



HOW TO USE THE WORKSHEETS

The Wallace Collection is a world-class, national art collection comprised of paintings, porcelain, furniture, sculpture and more. We have selected three paintings and two musical instruments as triggers for conversation and reminiscence.

These sheets are designed to be looked through and discussed in personal conversation by a care home resident and a carer or visitor. You could use it in the same way that you might look through a photo album or magazine together.

You may look at all of the pictures or just one, depending on the situation. Try to start by just looking at the picture. Allow time to look at it together and point out the different things that you can see. Give the care home resident time and space to look and see things for themselves, too. Notice and talk about one thing at a time. If it is a busy picture, then try pointing out certain

parts of it to make it less overwhelming. The picture is a starting point for your conversation.

Do not worry if the conversation moves away from what you are looking at, that is part of the natural flow of your discussion. If it feels appropriate you can direct attention back to the picture.

We have not given much information about each painting; this is to enable you to make up your own stories and interpretations - there are no right or wrong answers. For each picture, we have suggested details you might notice and questions to ask the resident, to help stimulate conversation.

We have also included some related resources and suggestions for follow-on activities. We hope that you enjoy the activities together.

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

ONE TO ONE RESOURCE
DANCING



Lancret, *Mademoiselle de Camargo dancing*, c. 1730

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

ONE TO ONE RESOURCE
FOR RESIDENTS AND THEIR CARERS

DANCING



This is a portrait of a very famous French ballerina called Marie Anne de Cupis de Camargo. She danced in the Paris Opera in the 18th-century. Mademoiselle de Camargo and her rival Mademoiselle Sallé were the first superstars of dance and attracted large audiences.

The painting seems to be set in a park, although the musicians are set to one side and positioned much lower than the dancer as if they are in the musicians' pit of the theatre. The ground that Mademoiselle de Camargo dances on is perfectly smooth and more like a stage or dancefloor than a wooded glade or park.

THINGS TO NOTICE

The dancer

Mademoiselle de Camargo wears a dress of layers that would move around her as she dances and would dazzle her audience.

What do you think her dress is made of? How important do you think the costume is for a dancer?

Her hemline is shorter than women would have worn their dresses at that time. This is so that the audience can see her feet and ankles and appreciate her footwork.

Can you dance? Do you like to watch dance shows such as Strictly Come Dancing or its precursor Come Dancing?

The setting

The picture seems quite unreal and dreamlike with its soft lighting and Mademoiselle de Camargo's gentle movement.

Can you picture yourself there? What kind of music do you think the musicians are playing?

TOPICS OF CONVERSATION

Music and dance, opera and ballet

FOLLOW ON ACTIVITIES

Watch and listen online

Jean-Philippe Rameau was the leading composer of operas in the middle of the 18th century. His operas were performed at the Paris Opera and Mademoiselle de Camargo would have danced to his music. Short videos of his music are available on YouTube.

Make movement

Put some music on that makes you feel like you want to move. If dancing is not possible, then you might like to wave ribbons, handkerchiefs, strips of tissue paper or crepe paper to the music instead.



German trumpet and miniature horn, 18th Century

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

A ONE TO ONE ACTIVITY
FOR RESIDENTS AND THEIR CARERS

BRASS INSTRUMENTS



This trumpet and horn would have been used by the military for parades and processions. They were made in Germany in the 18th century and both are decorated at the mouth (where the sound comes out) with cherubs and cockle shells.

The tassels on the trumpet are made of coloured silk and gold thread. They have discoloured now but would have looked brighter and complemented the shine of the brass trumpet. These beautiful instruments were made to be looked at as well as played.

THINGS TO NOTICE

Playing music or singing is a way of bringing people together. Not just in listening to other people play music but also in being part of a group of people doing something together.

There is unity and community in making music together, e.g. singing together in churches or at football matches. A military band unifies soldiers; together they march, keeping time to the beat of their music.

Marching music has a strong beat that can be heard very clearly in the music. The beat drives people. Marching music would keep soldiers marching on and lift their spirits when they tire.

The strong beat of military music reinforces the discipline of the soldier; a soldier must be able to follow orders and do what is expected of him for the sake of his own life and those of his comrades. Each band member must also play their part otherwise the music will not sound right.

When you listen to military music how does it make you feel? How do other forms of music make you feel?

