

# Guided Critique

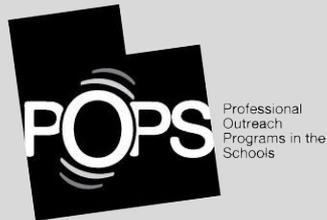
**Willamarie Huelskamp**

*Willa With Songbirds, 2010*

acrylic and collage on board

**Springville Museum of Art Collection**

Grade Level: K-2





## Describe

Look at this painting and talk about what you see.

1. What colors do you see?
2. How many birds can you count? Some of them are hiding!
3. How many eyes do you see on Willa's face? What about noses?



## Respond

1. Look at Willa's face and body language. How do you think she is feeling? Happy? Sad? Silly? Confused?
2. How does this painting make you feel when you look at it?
3. Look at the birds in this painting and think about the animals that you interact with in your daily life.
  - Do you have a pet?
  - If you could choose any kind of animal to have as a pet, what would it be?



## Imagine

1. Imagine jumping into this painting with Willa. Use your five senses to imagine what it would be like.
2. What do you think you would hear?
3. What are some things you might be able to touch and to feel?
4. Do you think you would be able to taste or smell anything?



## Create

This kind of art is called a self-portrait; it is Willamarie Huelskamp's painting of herself. Using materials you have at home, create your own self-portrait.

- What emotion do you want to show yourself feeling in your self-portrait?
- What colors do you want to include?
- Will you be by yourself? Or will you include an animal, or maybe someone that you know?

# Context

Willamarie A. Huelskamp is an artist and teacher. She lives in Utah and is known for her paintings and collages.

Huelskamp has said that “my paintings come from my heart.”

Look at the following painting, also by Huelskamp. How is it different than *Willa With Songbirds*? How is it similar?



Image Source: [artistsofutah.org](http://artistsofutah.org)



Willamarie Huelskamp, *Masks and Costumes*, acrylic on canvas, 2017, Springville Museum of Art Collection



## Conclude

1. What did you learn about this artwork or artist today?
2. What was your favorite part of this activity?

# Further Learning

- Write a story about Willa. Why do you think she has so many birds?
- Learn more about self portraits with the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTnJw91s7Wk>

- Read a story about birds. If you don't have a book at home check out these youtube links:
  - Rachel Elliot, *Be Brave, Little Penguin!* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4TnDma78Oo>
  - Mary Albert, *How the Birds got Their Colors* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtRHtCa6GZ8>
  - Kevin Henkes, *Birds* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Xrti-oaJHI&t=57s>