



## Before your Visit: Tell a Story Like Rockwell

For this lesson, ask students to read his stories with their “artists’ eyes.”

Show them pictures of [Rockwell’s Saturday Evening Post covers](#).

With each illustration ask the children to tell the story behind the painting. What do they think the painting is saying? What happened in it? What is it about? How do the characters feel? The picture study focus for this lesson is [The Golden Rule](#), which the lesson is modeled after.

First talk about what the illustration expresses. In what way does this painting convey a message? What story does it tell? As you look at it deeper, ask about his use of the basic art elements. Point out the way Rockwell uses color, contrast, space, etc. and teach about them.

**Line:** What types of lines are used? Are any repeated?

**Color:** What colors are used and how? Point out the use of the color white to create a central focus and contrast.

**Attributes:** What are this works attributes such as value and tint? Is it black and white? What about the saturation of color? Notice that the background value seems lighter.

**Shape:** Are there any shapes repeated which make it pleasing to the eye? What are they?

**Direction:** How does the use of white direct your eye to make a full circle? Why?

**Texture:** Is there any texture? If so, what kind a how is it achieved?

**Space:** Is the entire space used? Is there overlapping?

**Balance:** How is balance achieved? What feeling does this create?

**Contrast:** How is contrast used? Color contrast? Any other contrasts?