

## Peanuts Art: The WOW Factor

*An activity of "Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Peanuts!"*

Snoopy, Charlie Brown, and their buddies have made kids and adults laugh for 70 years! Along the way, they have even inspired artists all over the world. For Peanuts' 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, *What's Up* showcased a selection of art featuring Peanuts. Now, it is your turn to celebrate by looking for The WOW Factor in the art. WOW stands for "Winsome, Original, and Whacky".

1. Divide your class into seven groups with about the same number of students in each.
2. Read "**Recreating Peanuts**" and "**The story behind Peanuts**" (page 18–19, *What's Up* July 2020). In these two *What's Up* pages, you will see the following photos of art.
3. Have each group pick one of these pictures, with no two groups getting the same one.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 1</b></p>  <p>By Tomokazu Matsuyama</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 2</b></p>  <p>By AVAF</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 3</b></p>  <p>By Rob Pruitt</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 4</b></p>  <p>By Kenny Scharf</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 5</b></p>  <p>Also by Kenny Scharf</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 6</b></p>  <p>By Nina Chanel Abney</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GROUP 7</b></p>  <p>By André Saraiva</p>

4. As a group, study the photo of your selected art as shown in *What's Up*. Then, answer these three questions.
  - a) **Winsome:** In what ways is the Peanuts character — either Snoopy or Charlie Brown — lovable in your group's focus artwork?
  - b) **Original:** How is the art uniquely creative?
  - c) **Whacky:** Is there something about the artwork that makes it amusing and unusual?

Based on all your members' responses, sum up your focus artwork's WOW Factor.

5. Conduct a whole-class art-appreciation session — have one member from every group share The WOW Factor that the group saw in its focus artwork.
6. Then, of course, sing "Happy Birthday" to Peanuts!