



# MEET THE MASTERS

**INTRODUCING CHILDREN TO  
GREAT ARTISTS AND COMPOSERS**



OFFICE OF  
**Early Learning**

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## ***Meet the Masters Program Guide Explanation***

The Meet the Masters program has been set up into 7 lessons. Each lesson highlights a different artist and features an art activity to go along with that artist.

This program guide is divided up into 4 sections. The first section highlights the benefits of the arts for children. Section 2 contains the background information for the composers and music extension ideas. Section 3 is the background information for the 7 artists along with the art project instructions. We have created videos that feature a performance by each artist talking about themselves and their art. Five of the videos also include the artist reading a story. Those artists are Monet, Seurat, Matisse, Van Gough and Grandma Moses. The other two artists are Mary Cassatt and Rodin.

Show one of these videos for each lesson. You can decide in which artist order you want to do the lessons. The suggested lesson order is to first watch the artist video then do the art activity that goes with that activity. The music extensions can be added before or after the lesson or can be its own stand alone lesson.

The videos can be viewed on-line at the ELC of North Florida website at: <https://elcnorthflorida.org/meet-the-masters/>. If you need the videos on DVD or flash drive contact the ELC of N. Florida at 904-342-2267. There are also art activity demonstration videos you can view and one featuring music extensions. A written program guide can be downloaded from the ELCNF website as well. Section four is a list of art book picks. Use these books as an added literacy extension.

# Benefits of Arts to Kids

In: [Raise Smart Preschool Child Articles](#)  
[Print Email](#)



Children naturally love art – painting, drawing, making music, the theater. Unfortunately, when schools cut back on budgets, the arts are usually the first to go. It seems that schools do not appreciate the importance of art in building a kid's brain.

Physiologically, the human brain consists of 2 parts, the left and the right hemisphere. The left brain is used in logical thinking and analytical processes. This is typically what is trained in school work that consists of math, reading and science. The right brain is used in emotional perception, intuition and creativity. It is the right brain that is mainly used when a person is involved in creative endeavors such as making art. It is this part of the brain that typical school environment neglects to train.

It is shown that when gifted kids solve problems in their areas of giftedness, there is increased electrical activity in both hemispheres. It appears that for the brain to be efficient, the two hemispheres of the brains must work together. By stimulating and exercising the right hemisphere of the brain, the arts strengthen the connection between the hemispheres. Kids should be exposed to the arts as their cognitive skills mature so that their right brain will be as developed as the left, and both hemispheres work in tandem, thus achieving the full potential of the mind

Aside from the physiological effects, the [New York Center for Arts Education](#) also lists other benefits of exposing children to art:

- Your kid learns to think creatively, with an open mind
- Your kid learns to observe and describe, analyze and interpret
- Your kid learns to express feelings, with or without words.
- Your kid practices problem-solving skills, critical-thinking skills, dance, music, theater and art-making skills, language and vocabulary of the arts
- Your kid discovers that there is more than one right answer, multiple points of view
- School can be fun – playing can be learning
- Your kid learns to collaborate with other children and with adults
- Arts introduce children to cultures from around the world
- Your kid can blossom and excel in the arts. Even with physical, emotional or learning challenges, can experience success in the arts.
- Arts build confidence. Because there is not just one right way to make art, every child can feel pride in his or her original artistic creations.
- Arts build community. Schools with a variety of differences can celebrate the arts as one community.

According to Kimberly Sheridan, Ed.D., coauthor of *Studio Thinking: The Real Benefits of Visual Arts Education*, “It’s not as easy to test the skills that children learn from the arts, but that doesn’t make them any less important”. She noted though that participating in a school arts program increases a child’s ability to:

- Observe the world carefully and discard preconceptions in order to envision something and then create it
- Go beyond just learning a skill to express a personal voice
- Problem-solve and persist despite frustration and setbacks
- Reflect on the results and ask what could improve them
- Researchers from the Michigan State University have found a very strong correlation between childhood engagement in the creative arts and measurable success later in life. Children who were exposed to a wide variety of arts and crafts were more likely to create unique inventions that is worthy of patents, come up with ideas good enough to start a

new company, or publish provocative papers on science and technology. The researchers suggest that children exposed to arts and crafts are able to think “out of the box” since a lot of working with hands involve figuring out how to solve problems creatively. After studying many scientists Co-authors Robert and Michele Root-Bernstein reached this conclusion: “The most eminent and innovative among them are significantly more likely to engage in arts and crafts avocations” than the average Joe.

- Arts education and appreciation were also found to have benefits on young people’s brains. In a study by researchers from University of Kansas, students who were selected to visit a museum shows stronger critical thinking skills, displayed higher levels of social tolerance, exhibited greater historical empathy and developed a taste for art museums and cultural institutions.
- Also, exposure to arts and the humanities is one important way to [foster creativity in children](#)

The following are tips to make the arts a part of your kid’s development:

- Always make arts and crafts supply available and accessible to your kid – paper, pencil, crayons, etc.
- Celebrate your child’s artwork – hang their drawings on the wall or save it in a folder. That way, your child feels that her creation is important.
- Read books – Ask the librarian at your school or public library to suggest books about artists and the arts.
- Notice the arts all around you – take your family to museums, concerts, or theater. Notice the art even in the parks, subways, and open spaces. Start a conversation about what you see.
- Enjoy the arts at home – share your artistic skills and interests with your kid. Find out what your kids love about the art.
- If your kid shows great interest, enroll her in arts class.
- If possible, remind your kid’s school authorities about the importance of art in her education.
- Expand your child’s horizon by getting her interested in other art forms including literature, dance and music. See the many [benefits of music education for children](#)



# Why Art and Creativity Are Important

Want your child to get the most out of making art? Let him or her create in her own way at her own pace.

Your preschooler is having a blast finger-painting with a mix of colors. Trying to be encouraging, you ask her, "What are you making?" and she shrugs. Until you mentioned it, she hadn't given it any thought. Little kids are masters of the moment -- they love the way it feels when they smear paint on paper, how it looks when they sprinkle glitter, and even the soft sound a brush makes as it crosses the page, says Amy Yang, founder of Brooklyn Design Lab, an art school for children.

