

# LOOKING TO LEARN

## *Food with Personality*

This week we looked at the work of current ARTlab muralist, Aimee Bruce, reading the book *Fruit Bowl* by Mark Hoffman, and making air-dry clay food sculptures. If you missed our program, or are looking to continue the discussion from home, here are the highlights!

**FOOD WITH PERSONALITY:** Can you imagine an object that has feelings? Like a car with headlights that make it look angry, or a banana with bruises that give it a smile? Personification is when you give human traits to something that isn't human. Giving objects an emotion can make them feel relatable.

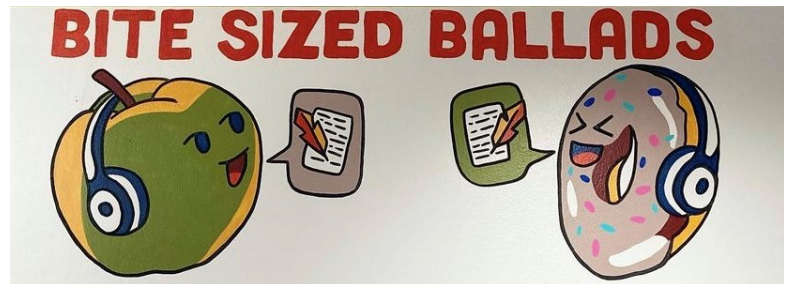


*Real Food Films, Food And Memory, and Bite Sized Ballads*  
by Amy Bruce, 2020.

### **FRUIT BOWL BY MARK HOFFMANN**

This book is about how one food feels when they get left out of the fruit bowl. Watch a read aloud of *Fruit Bowl* from Librarian Kristin [here](#).

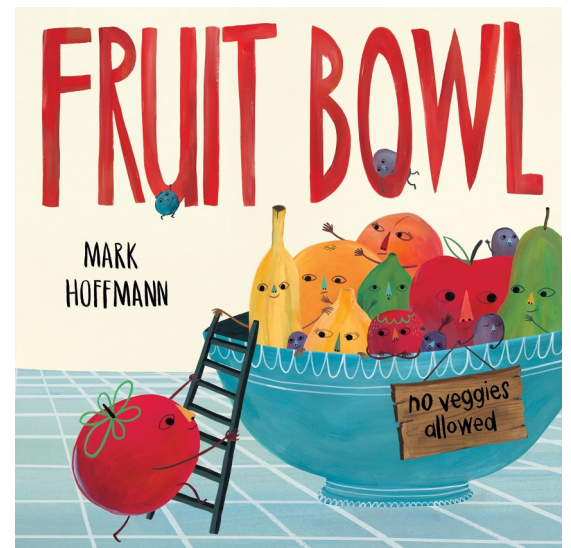
- How did the tomato feel when they were turned away from the fruit bowl?
- What did the tomato decide to do about being left out? How did the other foods feel?
- How does the author show the fruit's emotions? How are they illustrated? What words do they use to describe themselves?



### **ARTLAB MURALS BY AMIEE BRUCE**

Artist Aimee Bruce likes to play with her food, adding personality and emotion by giving them cartoon-like faces. Let's look closely at these works of art and ask some questions:

- What do you see? What has the artist personified?
- Name some details you noticed in the murals.
- What are the foods feeling? What do you see that makes you say that?
- When do you make these kinds of faces? Can you act them out?



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**ART MAKING ACTIVITY:** Just like in the artwork and the story, we are going to make a food sculpture inspired by *personification*. What is your personality? Are you sweet, are you silly, are you something else? Do you like to surprise people? Maybe you are spicy like a pepper! Do you like to make people feel better? Maybe you are sweet like a peach!

### SUPPLY LIST:

- Bamboo plate
- Air-dry clay
- Fork
- Push pin eyeballs
- Marker
- Toothpick
- Sticky note

### INSTRUCTIONS:



1. Take out your bamboo plate and air-dry clay packets from your art kit. If you were a food, what food would you be? Choose a color or two that suits your food of choice.
2. Use your hands to make the shape of your food with your clay. You can choose a fruit, vegetable, or even a special dish! To make a food shaped like an oval, you can roll the clay between your hands to make a sphere. A slice of watermelon can be shaped sort of like a triangle! Or for spaghetti, make some long noodle shapes.
3. Now that we have the basic shape of the food, let's add some texture! Texture is the way that something feels, or looks like it feels. Does your food have a texture? You could use a fork to make small bumps or ridges in your food.

4. Let's give our food some personality! Take the small brown cup out of your bag. The pieces inside are VERY small, so it is best to open this with an adult. Pick two pieces to use as your eyes! Now, you can use a marker or clay to add a mouth to your food sculpture to show how they are feeling.
5. Think about what makes you and your food special. Use your small yellow sticky note and marker to write and fill in this sentence: "I AM \_\_\_\_." Use the sticky end of the sticky note to fold and attach the paper around the toothpick. Stick the toothpick into your sculpture, like a flag. Now your food creation has a voice!



Access more digital learning resources at [virtualvamoca.org](http://virtualvamoca.org) or follow us @VirginiaMOCA.