Look closely at this manuscript painting.
What do you see? What do you think is happening in the scene depicted here? What are the different ways in which the figures can be seen “playing” in this scene?

**WORD ACTIVITY**
Can you describe what is happening in the painting? Use the Word Box below for help in completing a description —

Towards the ___________ of the painting, a young man is leaning against a tree and ___________ a stringed setar, while another is sitting cross legged and ___________ a daf or tambourine. In the ___________ corner, two boys ___________ a ___________ called backgammon. On the ___________, another youth ___________ by aiming a blowpipe at a ___________ in the tree.

**Word Box**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bottom left</th>
<th>centre</th>
<th>right</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>are playing</td>
<td>is playing</td>
<td>playing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>playing</td>
<td>board game</td>
<td>bird</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Did You Know?**
This painting is one part of a finispiece made in Iran in the 16th century. A finispiece is a double page painting on the last two pages of a manuscript. This finispiece depicts men who are relaxing and enjoying themselves at an outdoor gathering in the court of the 16th-century Persian Prince Sultan Ibrahim Mirza.

**Helpful Vocabulary**
To depict – To show
Setar – A type of stringed musical instrument
Daf or Tambourine – A type of handheld drum
Backgammon – A 5,000 year old board game that is still played today

**REFLECTION**
What kind of objects do you like to play with? Do you play with different objects indoors and outdoors? What kind of art materials do you enjoy playing with?

Image: Folio from a Double-Page Finispiece, Iran, Qazvin, 1582-83, opaque watercolour, ink, gold and silver on paper, 23.9 x 16.8 cm, AKM282.87