Unlike older kids and adults, most [toddlers](#) and preschoolers aren't self-conscious about what they're doing or focused on creating a finished product. That can be hard for parents to accept, says Lisa Ecklund-Flores, cofounder and executive director of Church Street School for Music and Art, in New York City. But letting go -- and allowing kids to enjoy the process of creation -- can reap big rewards. "Children will be better off in the long run if they're allowed just to be in the moment and express themselves," she says.



## Why Art?

Fostering creativity won't just increase your child's chances of becoming the next Picasso. You're also helping him develop mentally, socially, and emotionally, says Ecklund-Flores. Creating art may boost young children's ability to analyze and problem-solve in myriad ways, according to Mary Ann F. Kohl, author of *Primary Art:*

*It's the Process, Not the Product.* As kids manipulate a paintbrush, their fine motor skills improve. By counting pieces and colors, they learn the basics of math. When children experiment with materials, they dabble in science. Most important perhaps, when kids feel good while they are creating, art helps boost self-confidence. And children who feel able to experiment and to make mistakes feel free to invent new ways of thinking, which extends well beyond the craft room.

## 6 Ways to Inspire Creativity

Foster process-focused art with advice from Leslie Bushara, deputy director for education at the Children's Museum of Manhattan.

1. **Prepare for a mess.** Set up an art space where kids can be free to experiment (and get messy!), advises Bushara. Throw a drop cloth or a newspaper on top of your table and provide smocks or old adult shirts for them to wear. If weather permits, let kids paint outside.
2. **Avoid giving direction.** Don't tell kids what to make or how to make it. Instead of saying, "Paint a rainbow," encourage her to "experiment with mixing colors using different types of brushes and paper," suggests Bushara.
3. **Speak specifically about art.** When talking to a child about his artwork, try to be precise in your comments. For instance, instead of giving a generic compliment, Bushara recommends saying, "I see you used a lot of purple. Why did you choose that color?"
4. **Explore your child's process.** Often the best way to encourage conversation about a child's art is simply to say, "Tell me about what you made," or ask, "Did you have fun making it?"
5. **Don't draw with your child.** When parents draw something representational while a younger child is sketching, it can frustrate him, warns Bushara. "It's better to be near him and let him know that you're interested and supportive of his art-making," she says.
6. **Let it be.** When a child finishes a piece, don't suggest additions or changes, advises Bushara. It's important for a child to feel that what she's created is enough -- even if it's just a dot on the page.
7. **Fresh Art Ideas.** Go beyond doodling with markers or crayons with these projects from art educators that encourage kids to enjoy the process of making art.
8. **Natural arrangements** Present children with natural objects such as pinecones, stones, sticks, leaves, and shells, and a blank stretched canvas. Let her choose and arrange her nature materials in various patterns and designs on the canvas.
9. **Shaving-cream canvas** Spray shaving cream onto a cookie sheet and add a few drops of food coloring. Let children blend colors and make designs in the foam.
10. **Found-object printmaking** Take everyday objects (bottle caps, wood pieces, cut cardboard, fruit and vegetable slices, corks, sponges, marker caps) and let children ages 4 and up dip them in washable paint that's been spread on a foam tray. Use the objects to make unique prints.
11. **Packing-peanut sculpture** Slightly dampen the end of one packing "peanut" (the biodegradable kind made from cornstarch) and stick it to another to build tall, spiraling towers and beautiful shapes.

## The Ultimate Art-Supply List

- modeling clay
  - chalk
  - washable paint
  - paintbrushes
  - cotton swabs
  - sponges
  - stamps and inkpads
  - washable markers
  - crayons
  - colored pencils
  - plain and colored paper
  - tissue paper
  - scissors
  - glue
  - craft foam
  - ice-pop sticks
  - chenille stems
  - pom-poms
  - feathers
  - felt
  - fabric
  - colored tape
  - buttons
  - cotton balls
  - sequins and glitter
  - ribbon, yarn, string
  - beads
  - packing peanuts
  - drinking straws
  - egg cartons
  - cardboard tubes
  - cupcake liners
  - paper plates
  - clothespins
  - plastic cutlery
  - magazines, newspapers, catalogs
  - wallpaper samples
  - wax paper
  - aluminum foil
- 
- [Stock Up on Crayons, Markers, Paint](#)

# **Background Information Music and Composers**



## What is an Orchestra?

An orchestra is a big instrumental ensemble typical of classical music, which mixes instruments from different families, including bowed (string instruments), such as violin, viola, cello and bass, as well as brass instruments like trumpets and trombones, woodwinds such as clarinets and saxophones along with percussion instruments. Other instruments like the piano may sometimes appear with this group as well.

An orchestra is led by a conductor who uses their hands to guide everyone and sets the tempo and shape of the performance. Orchestras play in concert halls in the front on the stage.

The famous Masters of Music like Beethoven and Mozart were all writers of music played by orchestras. They usually played many of the instruments themselves.

**Picture of an Orchestra**



# Instruments of the Orchestra



**BASSOON**



**PIANO**



**CHIMES**



**DOUBLE  
BASS**



**MARIMBA**



**SAXOPHONE**



**FLUTE**



**TROMBONE**



**VIOLIN**



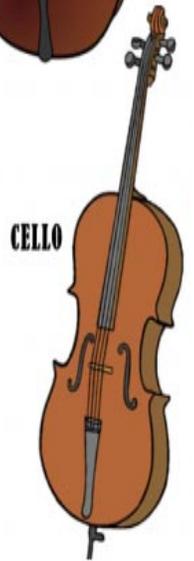
**VIOLA**



**SNARE DRUM**



**TRUMPET**



**CELLO**



**OBOE**



**ELECTRIC GUITAR**



**DJEMBE**



**CLARINET**



**GUITAR**



**BANJO**



**FRENCH HORN**

# STRING family



# WOODWIND family



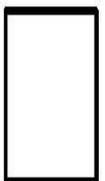
# PERCUSSION family



# BRASS family



Instruments of the Orchestra



Which are musical  
Instruments?

