

Symbolism Coloring and Drawing Activity

Inspired by the Work of Floyd Newsum



Floyd Newsum, *I Know the Grackle But You Don't Know Me*, 2012. Oil and mixed media on paper mounted on canvas, 48" x 60". Courtesy of Arizona Newsum.

Floyd Newsum is a painter and printmaker who also incorporated different materials into his work. His artist career spans four decades. His most recent work draws inspiration from West African art and while his works are playful in tone, his works look reference various subjects such as culture, politics, and history.

Many of his artworks in the exhibition *Floyd Newsum: Evolution of Sight* use varying degrees of abstraction. Abstraction in art means not representing the world as it is. Take a look at some of Newsum's works in the [virtual tour](#). Print out the coloring sheet activity below.

Floyd Newsum often uses these symbols in his artwork, such as the ladder representing his father, who was a firefighter and the kite representing flying or freedom. Color in this design inspired by the work of Floyd Newsum. You can also create your own drawing using a symbol for each of your family members to tell a story.

