

EXPLORE

THE ART OF BRUCE HEAD AT THE ST. VITAL LIBRARY!



Who Was Bruce Head?

Bruce Head was a famous artist born in St. Boniface in 1931, who lived most of his life in St. Vital. He loved art from a young age and graduated from the University of Manitoba School of Art in 1953. Head helped change how art looked in the Prairies, with his work shown in galleries across Canada. He also worked as a graphic designer for the CBC for over 30 years.

What Is Modern Art?

Bruce Head's art is called Modernism. This style used shapes, colours, and lines in new ways instead of trying to look exactly like real life. Head was inspired by the Prairie landscape around him. His painting *Swim Meet*, for example, uses shapes and textures to remind us of water and flat horizons. Another piece, *Poplars*, shows trees as you'd see them in the countryside, but with a unique artistic twist.

How Did He Make His Art?

Bruce Head loved to experiment. He used shiny paints, stencils, and even objects to make his paintings stand out. Sometimes, he bent and stitched his canvases to give them a 3D look. He also made sculptures, like the colourful *Untitled (Mobile)* on display here at the library.

His Legacy

Bruce Head passed away in 2009, but his art lives on. You can find his pieces all across Canada, including the St. Vital Library.

The Library and Modernism

The St. Vital Library, like Bruce Head's art, is Modernist. It was designed by George A. Stewart, an architect from Manitoba, and is recognized as a historical building.

Visit the Artwork

Come to the St. Vital Library to see Bruce Head's art! The collection includes pieces made between 1960 and 2007, showing his creativity and love for the Prairies.



ART ACTIVITY SHEET



1. Be an Art Detective!

Walk around the library and look at the art.

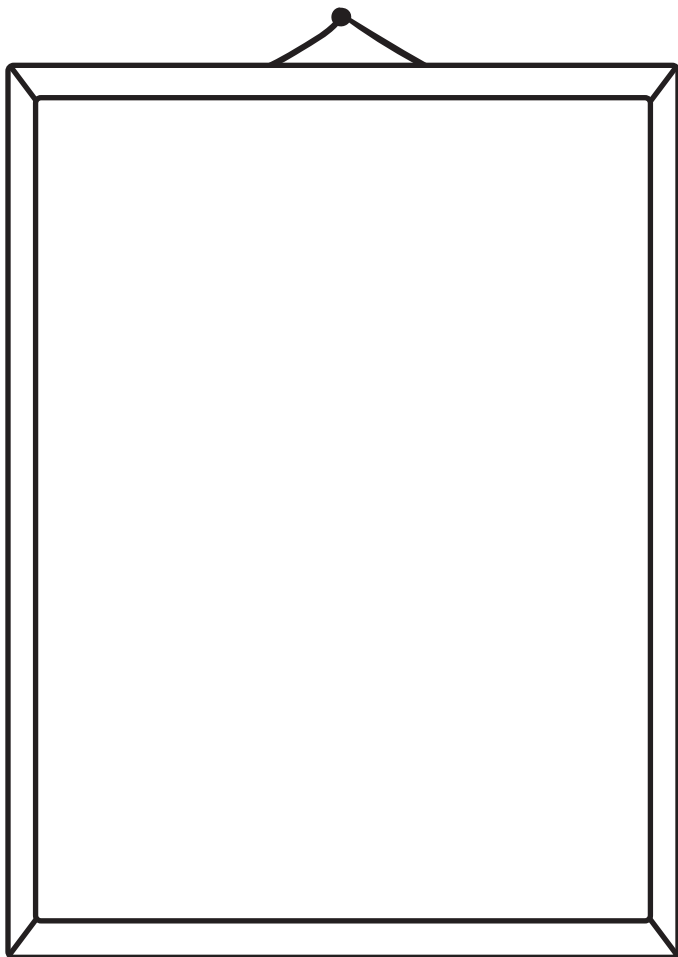
Can you find:

- **Shapes:** a triangle, a rectangle, or a wavy line?
- **Textures:**
 - Which paintings look smooth?
 - Which ones look bumpy or rough?

2. Make Your Own Prairie Picture!

Bruce Head loved the Prairies. Draw your own Prairie scene using:

- **Bright colours**
- **Patterns** (stripes, dots, or shapes like triangles and rectangles)
- **Textures** (rough, smooth, or bumpy—try to draw them!)



3. What's Your Favourite?

- Which artwork do you like the most?
- What do you like about it?

4. Write a Poem

Pick one of the artworks. How does it make you feel? Finish this poem:

- I see...
- It feels like...
- It reminds me of...

Thanks for exploring Bruce Head's art!
Don't forget to share your drawings or poems with a friend or family member!