My name is \_\_\_\_\_



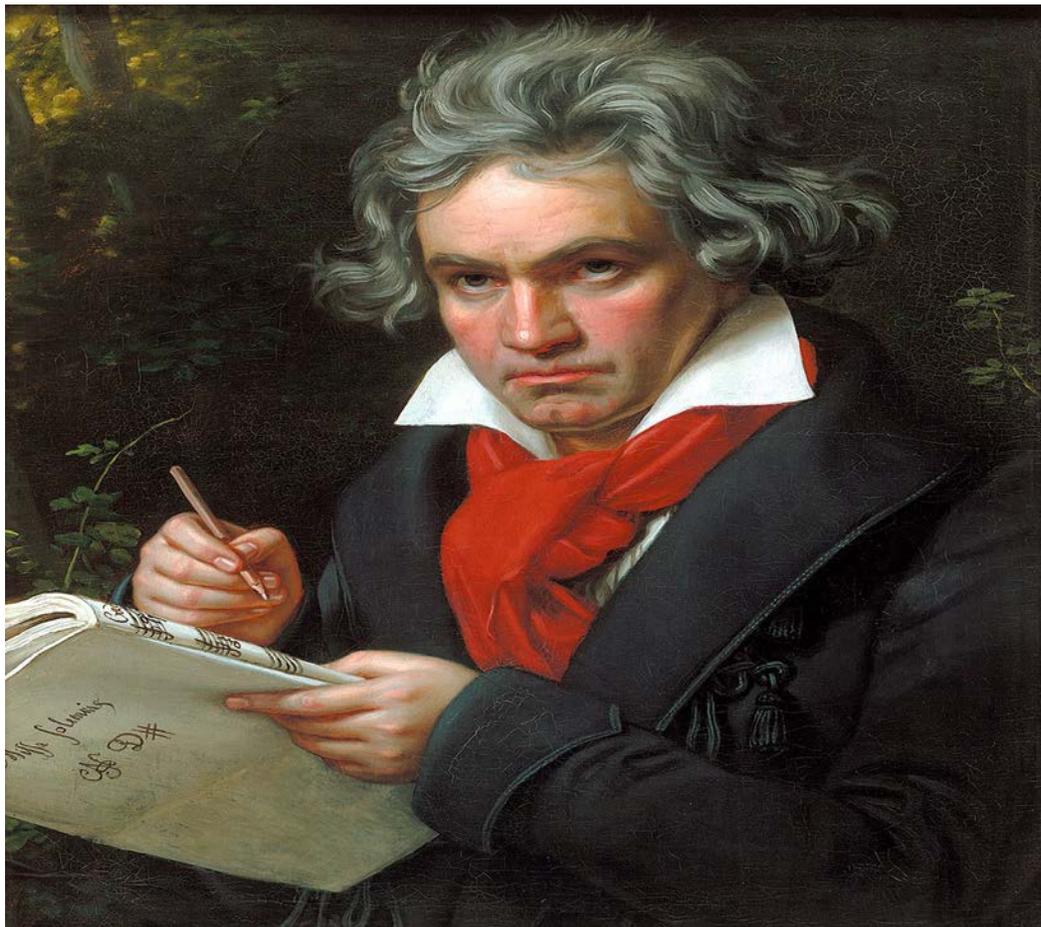
## Facts about Beethoven

Born in Belgium 1770.

Was a German composer. He wrote classical music for the piano, orchestras and different groups of instruments.

His father was a musician and taught him how to play the piano at age 4. He was a child prodigy and he gave his first public performance at age 7 ½. Before age 12 he had wrote his first complete work. He lived most of his life composing and performing in Vienna Austria.

Beethoven is known for composing 9 symphonies, 7 concertos, 17 string quartets, 32 piano sonatas, and 10 violin sonatas, 5 cello sonatas, a sonata for French horn.



## Famous Composers:

### Amadeus Mozart

- Born in Germany in 1756. He was a childhood prodigy. By the age of 3, Mozart had learned to play a clavier, which was an old-fashioned stringed instrument that had a keyboard. By the age of 6, he was writing his own compositions.
- He wrote his first opera, *Mitridate Re di Ponto*, in 1770 when he was only 14 years old.
- He composed his first great mass at the age of 12: *Missa Brevis in G*.  
He performed before European Royalty at age 17.

He composed over 600 works including orchestral and choral works.



## Johann Sebastian Bach

Born in Germany in 1750. He was considered one of the greatest composers of all time. He was born into a musical family. Many of Bach relatives were musical. Once each year the Bachs held what they called "family day." For the whole day they all sang, danced, and played instruments. He became an orphan at age nine. He went to live with his oldest brother who encouraged his musical pursuits. Once his brother refused to let him use a big book of difficult music. Johann then took the book secretly and copied all the music by moonlight. The strain on his eyes may help account for his blindness towards the end of his life.



Bach began to earn his living when he was 15. He sang in a church choir. Before long he was given a position as organist. He became the greatest organist who had ever lived.

He wrote 1,128 pieces of music which included many choral pieces, small chamber and full orchestra pieces.

## Victor Hubert



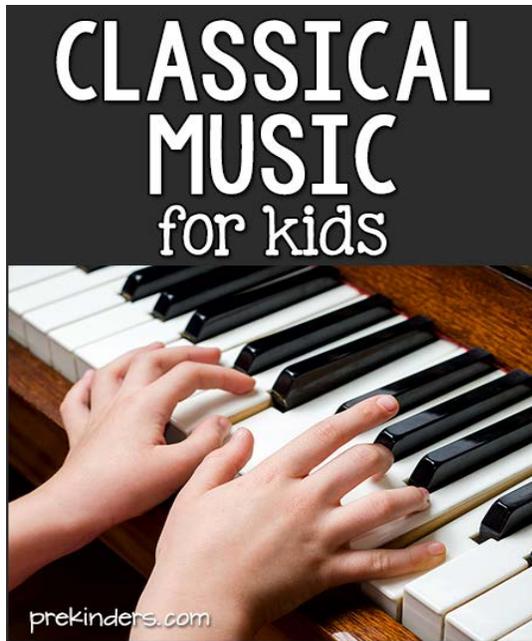
Facts: Born in Ireland, raised in Germany. Came to America in 1886. He was a composer, cellist and orchestra conductor. Most famous piece of music was "The March of the Toys" from opera Babes in Toyland.

# Activities and Resources for Music and Composers



**To view the music extensions video visit:**

<https://elcnorthflorida.org/meet-the-masters/> or view it on the DVD and Flash drive included in your kit.



