

## BAM AT HOME ARTISTS OF IDAHO

### DISCUSSION: Home Environments

**Note:** Students can be partnered in advance to connect via online platforms, or this discussion can be with members of students' households as partners. Alternatively, teachers can discuss the activity one-on-one with students remotely, or ask students to respond in writing. Please adapt lessons as appropriate.

#### Supplies

-image (included)

The word **environment** describes the natural world, as a whole or in a particular geographical area or region.

#### **environment**

the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives; the natural world, as a whole or in a particular geographical area, especially as affected by human activity



(large image, pg. 4)

- What type of environment is shown in this painting?
- What do you think it would be like to visit this environment?

## DISCUSSION: Home Environments

This is a painting of Double Spring Pass and Mount Borah.

- Have you been to Mount Borah, or the Lost River Range?
  - Have you been to a place that looks similar?
  - How did you get there?
  - What was it like there?
  - In what season did you visit?

The painter, Rachel Teannalach, lives in Boise and travels to the places she paints. Being outside and observing the environment is an important part of her painting and inspiration as an artist.



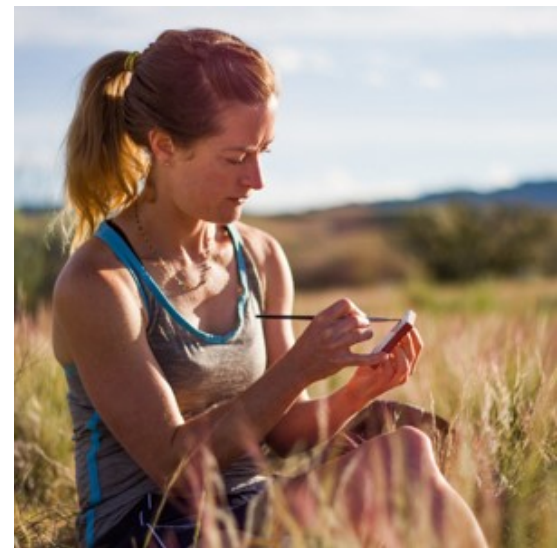
She feels **connection** and belonging with the landscapes she visits. She paints outside in these landscapes, and also paints in her studio.

**connection**

a relationship in which a person, thing, or idea is linked or associated with another person, thing, or idea

A simple line drawing of an elephant, facing left, used as a visual metaphor for connection.

- Do you have a place, in nature, that you like to visit?
  - What is special to you about that place?



(<http://www.teannalach.com/>)

Rachel has been collaborating with conservation organizations, supporting their efforts to preserve the lands she loves to paint. For her, painting provides a way to step out of the busy-ness of everyday life to appreciate both stillness and the beauty of passing time.

Notice how the paint is applied to create the mountains.

- How would you describe the way the paint is applied?

Notice how the paint is applied to the clouds.

- How would you describe the way the paint is applied?

Notice the color in each brush stroke.

- What do you observe about the way the color was applied?

## DISCUSSION: Home Environments

- Is this a **realistic** image, or an **abstract** image?
  - What do you notice that makes you think that?

### realistic

- mountains
- clouds
- colors

### abstract

- simplified
- sharp lines
- color patches

### **abstract**

relating to general ideas or qualities rather than specific people, things, or actions



Caroline Earley, *Stasis VII*, 2019, ceramic, 7x10x5.5

### **realistic/representational**

true to life or nature



James Cook, *Windfalls - Old Fire Site*, 1988, oil on canvas, 36x70

Perhaps this artwork is a little of both—it is realistic, but has an **abstract style**.

In the next lesson, you will do an activity and play a game to experiment with realistic and abstract representation and styles.

Here is a sneak peek:



# BAM | BOISE ART MUSEUM

## DISCUSSION: Home Environments



Rachel Teannalach  
*Double Spring Pass and Mount Borah*  
2019  
oil and wax on linen  
47" x 78" x 2"

Hear from the artist:



<http://www.boiseartmuseum.org/exhibition/the-2020-idaho-triennial-audio-guide/>