

OUT YOUR WINDOW

#NBMAAatHome



Inspired by Georgia O'Keeffe's panoramic view of New York City in *East River from the 30th Story of Shelton Hotel*, draw what is going on outside of your window! For an additional activity, write a weather report using observations you make looking outside your window. Try drawing and writing from the same spot in your house once every few days and see how the view changes over time.



Georgia O'Keeffe, *East River from the 30th Story of Shelton Hotel*, 1928, Oil on canvas, 30 x 48 1/8 in., from the Stephen B. Lawrence Fund

1. Look at O'Keeffe's painting with a family member and ask each other these questions:

- What do you see in this bird's-eye view of the city?
- Imagine you are in Georgia O'Keeffe's apartment at the time she painted this scene. If you opened the window, what would you smell? What would you hear?
- What time of the year do you think it is in this scene? Why do you think that?
- Have you ever been to New York City? If so, compare what you experienced there to what you see in this painting.
- Is this similar or different from the city or town that you live in? In what way?

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2. Collect your materials

*This is a suggested list only, you can use whichever objects and materials you have available to you for this project!

- Paper
- Pencil or pen
- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers

3. Find your favorite window in the house that you like to look out of and ask yourself these questions before you start to draw:

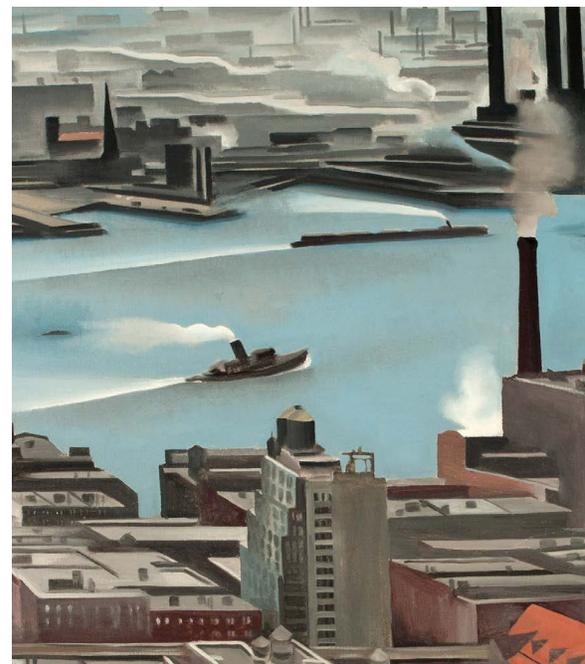
- Where should I sit or stand to capture the view I want?
- Do I want to include part of the inside of the house or the window frame in my drawing? Or, do I just want to draw what is outside of the window?
- How will I show the weather or the time of the day in my drawing?
- What can I smell or hear from outside? How do I show that in my drawing?

4. Start drawing!

- Start by lightly sketching the largest things you see through your window, like roads, buildings, and stop signs, and then add smaller objects and details.
- Draw the objects that are close by with more detail and objects that are farther in the distance with less detail.
- To show shadows in certain areas of your drawing, press harder with your pencil or going over those areas more than once.
- Once your drawing is largely complete, you can go over the lines you have drawn and make them darker.

5. Take a picture of your creation and share it with the Museum using #NBMAAatHome

American painter Georgia O’Keeffe took inspiration from her physical surroundings. During her time living in New York City, O’Keeffe painted numerous variations of the buildings, skyscrapers, and skylines around her. Living in one of the tallest New York City skyscrapers at the time, O’Keeffe had an elevated or “bird’s-eye view” of the city right from her window. This painting in the NBMAA’s collection is just one of the several artworks she painted of the East River from outside her 30th-floor apartment window. Even though the view remains the same throughout this series of paintings, O’Keeffe depicted each one differently depending on the time of day, year, or the weather at the moment she captured it.





WEATHER REPORT

Once you complete your drawing, fill out a weather report for the day. You can use the weather report template below, or create your own. Try recording the weather outside your window, along with a drawing, every day so you can look back on how your view changes!



Today's Weather Report



Date:

*Circle all that apply, or write your own responses in the spaces below.

It is _____ outside.

sunny cloudy partly cloudy windy breezy
snowy rainy foggy damp dry

The temperature is _____.

freezing cold cool mild warm hot

I predict _____ in the forecast today.

rain snow no rain or snow sunshine wind clouds

It is a great day to wear _____.

a winter coat a jacket a scarf snow boots flip flops
sunglasses shorts a hat rainboots sunscreen