## **Integrate Classic Music with Themes or Projects**

### **Bugs**

- The Tale of the Tzar Saltan: Flight of the Bumblebee – Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
- The Wasps – Ralph Vaughan Williams
- **La Danza Tarantella – Rossini**

### **Farm**

- Carnival of the Animals: Cocks and Hens – Saint-Saens
- Carnival of the Animals: Wild Donkeys –

#### **Saint-Saens**

- Where My Sheep Safely Graze – J. S. Bach
- Horn Concerto No. 4 in E-Flat 3rd Movement (horses) – Mozart
- La Boutique fantasque: Galop (horses) – Rossini

### **Forest**

- Peter and the Wolf – Prokofiev

### **Fairy Tales**

- Hansel und Gretel – Englebert Humperdinck
- Pavane of the Sleeping Beauty – Ravel
- The Sleeping Beauty – Tchaikovsky
- Cinderella Suite No. 3 – Prokofiev
- The Firebird – Stravinsky

### **Ocean**

- Carnival of the Animals: The Aquarium – Saint-Saens

### **Pond Life**

- Carnival of the Animals: The Aquarium – Saint-Saens
- Swan Lake – Tchaikovsky
- Swan of Tuonela – Jean Sibelius

## **Space**

- The Planets – Gustav Holst

## **Safari**

- Carnival of the Animals: Royal March of the Lion – Saint-Saens
- Carnival of the Animals: Elephant – Saint-Saens

## **Transportation**

- Copenhagen Steam Railway Galop (train) – Hans Christian Lumbye
- Pacific 231 (train) – Arthur Honneger
- Spitfire Prelude and Fugue (airplane) – William Walton

## **Christmas**

- The Nutcracker – Tchaikovsky

## **Halloween/ Spooky Songs**

- St. John's Night on the Bare Mountain – Mussorgsky
- Carnival of the Animals: The Fossils – Saint-Saens
- Also Sprach Zarathustra – Richard Strauss
- Hebrides: Fingal's Cave – Mendelssohn
- Walkyre: The Valkyries – Wagner

## **More Ways to Move to Music**

- Paper plate dancing
- Scarf dancing
- Use vocal signals to change movements
- Stomping
- Free dancing
- Clapping to the beat
- Use rhythm sticks
- Castanets and Drums
- Shakers/Maracas
- Rhythm band instruments
- Beanbags

## **Fast and Slow: Moving with Varying Tempos**

Here are some songs you can use to vary the tempos. Children move fast or slow to follow the mood of the music.

**Fast:**

- Horn Concerto No. 4 in E-Flat – Mozart
- Symphony No. 4 in A Major Op. 90 “Italian” – Mendelssohn
- Mandolin Concerto in C Major Op. 134 1st Movement
- La Danza Tarantella – Rossini
- Country Gardens – Percy Grainger
- Tritsch Tratsch Polka – Johann Strauss II
- Piano Sonata in A Major: 3rd Movement (Rondo Alla Turka) AKA “Turkish Rondo” – Mozart
- Rodeo: Hoedown – Aaron Copland

**Slow:**

- Nocturne in E-Flat Major – Chopin
- Porgy and Bess: Summertime – Gerschwin
- Madame Butterfly: Humming Chorus – Puccini
- Memories of the Alhambra – Tarrega
- Carnival of the Animals: The Swan – Saint-Saens
- Gymnopedie No. 3 – Erik Satie
- Nabucco: Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves (Va, Pensiero) – Verdi
- Symphony No. 3 in F Major – Brahms
- Moonlight Sonata – Beethoven
- Pelleas et Melissande – Gabriel Faure-Sicilienne
- Petite Suite: En Bateau (In a Boat) – Beethoven

**More Musical Activities to use with Classical Music**

**The Tale of the Tzar Saltan: Flight of the Bumblebee**

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Pass a beanbag (the “bee”) around the circle of children while the music plays. Pause the music occasionally. The person with the beanbag is “stung” and moves to the middle of the circle.

Another idea: Allow the children to move around the room like buzzing bees. Pause the music occasionally and everyone must freeze.

**Carnival of the Animals**

Camille Saint-Saens

Each song in this series represents the movement of a different animal. Have children move around the animal represented in the song: they will prowl like lions, crawl like tortoises, walk and swing their trunks like elephants, move in a slow, swimming motion like the fish, etc.

### **Carnival of the Animals: The Aquarium**

Camille Saint-Saens

In this song, the piano keys represent the bubbles floating up to the surface and the violins and flutes represent the fish moving gently through the water. Children can dance slowly with scarves, pretending the scarves are the waves or seaweed. Ask them to move in a slow, gentle motion like the fish moving through the water.

### **Copenhagen Steam Railway Galop**

Hans Christian Lumbye

This song is so neat. It sounds just like a train! Have the children line up and move around the room like a train. Choose a leader to be the engine.

### **La Danza Tarantella**

Gioachino Rossini

Make paper plate tambourines to dance with during this song. The tarantella was a dance where people bit by a tarantula spider would dance crazy to save themselves from the poison (or so it was believed). Have the children dance a “crazy” dance while playing their tambourines.

### **Radetsky March**

Johann Strauss Sr.

Children keep the beat on drums while marching. As the music gets softer and then louder at intervals, stop the drum beat, then begin again.

### **Carnival of the Animals: The Elephant**

Camille Saint-Saens

Children can pretend to move like elephants, swinging their “trunk” (arms), in a slow, cumbersome manner. Give them verbal instructions to stop, drink water from a pool with their trunk, lift their trunk to spray the water, scoop up some food with their trunk and curl it to their mouth, etc.



# RHYTHM STICK ACTIVITIES for Toddlers & Preschoolers

Rhythm sticks are a good instrument to start with because they are so versatile. Part of the percussion family, these sticks are tapped together to make sounds. Children love percussion instruments, so the first ones we use are rhythm sticks. They are easy to hold and simple to use. And there are so many benefits!

## Using rhythm sticks helps develop:

- Fine motor development and hand-eye coordination
- Language development and listening skills
- Rhythm, beat, and tempo
- Creative thinking and problem solving
- Early brain development
- Directionality (up, down, forwards, backwards, etc.)

## GETTING STARTED

Here are some ideas for using rhythm sticks in your classroom:

**1 )** Have everyone sit in a circle on the floor. Pass one pair of rhythm sticks around and ask each child to tap the sticks together in rhythm with his or her first name. This activity makes a great icebreaker!

**Example:**

/ / / / /  
Na- than Car -o- lyn

**2)** Ask everyone to sit in a circle on the floor. Give each child a pair of rhythm sticks. Play a rhythm pattern on the sticks and ask them to echo the pattern with their own sticks. Let each child have a turn at being the leader.

