

New York Magazine, September 30, 2002



Happening

Art Smart Adventures

In a city that has tutors for everything, **Judith Shupe** is quickly making her mark. At first blush, her art-history tutoring seems a bit over-the-top, especially at a time when kids are said to be overscheduled already. But Shupe brings her Ivy League education to families as often — or infrequently — as they want. And she even makes house calls (parents in the know book her well in advance for their schools' halfdays). Shupe's company, Art Smart Adventures, creates a program with parental input: If Mom wants Junior to learn about

Asian art, then the lesson might include a trip to the museum in search of dragons. Prefer a lesson on Impressionism? Shupe will promenade the kids through a gallery of Gauguins and Van Goghs. She'll even do a group class (keep everyone around the same age, and no more than six per group, please). On October 12, she'll hold her first open-to-the-public Art Hunt at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she'll bring kids 4 to 12 and their parents to comb through the galleries with a list of questions. So far, the fourteen families that have Shupe's number found her through word of mouth. The way things are going, she's going to have to hire the girl with the pearl earring pretty soon.

—SUSAN AVERY