

# DIGITAL AGNES

Agnes Etherington Art Centre at Queen's University  
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## Still life and your senses

AGNES Learns

2020

### SPEAKERS

Charlotte Gagnier

### KEYWORDS

Still Life, Canadian Art, Contemporary Art, Agnes Learns, Grade 1-3, School Resource, Children's Education

### TRANSCRIPT

**Charlotte Gagnier:** This colourful painting is by a Canadian artist named Goodridge Roberts. It's called Still Life on Sideboard with Yellow and White Flowers. A still life is a type of art that focuses on still objects placed together. Often, artists depict things that you might find in the house. Here the artist has painted manmade objects, like a book, a few vases, a jug, and a candlestick. But he's also included natural things like cut flowers and fruit. Although this painting is called a still life, it doesn't look very still to me. It's full of energy. Look at the brushstrokes in the background. They're exciting zigzags. Roberts often painted using very quick brushstrokes. There are so many bright colours that pop out, like the blue book and the large yellow fruit on the red fabric. I can actually see every colour of the rainbow in this painting. If I use my imagination, I can dream what the flowers might smell like and the taste of the different fruits. Can you? Do you think the artist came across the objects arranged like this or did he put them together on purpose? If you were going to make a still life painting, what objects would you include?