

itty-bitty art

AMON
CARTER
MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN
ART

On the Lookout

Do you see what we see? Let's take a closer look at some of the Carter's black-and-white photographs, perfect for curious babies with growing eyes. Use our printable Collection Contrast Cards and follow along with fun activities and book suggestions as you find new ways to play with and enjoy artwork at home with your baby.

Itty-Bitty Art: On the Lookout

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Learning to See

Babies learn to use their eyes over time, just as they learn to talk and walk! According to the [American Optometric Association](#) in their first two years of life, babies learn to focus, move their eyes together, process depth and space, and develop hand-eye coordination. Grown-ups can help their infants develop these skills through play.



Check Out These High-Contrast Baby Books from the Fort Worth Public Library!

[*Baby Sees Colors!: A Totally Mesmerizing High-Contrast Book for Babies*](#), by Akio Kashiwara

[*Animales: Libro de Contrastes*](#), by Roger Priddy, illustrated by Holly Jackman

[*Baby Bright*](#), by Samantha Meredith

[*Look Look Outside!*](#), by Peter Linenthal

[*Palabras: Libro de Contrastes*](#), by Roger Priddy, illustrated by Holly Jackman

While you're reading, describe the brightly colored illustrations and point to different elements of the book. This shared experience helps your baby build their reading readiness skills and connects feelings of love with the experience of reading.

Using Your Collection Contrast Cards

Included in this packet you'll find four images of black-and-white photographs from the Carter's collection and some suggestions for playing with your baby. Whether you print the pictures big or small, tape them to blocks, hide them around the room, or just keep them on your device for on-the-go sightseeing, you are in for a visual adventure!

looking

Practice focusing, tracking, and spatial reasoning by slowly moving a photograph around in the air in your baby's field of vision (8–12 inches for infants under 4 months). Pair the photographs with something noisy, like a jingle bell or key chain, for some added sensory support.

Snuggle in and read a photograph like a book! Find helpful read-aloud tips and tricks in our [Baby Book Guide](#).

Place photographs in baby-safe plastic frames and affix them around the crib or play area for your baby to explore, touch, and kick.

playing

Attach the photographs to building blocks, books, place mats, or the bottoms of toy containers.

Play hide-and-seek! Mount photographs in easy-to-open folders, binders, or boxes and get ready to surprise your baby.

Laminate the photographs and make washable art with them using edible [baby-safe finger paints](#) or [salt dough](#).

Attach the photographs to a sheet of craft foam and cut them apart to make handmade puzzles or matching games, perfect for babies 18 months or older.

Ready for more?

Find plenty of Carter artworks to read [online](#) or in the [museum](#)!





Carlotta M. Corpron (1901–1988)

Bisymmetric Design, 1944

Gelatin silver print

9 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

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Laura Gilpin (1981–1979)
Steps of the Castillo, Chichen Itza, 1932
Gelatin silver print
13 15/16 x 10 1/2 in.

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P1964.130



Diane Hopkins-Hughs (b. 1935)
Construction/Reconstruction Series, 1980
Gelatin silver print
12 3/8 x 10 3/8 in.

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