

# Dandy Teaching Resources 1

## Ideas for a Site Visit

### ACTIVITIES:

If weather allows bring clipboards and pencils and record answers to the following questions.

Begin by asking the children to walk all around the sculpture and decide very carefully on the best spot / viewpoint from which to view it. Let each child explain why they chose their spot and why.

1.

#### **First Impressions**

Ask them to move around the sculpture again and think about:

How does the sculpture make you feel?  
Is the dog your friend?  
Is the dog smiling or snarling?  
Does he want to scare you or protect you?

Observations:

What is the dog looking at and where do you think he's going?  
Is he standing still or is he moving?  
What gives the sculpture this sense of movement?  
What about this sculpture is realistic and what is unrealistic? Why do you think the artist didn't make it more realistic?  
Is the dog furry, shaggy, or smooth? What would he feel like if you were to stroke him?

2.

#### **Whole Group Discussion**

Are there dogs in the world that are really this big?  
Why do you think the artist made it as large as this?  
How would it have been different if the sculpture was the size of a real dog?  
If the dog was not barking, but speaking, what would he say? - Write this down in a speech bubble.

The name “Dandy”:

Look at the sign. It says that the dog is called “Dandy”. This was the name that James Devize gave him in 1612. The dictionary definition of a dandy is a man who cares too much about looking fashionable.

Is that a good name for this dog? What would you call him?  
It says that the dog is a familiar. What do you think this means?

3.

### **What is Dandy Made of?**

Examine the sculpture by touch and even tap him (with the end of a pen or pencil?), to see what sound he makes. Ask them what they think he’s made out of? (Stainless steel). What other things are made of stainless steel? Why do you think the artist chose this material?

### **Discussion: How do You Think the Sculpture was Made?**

Ask the children: If you were the artist what would you have had to do to make Dandy, from the beginning to the final sculpture?

Think about:

What might you use to create a very small version of the sculpture that you could hold in your hands to see if it would work?

How would you cut out the stainless-steel pieces and how would you join them together?

### **How the Artist Made Dandy:**

The sculpture was first designed by cutting and sticking paper shapes.  
The separate stainless-steel pieces were cut out by laser cutting.  
They were joined together through welding.

(for further info see link at bottom to the resource sheet: Making Dandy)

4.

### **Observational Drawing**

If the weather allows:

(Use clipboards and pencils - if possible it’s great to have soft ones (B2 and up). A5 paper is big enough. Also have some rubbers; we all make mistakes!

Or they can draw with felt tips, crayons, charcoal (but do spray it with hairspray asap to stop it smudging), or even biro.

Let the children go back to their 'best viewpoint' or decide on another.

Ask them to pretend each has a camera and think about how the sculpture fits into the frame, using their forefingers and thumbs to create a square to look through before starting to draw. Ask them to try and make the image of the dog fill the paper.

Ask them to draw what they can see, paying close attention to detail, drawing each shape, each piece of metal. If there is shadow, draw that too by shading it in.

If some children finish early, either ask them to add more detail or bring extra paper and ask them to choose a new and completely different viewpoint.

The good news is that there are no wrong answers or bad drawings!

### **After the Visit:**

5.

### **Display the Drawings**

Display the drawings around the room (on tables or up on the wall) and ask the children to move around and look carefully at them all.

Choose a drawing they find interesting and explain why they chose it and what they think is interesting about it.

If the weather didn't allow drawing outside, the children can draw "Dandy" from memory and from a photo.

6.

### **Nighttime Drawing**

You may have a picture of the sculpture lit up at night. If so, the children can draw on black paper using white chalk. Tell them to draw the light only and fill the paper. Spray afterwards with hairspray to fix it – at 30 cm. distance.

7.

### **Make a Cartoon Strip**

Use one of the stories made up in one of the other Resource Lessons or use the story of "The Gigantic Shaggy Black Dog" from Lesson 8 and create a simple cartoon strip. Explore how the dog moves. A picture of Dandy for the children to refer to may be helpful. Where are the joints? Are there other characters in your story?

8.

### **Write a Letter**

Write a letter to a friend describing their visit to see Dandy. Describe their first impressions and what they discovered when they moved around him and examined him more closely.

SUBJECTS: ART/ ENGLISH /HISTORY

LINKS:

Click [HERE](#) for “Dandy - A Clitheroe Story”

Click [HERE](#) for “The Making of Dandy”