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Out

A resource designed to make links between schools and the Serpentine Galleries' 2015 Summer exhibition programme.

These suggested activities take Duane Hanson's (1925–1996) lifelike sculptures portraying the working lives of Americans as their starting point. Writer Natasha Soobramanien uses the theme of labour to explore links between the subjects of English and Art and Design.

This resource is designed to use **out** on a visit to the Serpentine Galleries and then **inside** your classroom when you return.

You can find out more about the exhibitions here:

www.serpentinegalleries.org

Activities developed by Natasha Soobramanien and the Serpentine Education team. Design by The Entente.

Natasha Soobramanien

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Duane Hanson
2 June — 13 September 2015

SERP  ENTINE
GALLERIES

inside

Writing is a form of labour —
a physical effort.

Refuse this labour.

Print out a text on the topic
of work. Lydia Davis's *City
Employment* is good.*

Blow it up on the photocopier.
A3 works well.

Work on it — do something
physical to it.

Cut out or scribble over certain
words.

Draw over the text. Rip it up.

What are you left with?
Use the fragments.

Repeat with different texts.

When you get home write a list
of questions to help you find out
more about the people close to
you and their working lives inside
or outside of the home.

Now try and capture the work that
you do in the home day after day.

Describe the 'obvious, the
common, the ordinary, the
infra-ordinary, the background
noise'.**

** Georges Perec, *Approaches to What?* (1973) in Perec,
Georges, *Species of Spaces and Other Pieces*, translated by
John Sturrock, Harmondsworth, Penguin, 1997

*Lydia Davis, *The Collected Stories of Lydia Davis*,
London, Hamish Hamilton, 2010

Out

At the gallery, choose a sculpture.

Take a few moments to observe
it closely.

Pay attention to every detail.

Make a list of everything you
notice, all the activities associated
with this person's job, the things
they might be thinking.

Swap your list with someone else.

Take a notebook and make similar
lists about people you see in
the supermarket, on the bus or
in the park.