The Artist’s Studio: Word Play

Artist Barbara Kruger combines words and images in powerful works of art that prompt us to think about our identities, our values, and our actions. Her large-scale installation in the museum’s Michigan Avenue ticketing area asks visitors, WHY ARE YOU HERE? and proposes possible reasons—including to look, to learn, and to play.

Materials
• 4” x 5” paper
• Markers or crayons
• Tape for posting your work

What thought-provoking question do you want to share with your family or your community?

With this activity, you will create a small-scale art installation. Write a question you’d like others to think about on a small piece of paper. Limit yourself to one or two colors for the words. “Install” your message in a surprising place, either in your home or in your neighborhood.

A mockup of Kruger’s Untitled (Michigan Avenue Ticketing) installed in the Michigan Avenue ticketing lobby.

Find more information about Barbara Kruger and the exhibition at artic.edu.