# **Using Aesthetic Scanning with Adults**

## Practice

1. If you are uncomfortable using aesthetic scanning, this feeling will be passed on

to your audience.

1. Practice in front of a mirror or with a friend until this process feels natural.

## Be Deliberate

1. Explain why you are going to use aesthetic scanning.
2. Teaching strategy for looking at and interpreting works of art.
3. Method for making sense of art.

## Approaches

1. Have you ever seen a work of art that doesn’t make sense?
2. This is a tool that will help you look at and understand the works of art that we are going to look at today and works of art that you may look at in the future.
3. This strategy moves from simple to complex.
4. We will look at the smaller parts and then move to the bigger picture.
5. I’m not asking you simple questions like “what colors do you see?” because I want you to prove that you recognize the color red. I’m asking you simple questions to help you look more closely at works of art and to help you interpret them.
6. Artists know how to create a specific mood or draw your attention to a particular part of a work of art. This strategy will help you to understand how artists do this.

## Tips

1. Use leading questions for simple things. (There is a lot of red, isn’t there?)
2. Don’t use every sensory and formal property. Use what is most significant.
3. Discuss the things you notice first. Why are they important? What do they tell you about the work of art?
4. As you move through the aesthetic scanning process be sure that the relevance of your questions is clear to your audience. For example:
5. Explain why the use of a lot of red is important.
6. Explain or ask questions that reveal the significance of diagonal versus vertical lines.
7. Time constraints will determine how long you look. Keep this in mind when

choosing what you ask and what you look at.

## Personal Style

This is something that you have to develop on your own. This is why some tour techniques work for one individual and not for another. Developing a personal style that you feel confident about will help you to provide tours that will engage adults in aesthetic scanning.