

Welcome to the NCMA!

Before you begin exploring, take a moment to consider: What do you already know about Africa or African art? Share your ideas. Then have fun using this guide to take a closer look!

HELPFUL INFORMATION



Why can't we touch the art?

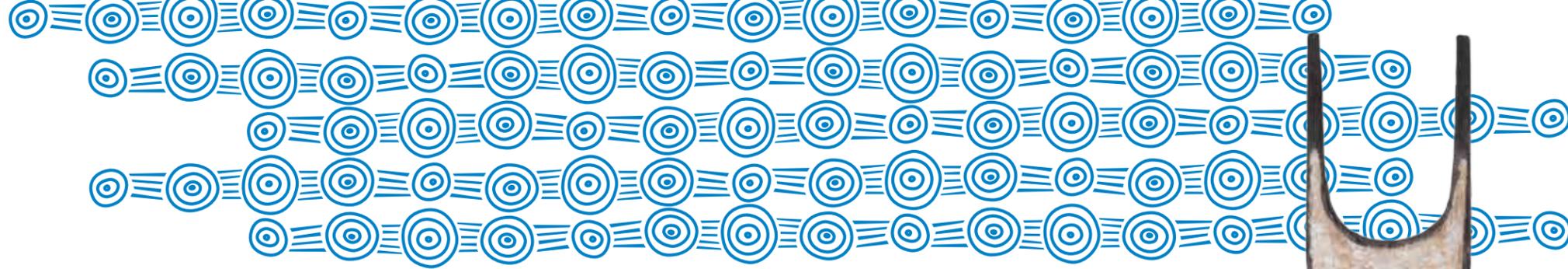
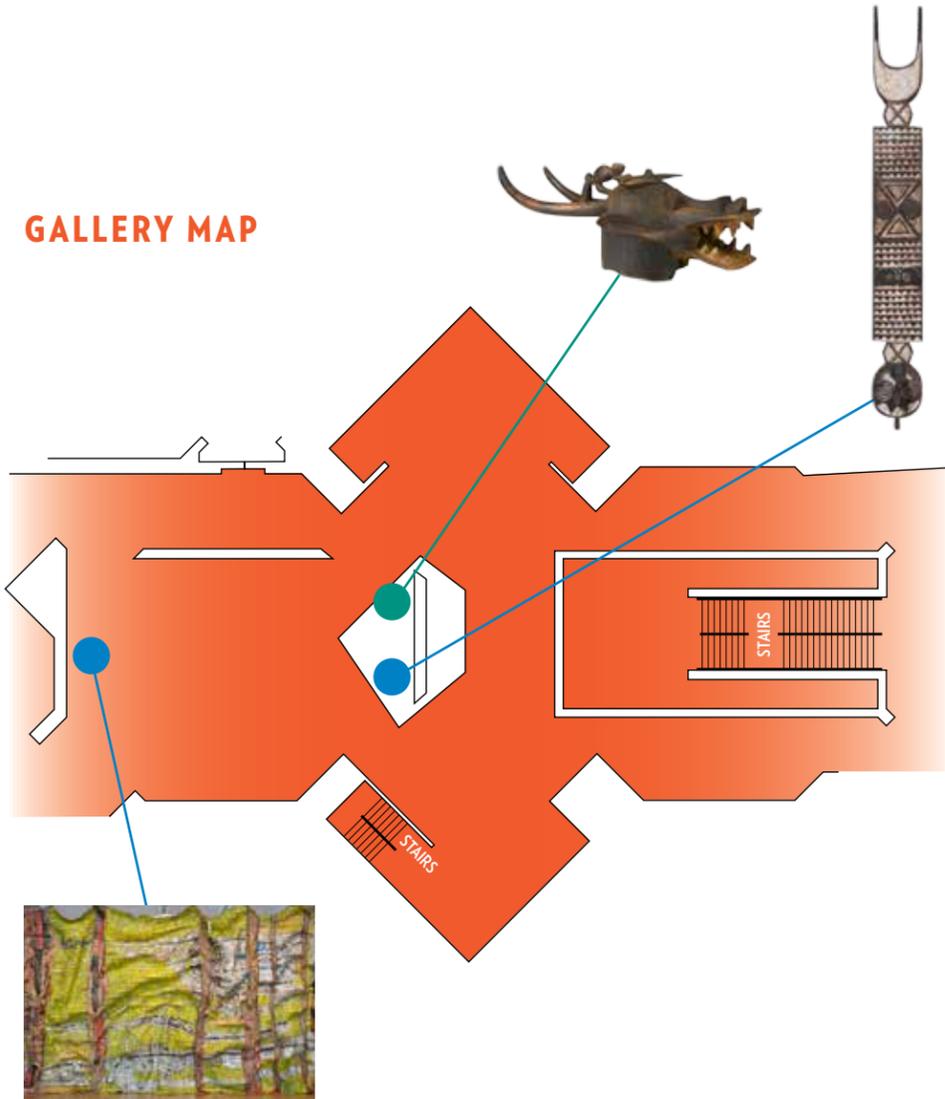
Our hands (even when they are clean) have oils on them that can damage the art objects.