**3)** Variation on above: Play a pattern and keep it going. Ask each child in turn to make up their own patterns and play along with you. Go around the circle until all children are playing their sticks.

**4)** Set several different items on a table, e.g. a book, ruler, plastic tub. Let everyone take turns tapping the sticks on each item. How do they sound different? Do any sound similar?

**5)** Bring several metal pans or pots of varying sizes. Let the children tap each one. Notice that the larger ones produce a lower sound, the smaller ones a higher sound.

**6)** Try imitating other sounds with the sticks. Tap on a desk—it sounds like rain; on a window—a woodpecker. Try other surfaces, like a shoe or the floor. What do these sounds sound like?

**7)** Pair each child with a partner. Have one child tap out a pattern on the sticks and the other child echo it. Switch “leaders” and “echoes.”

**8)** Teach the class a simple song, like Bingo. Tap the sticks on B-I-N-G-O; substitute the sticks for the actual letters.”

**9)** Tap the stick loudly three times on the floor, saying “LOUD, LOUD, LOUD.” Then tap softly and say “soft, soft, soft.”

**10)** Teach the class about different meters (number of beats) in music. Have them count each beat as they tap and repeat the following pattern several times:

**Example:** Play waltz music and have the children count out the rhythm as they listen. Johann Strauss is perfect for this exercise!

      /        /        /  
One        Two    Three

**11)** Have the class say the following while they tap: “TAP, TAP, TAP, WAIT.” Tap only on the word “TAP.” Rest on the word “WAIT”. Change the pattern: “TAP, WAIT, TAP, WAIT.” After they have learned the patterns, leave out the words and use only the sticks.

## Rhythm Stick Activity for Composer Victor Hubert



Give each child a pair of rhythm sticks. Have them get in a line and march around the room tapping their sticks to the music “The March of the Toy” by Victor Hubert from his Opera Babes in Toyland. Have them pretend to be Toy Soldiers like in the song. Tell them this is a song about how toy soldiers came alive! The song is available on the Classics for Kids CD or can be listened to on-line from a source like U-tube.

Have them tap their sticks high, then low, behind their backs while marching with their knees high up in the air. Throw in some kicks while you are at it from side to side.



# MAKE YOUR OWN MARACAS



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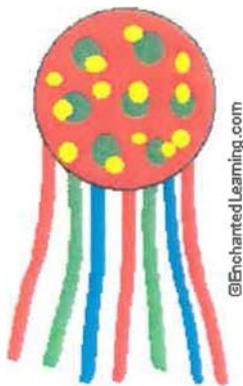
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## Paper Plate Maracas Craft

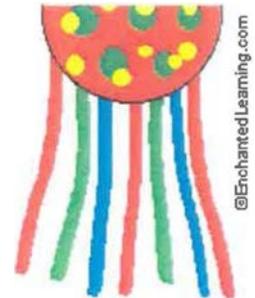
[More Crafts](#)



[Other Mexican Crafts](#)

A maraca is a Latin American and Tupi rattle. The original maracas were made from hollow gourds filled with pebbles or seeds.

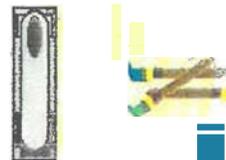
You can make simple maracas from one or two paper plates stapled together, containing dried beans or popcorn. These are fun to make at a party for preschoolers - you can then make a lot of noise!



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Supplies needed :

- One or two paper plates
- Dried beans, rice, or popcorn
- Stapler
- Paint, markers, or crayons
- Optional: crepe paper streamers



©Enchanted Learning.com

|| Put a handful or two of dried || ||

## Home Made Guitars



### Supplies Needed:

Paper plates  
Rubber bands  
Paint stirrer  
stickers

**Instructions:** Have the kids decorate their plates with stickers. Put rubber bands around the plate like pictures. Hot Glue a stir stick to the back of the plate.

## Musical Glasses



Fill six glasses with water (Coloring the water is cooler)

With a different amount of water in each starting from the end. Have them hit the glasses with a spoon to hear the different pitched sounds.

## Tin Can Drum



### Supplies Needed

- Recycled tin can - Find one that has one of those tab lids so that it doesn't have any sharp, jagged edges.
- Balloon
- Scissors
- Wood skewers
- Styrofoam balls
- Paint (optional) Stickers (optional)

Cut the end of the balloon off with a scissors. Pull the balloon over the can like pictures above. Put the Styrofoam ball onto the end of a skewer for the drum sticks. Decorate their drum with stickers or paint if wanted.



## Musical Sensory Bin

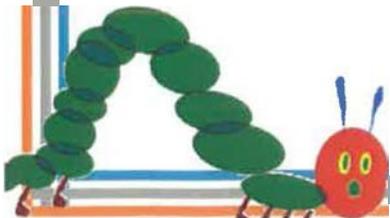
Fill a container with cotton balls, Cut out felt piano keys and black strings for keys. Fill with assorted toy instruments. This is a good way for kids to learn different instruments.

## Using your Scarves

Using scarves with children is a wonderful way to have them feel the tempo of different music. Get out the scarves and listen to any Classical Music. Beethoven's 5<sup>th</sup> symphony is a great song to start with. Play the music and have the children wave their scarves to the music. Encourage them to move with the music. Wave the scarves up high, down low, in a circle and while turning around. Have them blow their scarves like the wind and wave them on the floor to mimic water. There are many Scarf CD's available from educational companies or on sites like Amazon that feature songs specifically geared for using scarves.



*Scarf  
Activities*



# Using Scarves in Storytime

February 2, 2016 | a bbylibrarian

Scarves are one of my favorite props to use in storytime because:

They're colorful!

They're fun to wave around and something that most of our kids probably don't have at home.

We ordered a ton of them so they're a good choice when we'll have large storytime crowds.

They're lightweight and pack down very small, so they're easy to take on the road to outreach visits.

Lately, I've been collecting lots of ways to use scarves in my storytimes because I love them so much, and I'm here today to pass on what I have learned.

How do you pass out scarves?

They're hard to smooch down into a basket, so how do you pass them out? One of my colleagues showed me this way:



Photo by Abby Johnson

Lay out your scarves and then tie them into a bundle. Hold the bundle by the knot as you're going around and each child can select the color he or she wants and gently tug it out of the bundle. I like to give the kids a choice of color whenever possible, to let them know that I value their preferences. But if I have an unruly crowd, I can also take my bundle around and hand them out.

