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MCAD  
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DE LA SALLE  
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BENILDE

# CONSTRUCTIONS OF TRUTHS

STUDY GUIDE: PRIMARY LEVEL

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MINERVA CUEVAS

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One of the most relied upon/used senses of the human body is the sense of sight, which is our ability to visually experience the world around us. Discuss the wonders of our sense of sight by reading to them *The Eye Book* by Dr. Seuss (or any of Dr. Seuss/Adarna books that have strong visuals and that talk about the eye) and discuss how we rely upon visuals in our lives by having them list down the things they do, which senses they use to accomplish these, and how it could be a struggle if our sight is impaired. Using videos or by reading books, you can also show them how animals see. You can also ask them if plants can see.

Other books you can look into are *La Vista* by J Puig and Jose Marie Parramon, *Knots on a Country Rope* by Bill Martin Jr and *The Black Book of Colors* by Menena Colon. You can also have them watch videos such as [this](#).

Have them bring in their books from when they were babies to the books they have now. Which books have images? Which have the least and which have the most? How would they describe the images used in the books? What effect did the images have in the way they read the books?

Have them imagine what it is like to have no eyesight or poor eyesight. [This resource](#) may be helpful in this regard.

Have them choose an image they enjoy looking at. Have them transform this into another form (if a photograph, turn it into a drawing; if a drawing, turn them into a sculpture, if a sculpture, turn this into a drawing, etc). They can also try making the image bigger or smaller. Was there a difference in way the object looks as it was rendered into another form? Which 'look' did they prefer? Ask them what they looked at first and last in the previous image, and how they looked at the previous image to transform this. Are their ways of looking similar or different from others? Using the same image, challenge them to look at it for 20-30 minutes. What were they able to discover with this exercise?

Ask them to look at their surroundings. What images do they see? Do the images fit the surroundings? Who placed the images there? When were these images placed there? Why? What were the responses of other people in the area to the images? If they were to place an image in their surroundings, what would this image be, where would they place it and why? What do they think the responses of people would be?

## IN FOCUS

### Minerva Cuevas's *La Venganza del Elefante*

Show them the slide projector and explain that this machine, popular in the 1950s and 1960s, was used for home entertainment when people would gather around to see slides of their vacations or other events, and that it was also used in educational settings. Tell them that the slide projector makes the image bigger and what is seen is a reflection of the image in the slide. Have them tell you what they think the story of the elephant's revenge is. Tell them the original images had texts or captions on them, and the order of the slides was also different.

### Martha Atienza's *Man in Suit*

Have them view the video. Give them two definitions of suit: an ensemble of two or more usually matching outer garments (such as a jacket, vest, and trousers) , and a costume to be worn for a special purpose or under particular conditions. What do they think was the purpose of having the men in the video wear a suit? If they were to design clothing for the men other than suits, what would this look like and why?

### Luay Fadhil's *Scribe*

Discuss the idea of a formal and informal letter. Ask them if they have ever sent one or received one. Did they need help writing the formal and the informal letter? What kind of help did they need? Ask them how the letter will get to the recipient. If they were to write the recipient's response, what would it be?