Cassie the Sea Serpent

Follow the Cape Ann Museum’s family-friendly guide, Cassie the Sea Serpent, through the galleries.

Inspired by the Cape Ann Sea Serpent, which was seen by hundreds in Gloucester Harbor between 1817-1819, Cassie poses questions and activities for students of all ages to engage with the collection.

- Howard Blackburn is a famous figure in Gloucester. Can you find another painting of him in this gallery?
- He sailed the Great Republic. Can you find it? How would it feel to cross the ocean in this boat?
- What’s happening in this print? Can you follow the different stages of the story?
- The artist is using tools to make a print, some of which are in this gallery. Can you find them? What would they feel like to use?
- Can you tell what instruments each of the six men are playing? What do you think they sound like?
- What kind of music does it look like the musicians are playing? How can you tell?

Color in Cassie and cut her out so she can swim on your desk!
What do you think the Cape Ann Sea Serpent looked like? Take a look at the murals by Grimdrops and the sculpture by Chris Williams, then try to draw her yourself!

Flip the guide over to color in Grimdrops’ drawing of Cassie. When you’re done, you can cut along the top of the drawing to make her swim on your desk at home!

What is this a painting of? How can you tell?

How is this different from other paintings in the gallery? Do you like it more or less than the others?

How many different shapes can you find in the painting?

This painting and the one next to it in the gallery are of the exact same view! Can you spot at least five differences between the two paintings?

Which one do you like better? Why?

Why do you think Fitz Henry Lane painted the same view twice?