### Art Detectives Jasper Johns



Wave a Flag!



#### Find *Flag*, 1958

This is the American flag. It has 13 red and white stripes for the first 13 states, and 50 white stars, one for each state, on a blue rectangle. By making this painting, Jasper Johns makes us look at something familiar in a new way.



Flag, 1958. Encaustic on canvas. 105.1 x 154.9 cm.

Private collection © Jasper Johns / VAGA, New York / DACS, London 2017.

Photo: Jamie Stukenberg © The Wildenstein Plattner Institute, 2017

#### Talk

Look closely. How can you tell this is a painting of a flag and not a flag?





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Wave a Flag!



#### Look

There are flags in lots of different rooms in the exhibition. They look the same but they are all different. Some flags are big and some are small!

Tick off how many flags you can find as you go through the exhibition.























### In your sketchbook

Different signs, symbols and colours make up a whole flag.

Draw your own flag to represent you. Think about what colours you would use and colour it in when you get home.

### Art Detectives Jasper Johns



**Numbers** 



#### Find 0 Through 9, 1960

Jasper Johns painted and drew numbers. We use numbers every day. But we don't think about their shapes, or how they look. Johns makes us see numbers differently.



0 Through 9, 1960. Charcoal on paper, 73.2 x 58.3 cm.
Collection of the artist © Jasper Johns / VAGA, New York / DACS, London 2017
Photo © Jamie M. Stukenberg / Professional Graphics Inc., Rockford, IL

#### **Talk**

What do you use numbers for? Circle the things you use numbers for:



Counting Your address Money
Phone numbers Adding up Birthdays

What does Jasper Johns use numbers for?

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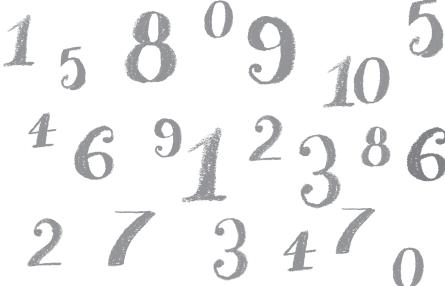


**Numbers** 



#### Find

Cross off the numbers you can find as you go around the exhibition.





### In your sketchbook

Layer the numbers in your birthday.

Draw one on top of another, like in Jasper Johns's drawing. Can you still see which numbers are which?

How are the numbers similar?

How are they different?

### Art Detectives Jasper Johns



In the Studio



#### Find Painted Bronze, 1960

This looks like something you would find in an artist's studio: a coffee tin full of well-used paintbrushes. It is actually a sculpture, made from bronze. It has been painted to look realistic. Over the years, Johns used the image of the coffee tin with brushes as a symbol of the artist and his work.



Painted Bronze, 1960. 34.3 x 20.3 cm. Kravis Collection,
Promised Gift to The Museum of Modern Art, New York. © Jasper Johns /
VAGA, New York / DACS, London 2017. Courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery.
Photo © Jamie M. Stukenberg © The Wildenstein Plattner Institute, 2017

### Art Detectives Jasper Johns



In the Studio

#### **Talk**

How can you tell that Johns painted the bronze? What details give this away?



Compare this sculpture to prints of a coffee pot of paintbrushes in this gallery. How are they similar and different?

Think about the objects that are important to you. Can you make a list of them?
What do they say about you?



#### In your sketchbook

Draw an object or objects that represents you. At home, make a sculpture of it out of cardboard!

# Art Detectives Jasper Johns





### Find Montez Singing, 1989-90

In this painting, Johns remembers his grandmother Montez singing to him. Pinned to the wall is a drawing of a sailboat with a sunset above it. His grandmother sang a song called 'Red Sails in the Sunset'.

Can you image what the song might sound like?



Montez Singing, 1989-90. Oil on canvas, 193 x 127 cm.

Collection of the artist. © Jasper Johns / VAGA, New York / DACS, London 2017.

Photo © Jamie M. Stukenberg / Professional Graphics Inc., Rockford, IL

# RA Art Detectives Jasper Johns





### In your sketchbook

Think about a song your parents sing to you, or sang to you when you were younger.

Illustrate the song (and even the person singing).