

DETAIL DETECTIVE—ACTIVITY # 1

Go to the East Pavilion, Upper Level, Gallery E204

This is one of two detail detective activities for two paintings in this room. Pick one activity, or if one of the paintings is off view, do the activity for the painting on display.

TEACHER/CHAPERONE READ ALOUD:

- This is a painting created by an artist named Pieter de Hooch (pronounced like "Coke") over 300 years ago. He shows a woman buttering a piece of bread for a boy before he goes to school. Do you see the sign through the doorway that reads *schole*? This word means "school" in Dutch.



- Think about the mornings when you get ready for school. What do you have to remember to bring to school each day? Do you bring your lunch to school? Share your ideas as a group.
- Pretend you are a detective. Look at the painting and see if you can find the shapes below. When you find them, circle them on the picture on the left.



Title: A Woman Preparing Bread and Butter for a Boy
Artist: Pieter de Hooch (Dutch)
Date: 1660-1663
Medium: Oil on canvas

FIND THESE SHAPES:

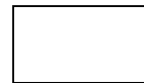
Square



Half Circle



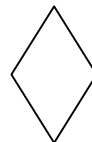
Rectangle



Triangle



Diamond



- A pattern is created when lines, shapes, or colors are repeated over and over. As a group, talk about where you seen patterns in the picture.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR TEACHER/CHAPERONE

- A mother butters bread while her son stands beside her, his head bent in prayer over the food.
- A small top lying on the floor in front of the chamber doorway may refer to a Dutch proverb that states a child and a top will both fall idle unless continually "whipped."
- Education and proper attitudes toward child-rearing were important issues in Protestant countries during the 17th century, and many paintings made during this period contain moral overtones and pious references.

