Mondays with MoMA
**Step 1**

**Look closely**

**Questions**

1. What word would you use to describe what you see? What made you choose that word?
2. The artist is inspired by nature. What does this artwork remind you of from the natural world?
3. What materials do you think the artist chose to use for this artwork?

**Step 2**

**Learn more**

These sculptural pieces, titled *Leaning*, by Maren Hassinger, consist of 32 tilted wire-rope bundles, each about 16 inches tall and with frayed ends, spaced out across the floor. When Hassinger first saw the wire rope in a salvage yard, she thought, “it has all of this quality of being like a flowing river, a blowing branch in the wind, leaves, twigs … I bunched it and bound it with wire, then unplied all the strands. I noticed that the material began to resemble living, moving, growing things.” Hassinger intended the works to look like feet or legs moving in space and described *Leaning* as “how we move forward” as if “propelled by the wind.”

Through her artwork, she addresses the relationship between people and nature: “I always thought from the very beginning of my practice as a professional artist that vanishing nature was going to be a big issue in my lifetime, and I wanted to address it.”

**Step 3**

**Activity: Create a sculpture inspired by nature**

**Materials:** “found” materials around you (everyday objects, recycled materials, things found in nature), tape, rope, or glue

1. Look at the materials you collected and see if they remind you of anything you might see in nature.
2. Arrange them into a three-dimensional object by wrapping, twisting, stacking, combining, or gluing them together. Look at the images on page 3 to see some ideas of how to use different materials.
3. Give your artwork a title that shows the idea behind your sculpture.

**Step 4**

**Share!**

Share your artwork with a friend or classmate and tell them about what inspired you. Or, you can email it to us at MoMA: schoolprograms@moma.org.

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