May I take photographs?

Yes, it's okay to take photographs with no flash in the African Gallery.

GALLERY MAP



HOW DOES IT LOOK?

A pattern is a repeated design. Patterns made of shapes, lines, and colors are everywhere in African art!

LOOK at the Bwa plank mask from Burkina Faso and El Anatsui's *Lines That Link Humanity*. Find the patterns. What colors make up these patterns? What shapes do you see? Compare and contrast them.

Let's complete the unfinished patterns!

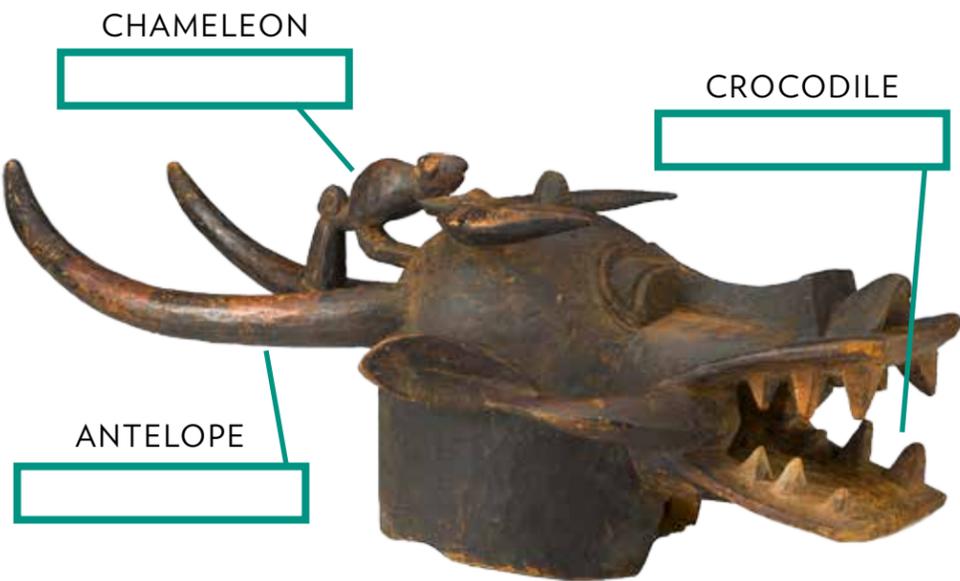
DRAW the missing patterns.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In African art, images of animals can be used to represent special qualities. For example, a leopard might signify ferocity or cleverness.

LOOK for the animals that make up the Kponyungo mask.



Match the animals with the special qualities they represent.

PROTECTION SPEED CHANGE

CONNECT with your inner animal. What animal qualities best represent you? Draw your own special creature in the space below.

Senoufo artist, *Helmet Mask, Composite Creature (kponyungo)*, early-mid 20th century, wood, H. 12½ × W. 32½ × D. 12½ in., North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, Gift of the Hanes Corporation

WHAT IS IT MADE OF?

African artists choose materials to use in their objects because of how they look or feel, what the object will be used for, or what is available at that time.

LOOK for objects made with the following materials. Write the object you found on the line beside the material. (Hint: you can find the object's title and materials on the Museum label.)



REFLECT on the materials you saw and finish these thoughts:

The material with the most interesting texture I found was ...
.....

The most colorful material I found was ...
.....

The material I'd most like to make art with was ...
.....

TAKE

A

CLOSER

LOOK!

African Art Gallery Activities
for Families

Suggested for ages 5–11



North Carolina Museum of Art