

**Activity 4: “And, That’s Why They Can’t Have Nice Things”**

Now that you’ve watched the YouTube video, the following page features actual photos of the damaged pieces mentioned in the clip.

**For the record:**

**Adults, not children, damaged each of the historic pieces featured in that video.**

**Lesson:**

**Look at each picture on the next page, at the end of each description there is a ‘Lesson Learned.”**

***Think about each incident and what you can learn from it, write or talk about your answer with an adult or other child.***



**[[1]](#footnote-1)Pablo Picasso**: "The Actor", 1904-05   
©ARS New York, heirs of Pablo Picasso

‘The Actor’ by**:** Pablo Picasso.

**Year:** 1904 – 1905.

**Materials and Dimensions:** Canvas; height: 6 ft x width: 4 ft.

**Site:** The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

**Location:** New York City.

**How did it get damaged?** Woman stumbled while walking and fell through it. (2010)

**Value at the time of damage**: 130 million dollars.

*You would be able to pay Cristiano Ronaldo to play on your soccer team - in 2018.*

**Damage:**  Small gash 6 inches long on the bottom right corner.

**Repair:** Yes.

**Punishment:** None.

**Lesson Learned? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 

[[2]](#footnote-2)Peter Burka, via Flickr Creative Commons [[3]](#footnote-3) Infrastructure, Portugal

The statue of Dom Sebastiao (King D. Sabastiao)

**Artist:** Unknown

**Year:** 1890.

**Materials and Dimensions:**

**Site:** Rossio Train Station. **Location:** Lisbon, Portugal**.**

**How did it get damaged?** A man climbed on the statue to take a selfie. (2016)

**Value at the time of damage:** $ 1.8 million.

*You can buy 684,410 school lunches for children in America.*

(six hundred eighty-four thousand, four hundred ten)

**Damage:** See the photo above. **Repair**: None.

**Punishment:** Arrested after trying to run from the police and taken in front of a judge.

**Lesson Learned? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



**[[4]](#footnote-4)** The three vases damaged. Shards after the break.  © Fitzwilliam Museum [[5]](#footnote-5)

3 Qing Dynasty baluster jars with covers.

**Year:** Produced during the reign of Emperor Kangxi (1662-1722).

**Materials and Dimensions:** Approximately 100 pounds, hard porcelain.

**Site**: Fitzwilliam Museum.

**Location:** Cambridge, England.

**How did it get damaged?** Man went up wrong side of staircase with an untied shoe.

**Value at the time of damage:** over $650,000.

*You can buy 433,333* candy bars. (four hundred thirty three- thousand, three hundred thirty three)

**Repair:** One vase had 400 pieces glued back together.

**Punishment:** The man was banned from visiting the museum.

**Lesson Learned? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. Pablo Picasso, “The Actor.” Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. *The Art Wolf: on line art Magazine* 26 January 2010 accessed 10 November 2020,

   http://www.theartwolf.com/news/picasso-metropolitan-damaged.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Sarah Cascone, “126 Year Old Statue Destroyed by Man Taking Selfie: It was an ill -considered phot op” *Artnet News: Art World,* May 10, 2016, accessed November 3, 2020,

   https://news.artnet.com/art-world/126-year-old-statue-destroyed-by-selfie-493421 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Cascone, ibid. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. ‘The three broken 'vases' - a covered baluster jar and two yan yan type vases - are part of a matching set, or 'garniture', of five (Fitzwilliam accession numbers [C.17.1 & A-1948](http://webapps.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/explorer/index.php?oid=125832), [C.17.2 & A-1948](http://webapps.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/explorer/index.php?oid=125848), [C.17.3 & A-1948](http://webapps.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/explorer/index.php?oid=125851), [C.17.4-1948](http://webapps.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/explorer/index.php?oid=125854) and [C.17.5-1948](http://webapps.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/explorer/index.php?oid=125855)) accessed 10 November 2020,  https://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/research/chinesevases/disaster [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Paul Dance. “Fitzwilliam Museum’s Broken Vases Set for Restoration” *Culture 24,* 29 March 2006. The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge accessed 10 November 2020, https://www.culture24.org.uk/history-and-heritage/art35722 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)