

Family Activity Guide

Picasso

Guitars

1912–1914

Work as a family! Use the questions, activities, and close-looking exercises in this guide.



Tuning keys

Neck

Fretboard

Sound hole

Body



Spanish artist Pablo Picasso made many artworks about a single subject: the guitar. In this guide we'll explore four of them, each made with different materials.

LOCATE the exhibition *Picasso: Guitars 1912–1914*, on the third floor of the Museum.

FIND Picasso's cardboard guitar (above left) on the gallery wall. Its title is *Still life with Guitar*.

COMPARE the sculpture with a real guitar (above).

DRAW lines matching parts in Picasso's sculpture with those in the real guitar. How are these guitars similar? How are they different? Does Picasso's guitar have some parts not found on the real instrument?

FIND Guitar, a collage by Picasso
from 1913.

Picasso made collages using different kinds of paper and materials. He cut the paper into different shapes, arranged them, and then glued them down.

LOOK CLOSELY

Can you find the following materials in the artwork?

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ Wallpaper
- ☐ Chalk lines (white)
- ☐ Charcoal lines (black)
- ☐ Colored paper



KEEP LOOKING!

What other materials did Picasso use in his guitar sculptures, paintings, drawings, and collages? As you explore, keep your eye out for the materials listed below—and add your own to the list!

☐ Sheet music

☐ Sand

☐ Wire

FIND Guitar, the sculpture Picasso made out of sheet metal in 1914.

People who first saw it asked,
“What is it, painting or sculpture?”

Picasso responded, “It’s nothing,
it’s *el guitare!*”

TURN & TALK

What do you think? How is it like a painting? How is it like a sculpture?

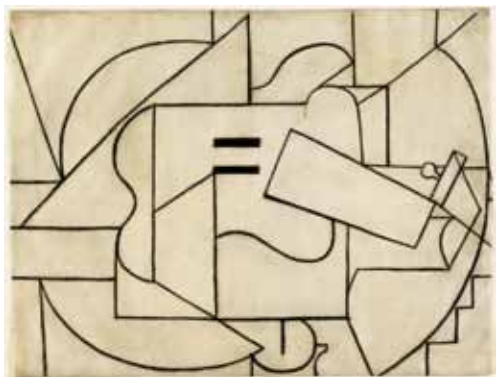
How is Picasso’s metal guitar different from his cardboard guitar?



FUN FACT!

Some people think Picasso cut the sound hole for the sheet metal guitar from an ordinary metal pipe that he found or bought from a hardware store.

LOOK for **Guitar**, a charcoal drawing Picasso made in 1912.



In this drawing Picasso mixed up the front, sides, and back of the guitar, showing all of them at once!

YOUR TURN!

Draw your own guitar in the space to the right. Will you draw it realistically? Or will you mix up the parts as Picasso did?

KEEP EXPLORING!

Visit Material Lab on the first floor of The Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Education and Research Center, where you can make your own guitar collage to take home.

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