1926), hand colored linoleum print on paper, H. 24 x W.26 inches, Collection of the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22



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