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IS FOR BETWEEN OBJECTS AND ARCHITECTURE

When I enter a gallery with sculpture in it, I not only look at the artworks but I walk around the sculpture in the space.

I think to myself, what would this sculpture be like in a smaller location? Or a larger one? Or nearer to the window? For me, the space an artwork is displayed in can be just as important as the work itself. What do you think?

This resource is a tool for you to use to become more attuned to the space you are in, and there are a number of ways to think about, and shape, how the space affects your encounter with the objects within it. Moving in and around architecture in different spaces – whether that's inside or outside – is one of the inspirations that helps me make artworks.

Firstly, I want you to move around the display as individuals. Where possible, move towards, move past, move under or move through the artworks. Think about what is making you move in the way that you are. What is leading you? What is getting in your way?

Now find a classmate. The pair of you will form a little snake. One person in front and one behind. The person behind will put their hands on to the shoulders of the person in front.

As a little snake, the person at the back will give instructions to navigate you both around the space. These directions should be whispered into the ear of the person in front. This is your chance to take someone else on a journey through the space so that they experience the artworks in a new way. What do you want them to experience? How do you want to move them? Or for them to be moved?

Some instructions that you could use:

MOVE TOWARDS...
MOVE THROUGH...
MOVE PAST...
MOVE CLOSER TO...
MOVE UNDER...
MOVE AROUND...
MOVE AWAY FROM...

Swap snake positions and move through the space again.

Now come together as a group.

How was everyone's experience? Take it in turns to recount your findings. Did you have the same experiences or different ones?

How different was it moving alone in the space compared to moving as a snake? Did you have any experiences that were similar to walking around outside when you are in the street, in the park or in some other place?

Why not try using your own snake outside the gallery. You could form a bigger, longer snake (still with the instructions coming from the person at the back) try it at home, in the playground, or when you encounter a new artwork or display that you want to get to know and see how different every journey is.

**ACTIVITY DEvised BY ARTIST
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AN EXCHANGE WITH ARTIST
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in collaboration with Schools and
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artworks from tate.org.uk

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