2. What do you do with scarves?

I always start with a few little "warm up" activities to add some motor skills practice and because if I take the time to pass out the scarves, I want to spend a little time on doing scarf activities and not just take them up again after one song. I do these with everyone, babies through preschoolers.

We wave our scarves high and low.

We wave our scarves fast and slow.

We scrunch up our scarves and then throw them up into the air on the count of three.

Each of these activities helps kids practice listening and following directions, concepts like opposites and counting, and motor skills.

Then, we'll sing a song or two with the scarves. I usually have at least one thematic song if I'm using them in preschool storytime and then I might throw in a general song just to extend our scarf play a little bit.

3. How do you put scarves away?

Since they're so light, it can be difficult for kids to put scarves back into a basket or bag. With the babies, I go around the circle and collect each scarf and just hold them in my hand. With the preschoolers, I love to use scarves to practice colors and another activity that helps them learn to listen and follow direction.



Ask everyone to look at their scarf and notice what color they have (they will start shouting out what color they have, it's okay). Then I tell them they'll need to listen for their color and when I call their color, bring the scarf back up to me. And using this song:

(Tune: Do You Know the Muffin Man? [but this can also be sung to many different tunes])

If you have a red scarf, a red scarf, a red scarf,  
If you have a red scarf, please bring it up to me.

Repeat with different colors until everything's been brought up. If you have any stragglers that missed their colors, you can also add a last verse "If you have any more scarves, any more scarves, any more scarves..."

With this activity, we're practicing color knowledge, listening/following directions, taking turns, and encouraging children to approach an adult who's not a member of their family. These are all great school readiness skills!

4. Where can you find more scarf songs and rhymes to use in your storytime?

There are tons of great resources out there for scarf songs! Once you have started using scarves in your storytime, you may also find it pretty easy to adapt other songs & rhymes with movements for your scarves (anything with waving, flying, falling, up & down, fast & slow). Of course, you can also just wave scarves to any nursery rhyme, song, or recorded music!

Get started with these great resources:

[Library – Scarf Songs and Rhymes for Storytime](#) (this post also contains an extensive list of resources for more scarf songs & rhymes)

[Library – Scarf Songs and Rhymes Playlist](#) (even more!)

[Jean Warren – Scarf Songs](#)

[Loons & Quines – Scarves in Storytime](#)

[Melissa Depper – Scarves and Letters](#)

5. Where can you get scarves?

Many stores that carry storytime or early childhood supplies will carry scarves. Our scarves (pictured above) came from Lakeshore Learning, but you can also find them at Constructive Playthings and there are many choices available from Amazon.com. If buying sets of scarves is not in your budget, you can also do any of these activities with small squares of fabric or something like washcloths (they would be thicker, but have much the same effect).

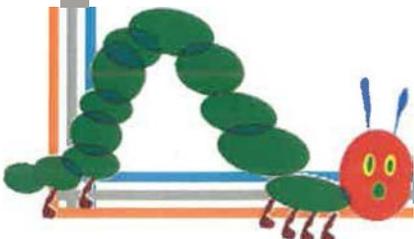
What are your favorite songs or rhymes to use with scarves? Do you have a special way you like to distribute or collect scarves in storytime?

-Abby Johnson, Youth Services Manager

New Albany-Floyd County Public Library

New Albany, IN

<http://www.abbythelibrarian.com>



Activity: Colorful scarves. I passed out the scarves and asked kids to:

Wave your scarves HIGH!

Wave your scarves LOW!

Wave your scarves in the MIDDLE!

Then I asked kids with particular colors to wave. After I called each color, I asked them **all** to wave their scarves fast, slow, high, low, in front, behind, in a circle, up and down...And for the grand finale, we counted to three and then threw our scarves up in the air and watched them all come down in a big rainbow.

Let's All Twirl (Sung to the tune of "The Mulberry Bush")

Let's all twirl with our scarves today,

Scarves today, scarves today,

Let's all wirl our craves today,

All around the room.

Let's Make a Rainbow!

Let's wave our scarves high!

Let's wave our scarves low!

Let's wave our scarves fast!

Let's wave our scarves slow!

Now let's crumple up our scarves.

One, Two, Three! (Throw scarves into the air and watch the rainbow of colors fall to the ground.)

Rainbow Song (Sung to the tune of "Hush, Little Baby")

Rainbow purple

Rainbow blue

Rainbow green

And yellow too

Rainbow Orange

Rainbow red

Rainbow shining over head.

Come and count

The colors with me

How many colors

Can you see? (Count the colors!)

Rainbow purple

Rainbow blue

Rainbow green

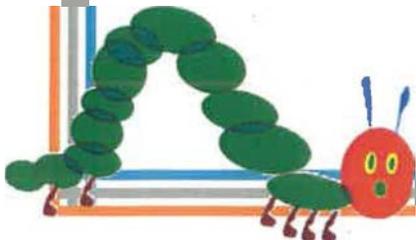
And yellow too

Rainbow Orange

Rainbow red

Rainbow shining over head.

(This rhyme can be found [here](#). I changed it a little bit. The first two I found in a story time resource book that I can't remember but I will add the credit as soon as I find it!)



# Background Information Artists



# Listen to the Artist and Activity videos at the ELCNF website:

<https://elcnorthflorida.org/meet-the-masters/>

There is one video for each artist and one video for each activity.

