Haitian Art

What is in YOUR heart?

Coeur means heart in French.

A heart is symmetrical. If you cut it in half, each side would mirror the other.

Zanj means angel in Kreyol, the language of the Haitian people.

Create a metal sculpture

Haitian metal sculptures are created using recycled oil barrels or dwoun. The blacksmith, or bosmetal, splits, flattens and then ignites the metal to remove the paint. He draws the design in chalk. A young apprentice, a timoun, cuts out the design using a hammer, chisel and awl.

Agwe is the loa, or vodou god, of the sea. Can you find Agwe’s ship?

HINT: Look at the bottom of the sculpture for the horizontal lines.

Sérèsier Louis-Juste, Children with Birds, n.d., iron, Gift of Dr. Walter E. Neiswanger, M.D., City of Davenport Art Collection, 1992.6

DRAW a landscape within the heart that is symmetrical. Remember, if an object is symmetrical it is the same on both sides.

DRAW a tree. Add things from your world around the tree like a dog, the sun, a flower or a river.

DRAW a landscape within the heart that is symmetrical. Remember, if an object is symmetrical it is the same on both sides.