

ACTIVITY

Ganesha Around the World

INTERVIEW WITH YOUR WHOLE WORLD

Ganesha describes his parents as the whole world. Is there anyone who you would also describe as your whole world?

In this activity you will interview this person about their childhood, family traditions, or celebrations.



The Hindu deity Ganesha, approx. 1200–1300. India; Karnataka state. Schist. Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection, B62S14+. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

DURATION

3–4 hours

PROCEDURE

- ① Contact the person you would like to interview. Ask for their permission to be interviewed about their life. Also, coordinate when and how you will conduct the interview: in-person, over the phone, through video chat, etc.
- ② Read over possible questions. You must ask the first question. Then, select six or eight questions that you want to ask and organize questions in an order that makes the most sense to you. (*Tip: It's best practice to ask questions that follow a person's timeline chronologically, from their childhood to the present.*)
- ③ When the time of the interview comes, ask your questions. Be sure to take notes during the interview for future reference.
- ④ When the interview ends, thank the person you interviewed.
- ⑤ On the same day as the interview or the next, write a summary of your interview and reflect on what you learned about the person, yourself, your family, or your community.

POSSIBLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1 Please tell me your full name, date of birth, and place of birth.

CHILDHOOD

- 2 What were you like as a child?
- 3 What was your childhood like?
- 4 How would you describe your parents?
- 5 Where did you live?
- 6 Do you remember any songs that you used to sing as a child?
- 7 Do you remember any stories that you heard or read as a child?
- 8 What's your favorite childhood memory?
- 9 What was your favorite meal growing up?

TEENAGE YEARS

- 10 What were you like as a teenager?

TRADITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

- 11 What holidays do you celebrate?
- 12 What's your favorite holiday to celebrate?
- 13 How do you celebrate this holiday? Are there traditions?
- 14 What do you eat?
- 15 Where do you celebrate?



The Hindu deity Parvati with her sons Ganesha and Skanda, approx. 1000–1100. Eastern Bangladesh. Basalt. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection, B64S6*. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.