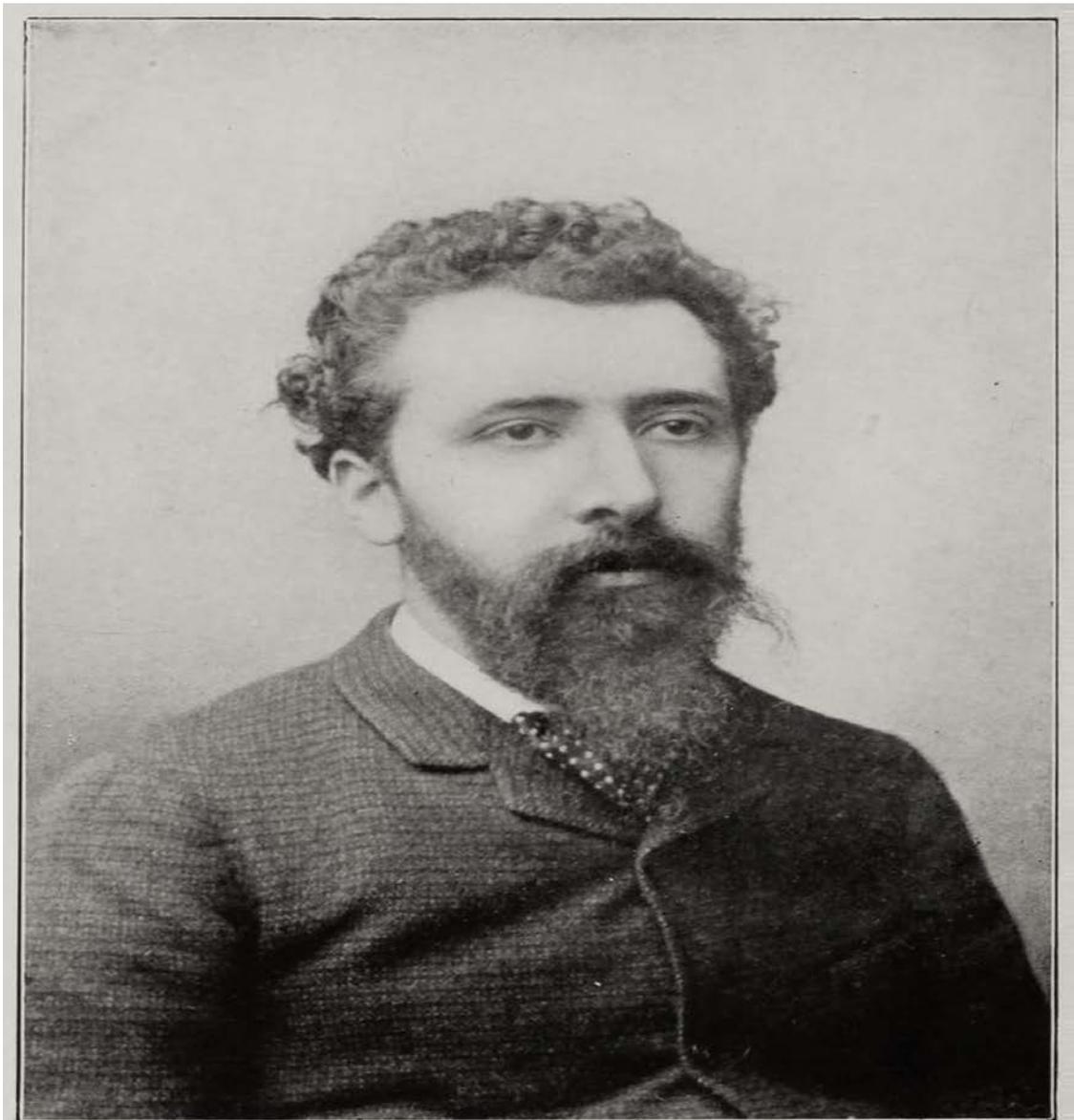


**The Artist Georges Pierre Seurat**

**Born 1859 – Died 1891**

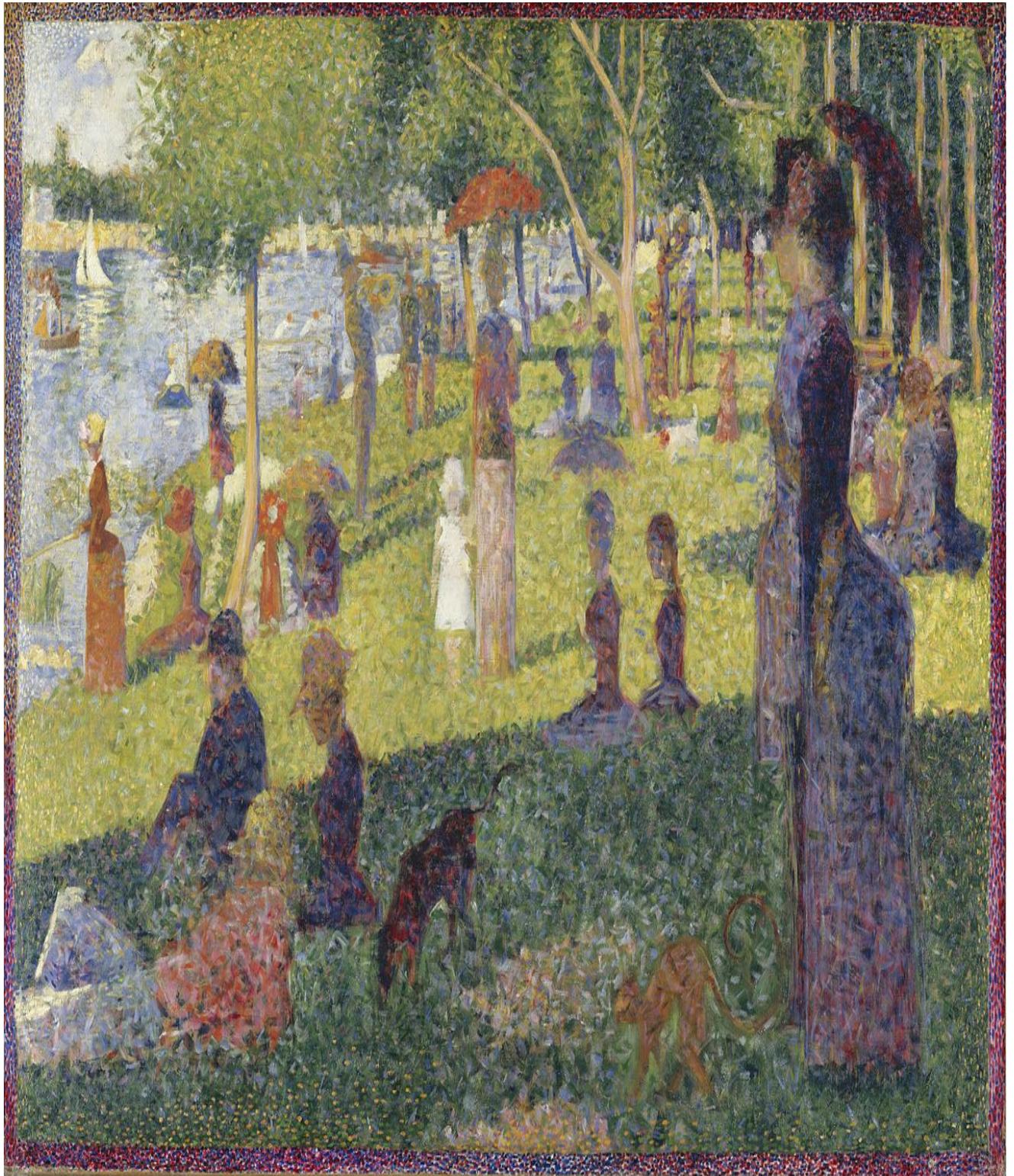
**From the Country of France**

**He was an impressionist painter who created a painting technique called Pointillism (using small dots to create a picture)**



**GEORGES SEURAT**

His painting **“A Sunday on La Grande Jatte”** was his most famous painting.



