WRITING EXERCISE:

Artful Storytelling

Hale Woodruff (American, 1900–1980)
Mississippi Wilderness, ca. 1944
Oil on primed canvas 22 x 27 ½ in.
Collection of Mississippi Museum of Art
Purchased with funds from Cheek Fund, Franks Fund, The Gallery Guild, Inc., Hederman Fund, Merle Tennyson Monroy Fund, and Rexford T. Brown Fund

NOPE.
NO WAY.
RUN UH.
I AM NOT GOING BACK THAT WAY.
AIN'T NOTHIN' FER ME BACK THERE.
IT'S TOO DARN AND GRIM.
NOTHIN' BUT BONES AND DEATH AND DRY EARTH.
LOOKS LIKE ALL THAT DARKNESS WANTS TO SWALLOW ME UP.
I GOTTA KEEP MOVIN'.
SURELY I'LL FIND SOME OF THAT GOOD, RICH EARTH AGAIN.

BUT WHERE?
I BEEN WALKIN' AND WALKIN' AND ALL
I SEEN IS THIS DARNY MESS.
LEMMIE JUST FIND SOMETHING, ANYTHING
GROWING GREEN.
OH, I'LL FIND IT.
I GOT TO, LORD.
WHAT'S GON HAPPEN 'FI DON'T...

Hale Woodruff - Mississippi Wilderness

EDUCATION TAKEOVER
MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF ART

DAY 10
Consider elements of visual + verbal, such as:

- Pattern
- Texture
- Contrast
- Composition
- Perspective

Ekphrasis comes from the Greek word for description and is often used to talk about a work of art in vivid detail.

This project is inspired by ekphrastic poetry.

This activity can be modified for all ages.

Benny Andrews (American, 1930-2006) Mississippi River Bank (Trail of Tears Series), 2005 oil on canvas with painted fabric collage 70” x 50 1/2” x 3/4”
Take a moment to find an object (art or household item).


I chose this one!

Want to choose a work from our digitized collection? Find them on our website!
**SETTING:**
An environment in which an event or story takes place. Setting could be simply descriptive, like a lonely cottage on a hill. Social conditions, time, location, weather, and surroundings are all different aspects of setting.

I imagine Possum Family is living outside on a sunny day!
A CHARACTER is a person, animal, being, creature, or thing in a story. Writers use characters to perform the actions and speak dialogue, moving the story along a plot line.

There's a parent possum & possum babies.

WAIT!
What's a possum baby called?!
Possum (or opossum) males are called "JACK"

Possum females are called "JILL"

Possum babies are called "JOEYS"

Is there a **PLOT**?

**PLOT**: The main idea or events of a play, novel, movie, or similar work. Plot is a literary term used to describe the events that make up a story, or the main part of a story.

Next, choose a **NARRATOR**:

**NARRATOR**: The person from whose perspective a story is told. A narrator may be a character in the text or an outside voice.
Start writing!

Begin by getting all your thoughts in writing. You can edit after!

POSSUM FAMILY

I don't know, what's that?  
I'm just a joey on mom's back.  
We walk through the woods,  
to find the best marsupial foods.  
We're family-stacked!

I want to touch the ground!  
But there's an awful sound.  
We turn to face the sun  
And quickly we're left to run.  
We're safe, no one is around.

Some are scared of us,  
But we don't fuss.  
My nose is long,  
I sing a silly song,  
Go as we must.

Share your artful stories!

#MMAEDUATHOME #MMAEDU  
#MUSEUMFROMHOME  
#THEMUSEUMSCHOOLMMA

Or tag us! @msmuseumart