

Enjoy a family book club right from the comfort of your own home. Download the book from Overdrive, or listen to it on CD, or read it together. We will provide activities and additional reading to encourage your discussion. Happy reading!

Read: *The Sixty-Eight Rooms* by *Marianne Malone*

Questions to help your discussion:

1. Which room in the book is the most interesting to you?
2. After reading this book are you more interested in history & interior design?
3. Do you think that a room & it's furnishings tell a story? What story does YOUR room tell?

Things to Do:

Take a virtual trip to the Art Institute of Chicago Thorne Rooms:

<https://www.artic.edu/collection?q=thorne%20room>. Look for each of the rooms in the book. Do they look the way you the author described them? Now, let yourself wander and browse just like you would through the galleries of a real museum.

How do you look at the rooms?

1. **Researcher**—You look at every picture in a room, the furniture, the paintings and rugs. Read all the information about the room. Details interest you.
2. **Hit-and-run champ**—You look for a moment at this room, then go across the room (or to the next page or book) to check out another, then down the hall (or onto another website) to an earlier period, and then back to where you started.
3. **Dreamer**-You stare at one room for hours, wondering about it.

You may want to try all three ways of looking at the rooms until you find one, or a combination, that feels natural. Remember that no one way is right. Share your style. Why do you think you look at art that way? Which character above do you relate to?

Make your own:

Create your own room either using a room from the Thorne Room Collection or choose a historical period you enjoy to research & create your own room. Draw it or paint it or make a 3D creation out of things you have at home.

Read:

There are 3 more books in this series. They are all available at RHPL. Read them all.

Go: Actually go to see the Thorne Rooms at the Art Institute of Chicago They are fascinating to see in person.

Other books to enjoy:

- Model Makers by Lisa J. Amstutz, Y745.A
- Making Doll House Miniature With Polymer Clay by Sue Heaser, 745.5923H (adult)
- The Hippo at the End of the Hall by Helen Cooper (YFIC)
- Piece by Piece by Susan Tan, (Y Picture)
- Anna at the Art Museum by H. J. Hutchins (YPicture)
- Art of the Swap by Christine Carlson Asselin (YFic)
- Imagine! By Raul Colon (YPicture)