



Writing to Learn: Creative Comparisons

This activity encourages metaphorical thinking and allows students to use what they already know in order to approach and understand the unfamiliar.

Grade Level: College, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12

Subject Area: English, Fine Arts, Visual Arts

Activity Type: Engagement Activity

CREATIVE COMPARISONS

Begin by inviting students to observe a work of art. Before sharing any information about the object, ask students:

| What do you see in the artwork?

Next, choose a category from the list below or identify one of your own. Ask students:

| Imagine the artwork was a kind of (*your choice of category*) .
What would it be?

Explain three ways that it compares.

Sample categories:

- Music or song
- Toy
- Part of the body
- Food
- Place

Adapted from *Artful Thinking* by [Project Zero](#), Harvard University. Used under [CC BY-NC 4.0](#).