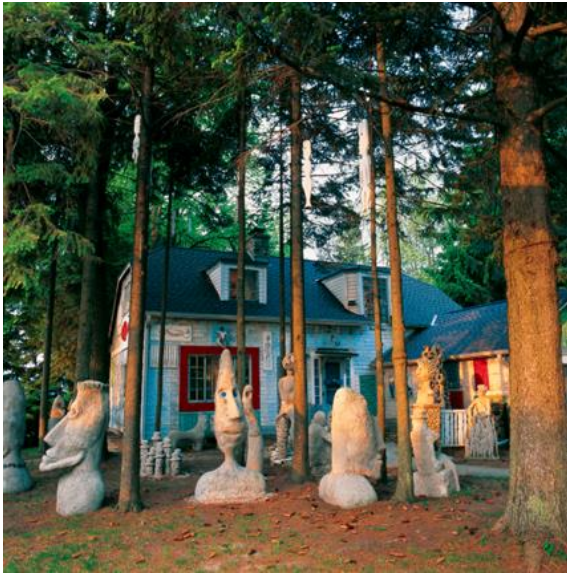




## *Literacy Link to the Arts*

Linking literacy to our exhibitions offers another opportunity for exploring and connecting with the art in the galleries and on the grounds of the Arts Center. Enjoy the images and stories, and discover your own links to the arts.

### *Mary Nohl*



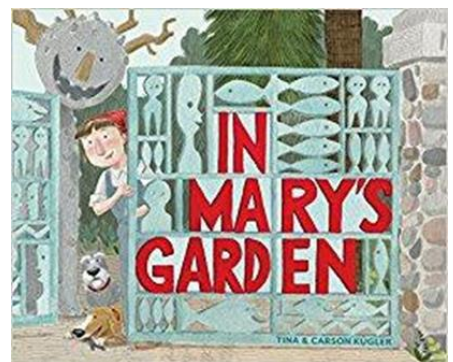
Mary Nohl Lake Cottage Environment (exterior site detail, Fox Point, Wisc.), c. 1960–2001. photo: 2006, John Michael Kohler Arts Center Artist Archives.

Mary Nohl loved making art and made art every day. She was a wood-carver, painter, sculptor, ceramist, printmaker, potter, writer, illustrator, and jeweler who described herself as simply “a woman who likes tools.” She turned her house and yard into her own gallery filled with sculptures inspired by the Lake Michigan shoreline and the woods around her home. Inside her home, Mary embellished her walls, light fixture, vase, and piece of furniture. Wind chimes and wooden fish hung in the trees. Nohl also worked on paintings, jewelry, glass sculptures, wood assemblages, ceramics, wire figures, and puppets.

### *In Mary’s Garden* by Tina Kugler and Carson Kugler

Tina and Carson Kugler tell the story of Mary Nohl as a young girl. While the rest of her classmates were making pastries in cooking classes, Mary Nohl was making art—anything she dreamed up out of anything she could find. Mary was inspired by many things: the outdoor environment, things from nature, and everyday objects. Mary used common objects to make uncommon art and installed it on the inside and outside of her house. Her house and garden grew into a gallery.

What kinds of things could you collect from nature near to where you live? Explore creating your own art with found objects and things you collect, anything you dream up out of anything you can find. Then find a place to display your art inside or outside of the place you live. We wonder what you will create.



Kugler, T. & Kugler, C. (2015). *In Mary's Garden*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.