

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

Picture This!

READ:

In the Mississippi Delta, African American farmers sang and chanted in the fields. Overtime, they began to add guitars, harmonicas, and drums to these songs. This created a new musical genre called the Blues which spread from the South to northern cities like Chicago. Raeburn Flerlage was a self-taught photographer who used his camera to document the Blues music scene in Chicago during the 1960s. He took photographs of musicians in their homes, performing on stage, and working in recording studios. He also took images of Chicago's streets, and blues fans in the clubs. His photographs capture an important time in Blues and Chicago history.

DO:

- **Use** the 3-2-1 Sheet to take a close look at the three photographs. Think of it as a visual scavenger hunt. What 3 things do you notice? What are 2 questions you have? What is 1 adjective you can use to describe the picture?
- **Choose** your favorite photograph. Imagine you are part of the scene. Who in the image are you? What are you doing? What do you see, hear, and smell?
- **Draw** a picture showing what happens next.
- **Write** a short story about your Blues experience.
- Optional: Take pictures around your home or of your family. Choose a scene that tells the story of everyday life. Have family or siblings analyze your picture with the 3-2-1 sheet.

Approx. Time: 30—45 minutes

Materials:

- ⇒ Blues Photographs
- ⇒ 3-2-1 Sheet
- ⇒ Writing Supplies
- ⇒ Drawing Supplies

SHARE:

- **Talk** to an adult or family member about your 3-2-1 sheet.
- **Show** your drawing to someone in your house. Tell them your story.
- **Post** pictures of your 3-2-1 Sheets, drawings and stories on social media with the hashtag #CHMatHomeFamilies.



Southside Street Scene — IChi-136658

Picture It in 3-2-1

Photograph	What THREE things do you notice?	What TWO questions do you have?	What is ONE adjective to describe the photograph?
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Which is your favorite image? Why?

1. John Littlejohn and others during a performance in Chicago, November 1968.



ICHI-102320

2. Hammie Nixon, Sleepy John Estes, Mike Bloomfield, and Yank Randell recording at Sound Studios in 1963.



ICHI-105092

3. Big Walter Horton and Sunnyland Slim at Little Brother Montgomery's house, circa 1968.



ICHI-135393

4. South Side Street Scene, Chicago early 1960s.



ICHI-136658