

Make art. Lie about it.

3-6 players. Customizable game duration (recommended 25-35 minutes)

Congratulations and welcome! We've gathered you artists here today to commission the creation of art for a new exhibit. Each of you will be given a unique secret topic. NOW – I cannot stress this enough: **please create artwork that represents your topic so well, that when you go to our curator to get paid, they'll know exactly which topic is yours and pay you for just that one!** Unfortunately, the reason I have to say that: Last year, one artist – *a real scoundrel in my opinion* – came to our forgetful curator multiple times with the exact same artwork and convinced them that it fulfilled 4 different topics! That scoundrel made a ton of money and became super famous – but you hate to see success come so easily like that! Oh, it'd be just horrible if something of that sort happened again...



Overview

The Goal: Win/steal as many topics as possible

Each round, each player gets a **secret topic card** and just a few brief seconds to make art about it (yes, all the art will be terrible!). The topic cards are shuffled and revealed. And then players take turns acting as the curator – trying to match the topics back to their original artists – while **every** artist claims (usually lying!) that their art "obviously" was for that topic

What You'll Need

- A deck of topic cards
- A timer (exactly like the one on artAmpersandCrafty.com)
- For each player: a box containing 5 vote tokens (the small circles) and 5 art blocks – all the same color

Setup

1. Each player empties their art blocks onto the table in front of them
2. Choose a starting **dealer**. They shuffle the topic cards
3. On the timer, select a game duration and tap **start**. 25 minutes is recommended. When the **game timer** expires, the page will indicate that the current round is the last. Make sure sound is on!

Playing a Round

1. The dealer slides one face-down topic card to each player - including themselves. Point the arrow towards you so the topic-text will be upright when you peek at it.
2. Switch to the **art timer** and tap start. Once the timer begins, everyone:
 1. Peeks at their topic
 2. Returns it face-down
 3. And quickly represents it using **ALL** their art blocks
 - **Until your topic card is later revealed, you MAY NOT make any noises/gestures/etc that hint at your topic!**
3. When time is up, everyone stops arting
4. Slide the face-down topic cards back to the dealer. **If 3 players, the dealer adds an extra topic card to create more uncertainty.**
5. The dealer shuffles the cards and then reveals 2 in the center of the table, reading their descriptions out loud slowly.
6. Let the curation begin! The dealer becomes the first **curator**.
7. Start the **curator timer**. Once it begins, the curator has that amount of time to:
 1. State which revealed topic card they'll work on (You cannot choose your own topic!)
 2. Then, like a detective, try to figure out that topic's true artist. E.g. "How does your art relate to the topic?". The discussion is open and can get chaotic but should be led by the curator. The artists, meanwhile, want to "prove", through any means necessary, that they are the true artist of every topic - lying will be required!
 3. Finally, end the curator ends their turn by putting one of their **vote tokens** onto the topic card and place the pair next to the suspected true artist
8. The role of curator rotates to the left, and, if face-down topic cards remain, the dealer reveals and reads another for the new curator to choose among
9. **If you're the last curator in a round and only your own topic remains, announce this and add the topic card to your box (+1 point)**
10. Play continues from **step 6** until all topics have been matched to artists

Scoring

Time for the reveal! Going around the table, each artist briefly explains the actual meaning of their art and their topic is resolved:

- **If their topic was correctly assigned:** the artist puts the topic card into their box (+1 point for good art) and the vote token goes into the curator's box (+1 point for being correct)
- **If someone stole their topic:** the thieving artist puts both the topic card and the vote token into their box (+2 points)
- **for 3 players:** after everyone has revealed their actual topics, the extra topic will remain next to some artist. This artist gets the topic card into their box (+1 point for telling the best story) and the curator (who had no chance of being correct) returns their vote token to their box.

Next Rounds

While the timer indicates "playing", the dealer rotates to the left and play continues with a new round. But if it states "last round!" → end game

End Game

Count the topic cards and vote tokens in your box. **The artist with the highest total wins!**

If There's a Tie

The tied-players all win!