Finding Your Way at the DMA: Tips for a Fun Family Visit

**Less is more.** Make your visit child-size and focus on just a few works of art that spark your child’s curiosity. Don’t feel like you need to see everything in one day. General admission at the Museum is always free, and you can return again and again!

**Make it an adventure.** Pass the reins to the kids and follow their interests! Let them choose where to go and what to see, and then give their imaginations a workout. You might search for favorite colors or animals, act out a story you see in the artwork, or play a game of I Spy.

**Take a break.** Little legs tire out easily in this big museum. Feel free to take a seat on a bench or even the floor as you spend time with a work of art. If your child is feeling extra wiggly, go to the Center for Creative Connections and visit Arturo’s Nest, a “please touch” space where kids can crawl, climb, and play.

**Meet Arturo!**
Arturo, the DMA’s family mascot, is based on a ceramic vessel from Peru that is more than 1,000 years old. The artist was probably inspired by the colorful macaws of South America. Look for this parrot-shaped container in the Ancient Art of the Americas Galleries on Level 4.

Do you like to swim? Then join me on a dive into the art here at the DMA! We don’t need to go 20,000 leagues to explore beautiful treasures.
Among the Baule people of Côte d'Ivoire, the motif of a big fish eating a small fish symbolizes protecting one's family—an appropriate decoration for the home. A cord to open and close the door once ran through the hole in the center of the fish. Later, the metal keyhole was installed.

In the early 1900s, silver was a symbol of wealth, and many households used the dinner table to show off their status. Dinner parties could require seventeen or eighteen different pieces of silverware for each person, often with one utensil having a very specific function. The decoration on the utensils can give viewers clues about the type of food for which they were made.

Louis Comfort Tiffany began his career as a painter but later began working with glass. These windows are believed to be part of a series depicting the four seasons under the sea. These two windows have been paired with others in the same school featuring cabal in silver and a school of fish circling under an iceberg.

Some smells fishy! Fish are beautiful to look at, but they’re also a favorite food for many people all over the world. Search our collection of silverware for a fork whose prongs look like fish.

Make your best fish face and search for a door with two fish. What shapes do you see on the large fish’s body? The artist who carved this door made some places bumpy and some places smooth.

Can you find a straight line, a wavy line, and a zigzag line?

Can you help me find some of my ocean friends? Search the windows for starfish and sea anemones. How many do you see?

Instead of using paint, this artist created a picture out of hundreds of pieces of glass, fitted together like a puzzle.

This window is an underwater world that sparkles and shines as light passes through the colored glass. Can you help me find some of my ocean friends? Search the windows for starfish and sea anemones. How many do you see?

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