

# Berkshiremuseum

## **Activities for Self-Guiding Groups** *While You Are in the Calder Toy Gallery*

### **Activities: PreK - K**

#### Charades

In the Alexander Calder: An Artist At Play gallery, there are copies of Calder's push and pull toys that visitors can wheel around. Take some time to try out the toys. Then get the group back together and form a circle. Ask volunteers, one at a time, to describe one toy to the group without saying the name of the animal that appears in the toy or pointing to the toy.

Students can use words to describe the colors, shapes, movement and materials used in the toy. They can also act out the motion that the toy makes. Then ask the rest of the group to guess which toy it is. This activity allows for free exploration time with the toys, but also encourages close observation, use of descriptive language, and kinesthetic learning.

### **Activities: Grades 1 - 2**

#### Compare and Contrast

In the Alexander Calder Gallery, there are copies of Calder's toys that visitors can wheel around. Pick one and find the original version of your toy in one of the display cases in the gallery. The toys in the cases were made by Calder himself. The Gould manufacturing company then made many copies of these originals and sold them. What differences do you notice between the originals and the replicas (copies) that are on display for you to use? Why do you think they are different?

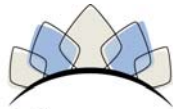
#### Engineering Scavenger Hunt

A fun way to consider how these toys were made, thinking about tools and materials. (This worksheet is included at the end of this document).

**Activities: Grades 3 - 5**

Engineering Scavenger Hunt

A fun way to consider how these toys were made, thinking about tools and materials. (This worksheet is included at the end of this document).



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*Alexander Calder: An Artist at Play*

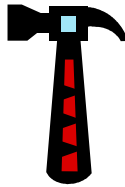
**Engineering Scavenger Hunt for Grades 1 - 2**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

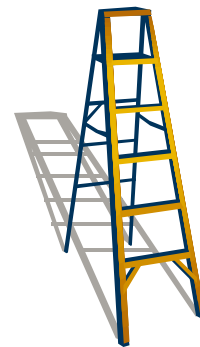
Circle all of the items below that could have been used to make the push and pull toys in this exhibit.



ruler



hammer



ladder



ice cream cone



screw



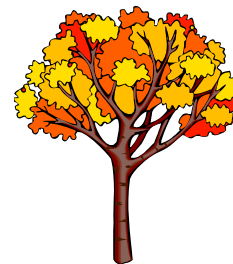
paint



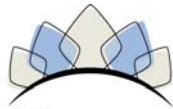
clay



saw



wood



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*Alexander Calder: An Artist at Play*

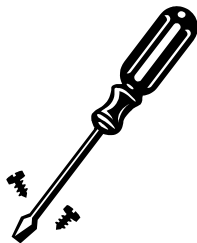
Engineering Scavenger Hunt for Grades 3 - 5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

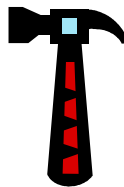
Circle all of the items below that could have been used to make the push and pull toys in this exhibit.



lever



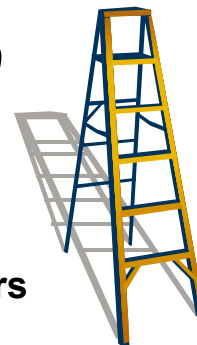
screwdriver



hammer



tweezers



ladder



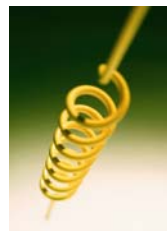
C clamp



ruler



screw



springs



balloons



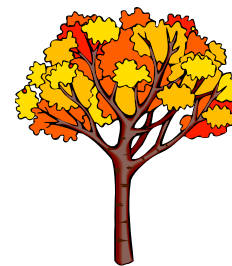
ice cream cone



saw



compass



wood



paint



clay



beads



wrench