TOPICS OF CONVERSATION

Military music, processions
and parades

FOLLOW ON ACTIVITIES

Watch and listen online

One of the most well-known marching tunes is The British Grenadiers. It is used for the Trooping of the Colour and there are plenty of videos on YouTube. The Classic FM website also has a list of the world's best classical march music.

Medals

A parade is also an opportunity to wear and display medals. If you have any medals or trophies (for anything, not just for serving in the armed forces) you could look at and discuss them.

Give an award

Is there someone you would give a medal to? You could design a medal and gift it to someone that you think has excelled at something.

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

ONE TO ONE RESOURCE
THE HARPSICHORD LESSON



Jan Steen, *The Harpsichord Lesson*, 1626 - 1679

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

ONE TO ONE RESOURCE
FOR RESIDENTS AND THEIR CARERS

THE HARPSICHORD LESSON



This was painted in the 1660's by Flemish painter, Jan Steen. He is known for painting humorous scenes of everyday life that poke fun at those depicted.

In this painting the tutor is a lecherous old man and his young student is innocently unaware of her teacher's desire. Be careful when talking about the nature of the relationship between the older man and young woman; some may find it amusing but for some it may trigger unpleasant memories. You may want to ignore it and treat it simply as a music lesson.

THINGS TO NOTICE

The music teacher

He is much older than his student and leans in towards her. Why do you think he is leaning in: to check the positioning of her fingers; to hear better; to interrupt her playing?

The student

She is well-dressed and seems to be concentrating hard on her playing. Do you think she wants to play or is she learning because that's what is expected of her?

Did you have music lessons as a child? What did you play and did you enjoy learning?

The key hanging on the wall in the centre of the painting

Keys lock and unlock things: secrets are locked away (the teacher's lust); locks and keys are used to describe peoples' hearts and emotions.

What do you think the key is used for? Could it be used to lock up the harpsichord when not in use, or the door to the room in which the lesson takes place.

Do you have a safe place where you always keep your keys?

TOPICS OF CONVERSATION

Reminiscence over learning instruments as a child.

FOLLOW ON ACTIVITIES

Listen online

You can find videos of 17th-century harpsichord music on YouTube. Here are some composers to search for:

- Jean-Baptiste Lully
- Arcangelo Corelli
- Alessandro Scarlatti

Making activity

Make a gold picture frame like the one hanging on the wall in the painting.

- Either use a cheap wooden picture frame or cut one out of some cardboard.
- Paint a layer of gold paint over the frame, just enough to give a background colour of gold. When the paint has dried use the metallic marker pens to draw patterns onto the frame.

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

ONE TO ONE RESOURCE
THE ATTRactions OF LIFE



Watteau, *Les Charmes de la Vie* (*The Attractions of Life*), 1668-1737

MUSIC

AT THE WALLACE COLLECTION

ONE TO ONE RESOURCE
FOR RESIDENTS AND THEIR CARERS

THE ATTRACTIONS OF LIFE



Watteau was an 18th-century French painter. His paintings are often set in parks or landscaped gardens and depict people in theatrical pose and costume. The columns at either side of this painting frame the characters so that the terrace they are performing on acts as a stage.

It might be interesting to look at the eight people on the terrace and how they seem to relate to each other: how they are grouped and who each person looks at.

THINGS TO NOTICE

The setting

Do you think this is set in a real park or garden, an imaginary park, or is it a stage set?

Does this seem like real life or a performance?

Do you like to go to the theatre or to concerts?

The group of musicians

Which instruments are they playing? The man in the centre is tuning a lute, a bass viol is leant against a stool, one of the seated women plays a guitar. Do you think those without instruments will join in the music? Perhaps they will sing.

Is the man in the centre a soloist or just trying to get some attention?

What kind of music do you like to listen to?

Music and love

Shakespeare wrote "If music be the food of love, play on..." (Twelfth Night). Do you think there is a suggestion of love and courtship in this painting?

TOPICS OF CONVERSATION

Music and performance, orchestras and bands, live music, soloists, music and theatre

FOLLOW ON ACTIVITIES

Listen to music

Music stirs up emotions; it can cheer us up or console us when we are sad. Love is a common theme in all genres of music. What are your favourite love songs? If you don't have a copy, you might be able to find the song online.

Write a letter

What would you like to say to someone you love? It could be anyone; a spouse, child, friend or a deceased loved one. Write it to them a letter.