

LUMA

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY  
MUSEUM of ART

# Activity Guide

for kids and their grownups

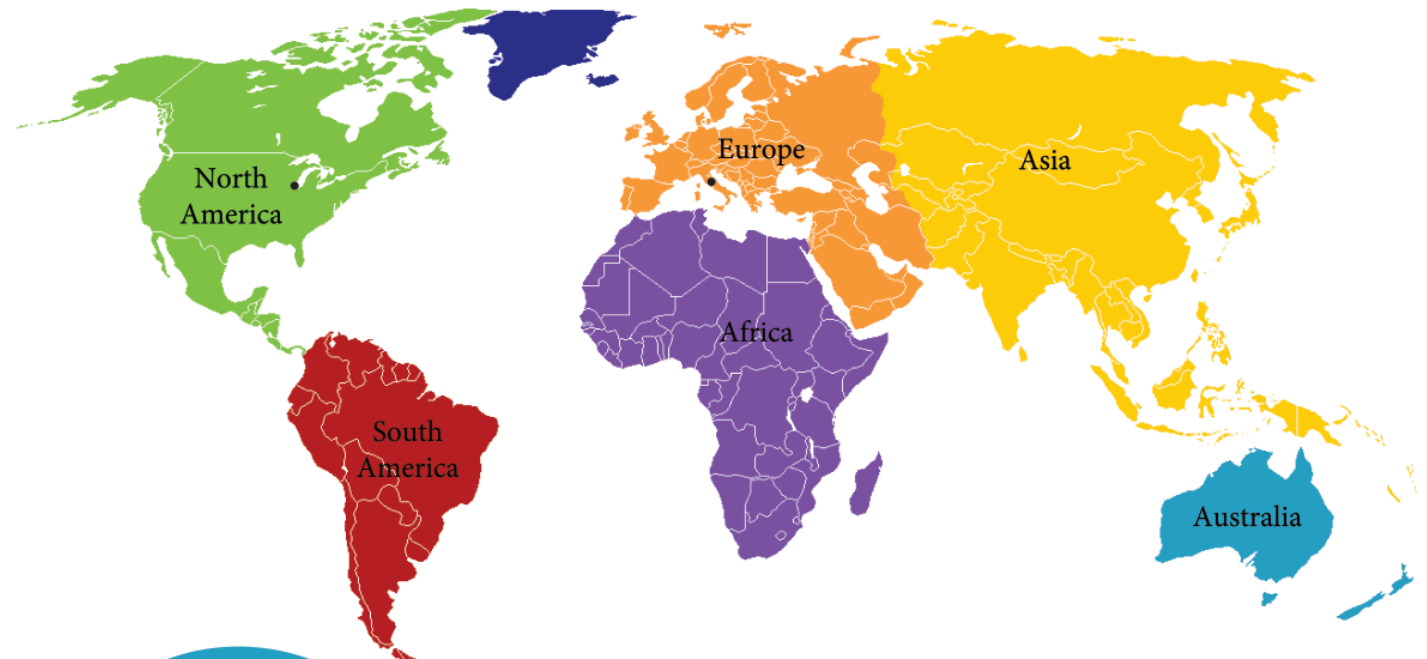
Suits me!  
Don't you  
think?

Go



*Desco da Parto, Florence, Italy, ca. 1440*

**Desco da Parto** was made in Florence, Italy. Can you find Florence on this map?  
Where is Chicago?



### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

**desco da parto** =  
“DES-ko duh PAR-toe”  
**circa** = “SIR kah”

### DEFINITIONS

- \*ca. = circa; Latin for “about;” historians use circa when they are unsure of the exact date
- \*desco da parto = Italian for “birth tray”

## What Would Your Life Be Like During the Renaissance?

*Desco da parto* was created during a period known as the Renaissance. Renaissance is French for “rebirth.” It describes a time when people became interested in science, literature and art.

Scientists during the Renaissance dissected animals and humans to learn how their bodies worked. Leonardo da Vinci was one of the first artists to study and draw the human skeleton.

Explorers like Ferdinand Magellan and Christopher Columbus made voyages to unknown lands. These adventures led to new foods, such as corn and tomatoes, and new animals, like penguins and llamas.

# Let's Take a Closer Look

- \* Here we see scenes from the story of David and Goliath. David was a young shepherd who helped the Israelites defeat the Philistines. With only a leather sling shot and a stone the boy killed their general, a giant named Goliath!
- \* David wears clothing of a teenage boy who lived during the Renaissance. **If this work were painted today, what would David be wearing?**
- \* This artwork was a gift to a mother in celebration of a baby boy, whom she hoped would be as courageous and brave as David. **What kinds of gifts are given to new mothers today?**

The story of David and Goliath is painted in four scenes. **Can you find all of these?**

1. David gets ready to fling a rock at Goliath, who is still alive.
2. David raises his sword to cut off the dead giant's head.
3. David presents the head of Goliath to King Saul.
4. The battle rages between the Israelites and Philistines.



## Look Around

Look at the **elephants' feet**.

What do you notice about them?

Compare these elephants' feet with those of the Elephant Automaton in the blue gallery.





# Activities

## Imagine

If you had a *desco da parto*, where would you hang it in your home? Why?

## Discuss

Does your family have any special keepsakes from when you were born?

## Create

If you had a *desco da parto*, what story would you paint on it? Draw your ideas here.

