

IZZY PAINTS

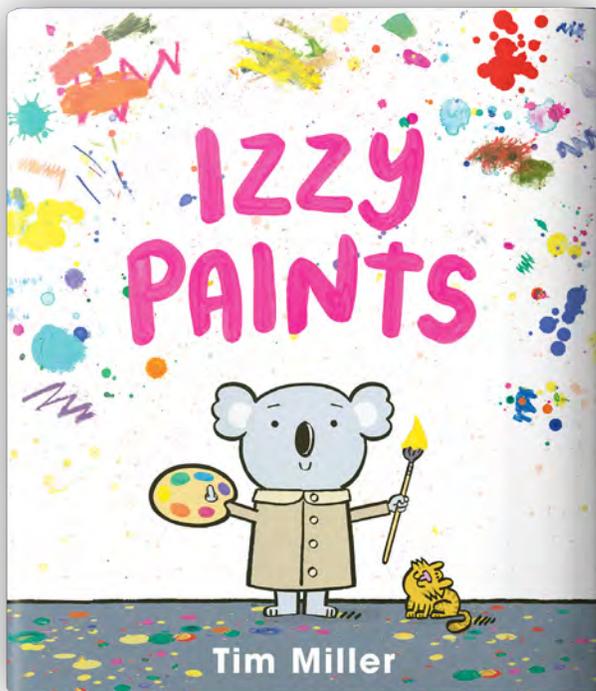
by Tim Miller



A Kid's Guide to Visiting
Museums and Making Art

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About the Book



Izzy loves the big city—especially the art museum. Izzy is so inspired by the art all around—now it's time to make their own!

This joyful celebration of creativity will spark the imagination of every young reader.

Every step of the process of art creation, from inspiration to choosing media, to overcoming artist's block and the importance of play and imagination, make this a terrific book to use with kids as they start to explore the world of art, especially before they make their first visit to an art museum.

About the Author

Before Tim Miller was a children's book author and illustrator, he worked as a Museum Educator at the Queens Museum in New York City. Tim's idea for Izzy's story was inspired by his own experience of engaging school groups in conversations about works of art in the museum's galleries.

Tim Miller is the author-illustrator of *Moo Moo in a Tutu*, *What's Cooking, Moo Moo?*, and *Tiny Kitty, Big City*. He is also the illustrator of the picture books *Horse Meets Dog* by Elliott Kalan, *Snapsy the Alligator (Did Not Ask to Be in This Book!)* and *Snapsy the Alligator and His Best Friend Forever! (Probably)* by Julie Falatko, and *Margarash* by Mark Riddle as well as the middle grade series *Hamstersaurus Rex* by Tom O' Donnell.



Photo by Nancy Intel

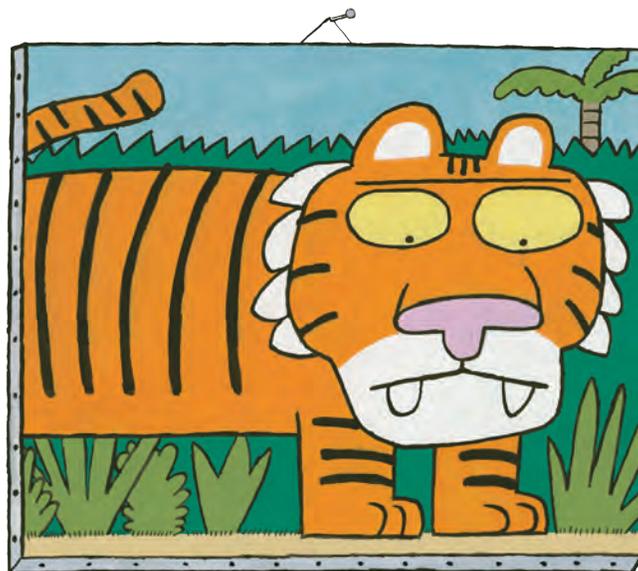


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Tips for Your First Museum Visit

A museum can be an exciting place for anyone to visit, filled with different worlds to explore. Here are some tips that can help make any trip to a museum an adventure.

1. Imagine that you are an explorer going on a journey to somewhere new. Bring a notebook and a pencil to document any discoveries that you make and wander freely. Let your curiosity be your guide and see where it takes you.



2. What catches your attention along the way? What are the different surprises that you find? Feel free to take notes as you go, or even make drawings if you like. If something interests you, stop and look closer. Ask yourself these three simple questions:
 - 1 What is going on here?
 - 2 What do I see that makes me say that?
 - 3 As I keep looking, what more do I find?

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Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever felt inspired to create a work of art like Izzy, but didn't know what to make? What would you do if you were Izzy and didn't know where to start?
2. When Izzy is stuck, what does Izzy see that inspires them?
3. If you were making a painting, what are some different things that you see that inspire you?
4. Izzy uses paint to make scribbles, drips, dots, splatters, and swirls. If you had Izzy's brush and paint, how many kinds of marks could you make?
5. Imagine you're Izzy moving the brush to make different strokes with your paint. Pretend you paint big, pretend you paint small, pretend you paint gentle, and pretend you paint wild. How is each stroke different? How are they similar? What is your favorite kind of brush stroke to make?
6. Izzy's favorite part of making art is sharing it with others. What's yours?

Extension Activities

Artwalk. Take a walk and see how many kinds of art you can find. What jumps out at you? What catches your eye? What surprises you and why? What kinds of colors can you discover? What kinds of shapes do you see? What speaks to you and what does it say?

The Big Mess. Work with paper, paint, markers, crayons, pencils, or anything else you can think of to create a work of art by combining a variety of different marks and shapes. Don't try to make anything representational but play with the color and lines to see what it can do. Make as many different marks as you can think of, allowing them to overlap and mix as much as you wish. Create for as long as you want, and when you're done, look at what you made and see how it surprises you.

Guide prepared by Tim Miller.



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What's Your Masterpiece?

Create your own masterpiece using the blank canvas below!



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