Let’s Practice Inquiry at Home!

Introduce inquiry to your kiddos using the exercise below.

Ask your pupils to spend 1 quiet minute looking at the image.

When they’ve had enough time to digest the artwork, ask them: What do you see?
  · As you lead this discussion, accept any response! Praise your child for sharing their thoughts.
  · Paraphrase your child’s answer using your own words to make sure you’re both on the same page.
  · When you’ve come to the end of their lines of thought, ask another question!

Remind them to only make observations about what they see (what’s really there—quantity of bears, their colors and postures, the gallery architecture).

Next, ask them: What do you think is happening here? Ask them to back up their claim by following-up with the question: What makes you say that?

What words would you use to describe this scene?

Take another careful look at each bear. Which bear do you identify with today? Why?

The artist, Paola Pivi, titled each of these bears separately. See the hot pink bear laying on its side in the foreground? That bear is titled don’t change my name please. Pick a bear and give it a name! Share the name you’ve chosen and the reasoning for your choice with your parent/caregiver or sibling.

Paola Pivi, Ma’am, 2016.