



# Kimbell Kids From Home

*Furry Creatures*

Kimbell Art Museum



# Furry Creatures

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The Japanese artist Shibata Zeshin was famous for his lively scenes with animals. These carefully studied monkeys all appear to be up to something different! **Explore the scene** and **describe** their individual expressions and actions.

**Take another look** to appreciate the soft, fluffy fur on the small monkeys. Each animal's fur is lighter around the edges, but darker on the body. Notice the very fine lines for fur over the soft gray smudges.

Scroll down for SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES inspired by this painting.





# Furry Creatures

## *Drawing Challenge*

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**Draw** a furry animal using Zeshin's "soft" drawing technique. All you need is regular paper, a sharpened pencil, eraser, and soft tissues!

**Start** by lightly sketching the body. Use the point of the pencil for details and the sides of the pencil for shading, especially around the edges.

**Time to soften the edges!** Use the tissue to smudge and blend the shading.

**Add short marks** with the pencil point for the fur. These lines will be right on top of the gray smudges and extend out to the lightest edges of the body.

**Share** your artwork online! #kimbellkids #kimbellfromhome



# Furry Creatures

*Look, Write, Research*

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**These monkeys are on the move!** Use your finger to trace where each one is going. What other kinds of movement do you see?

**Write a story** from the perspective of one of the monkeys. Include descriptions of the landscape and the sounds of the waterfall.

**Act out your story** with all the sounds and actions!

**Read a book or trusted online resource** to learn more about Japanese snow monkeys. Fun fact #1—they are great swimmers!

**Art in order of appearance**

Shibata Zeshin (Japanese, 1807–91), *Waterfall and Monkeys*, 1872. Kimbell Art Museum

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