The Eiffel Tower in Paris by Seurat



## Examples of Dot Painting



### Supplies Needed for Dot Painting Activity

White paper, different colors of paint, round brushes and q-tips. Pour several colors of paint onto paper plates. Have the kid dip the sponge brushes and q-tips in the paint then have them paint dots on their paper. Encourage them to actually create something out of dots like a snake or house or rose like in the picture above. While the kids are painting emphasis "Pointilism" the style of painting George Seurat did by making dots.

Vincent Van Gogh



### **Facts about Van Gogh**

**Born 1853 in the Netherlands**

**He created 2,100 pieces of art work**

**He painted 860 oil paintings**

**He was known for his unique brush strokes**

**He was one of the most famous impressionist artists of all time.**

**Today his paintings sell from \$17 Million to 151 million dollars. When he was alive he only sold one painting out of 860 he painted.**

**“A Stary Stary Night”** One of his most famous pieces of art.







## Examples of Van Goghs Sunflower Painting

### Supplies Needed:

White paper

Blue, brown, yellow and orange paint

Water color brushes

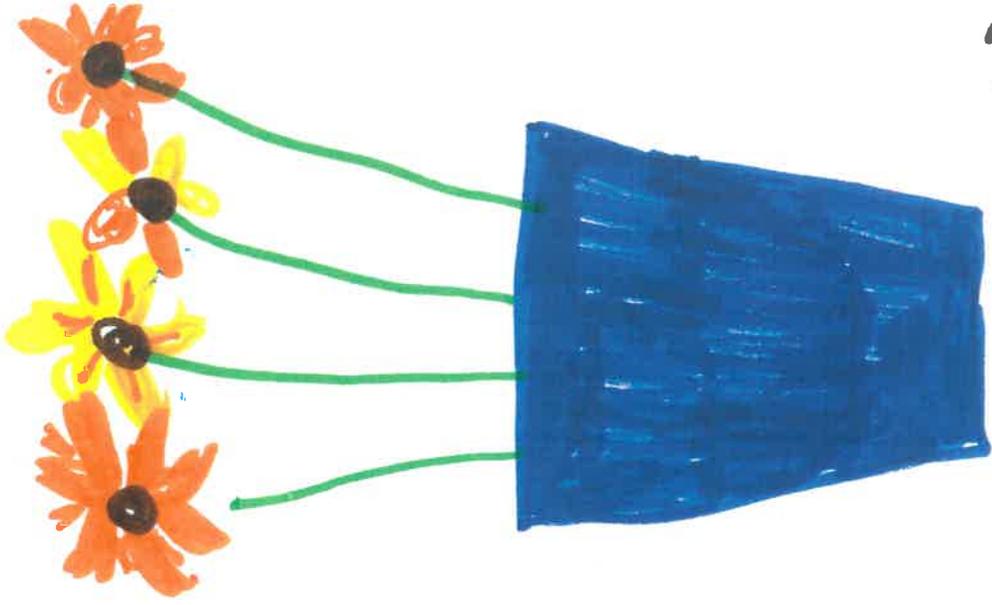
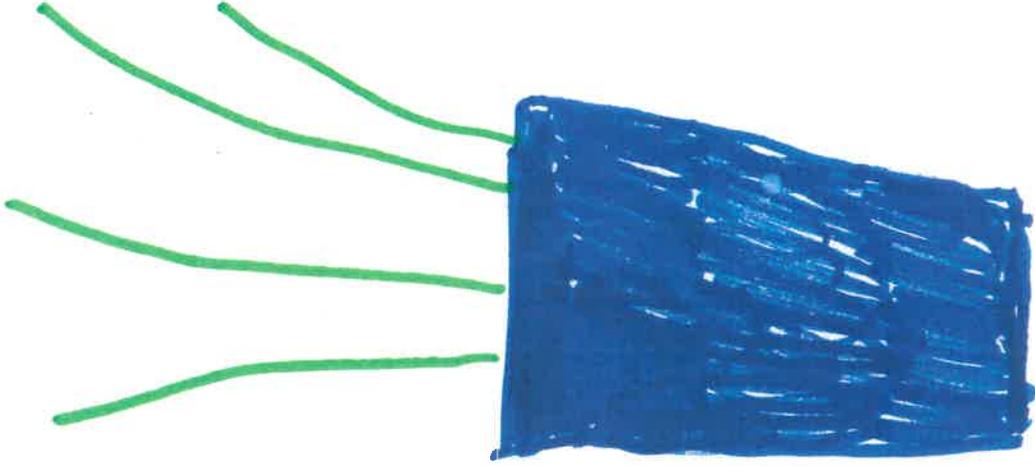
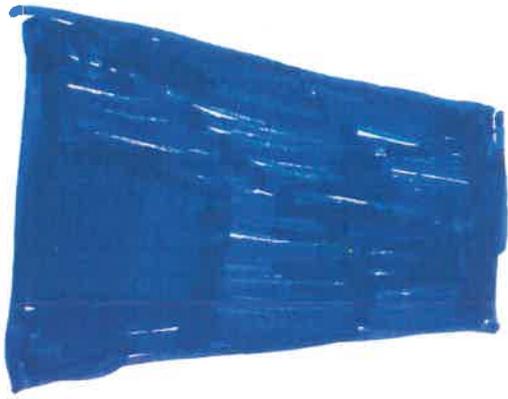
Paint trays or paper plates

Vase of Sunflowers for kids to look at for the still life

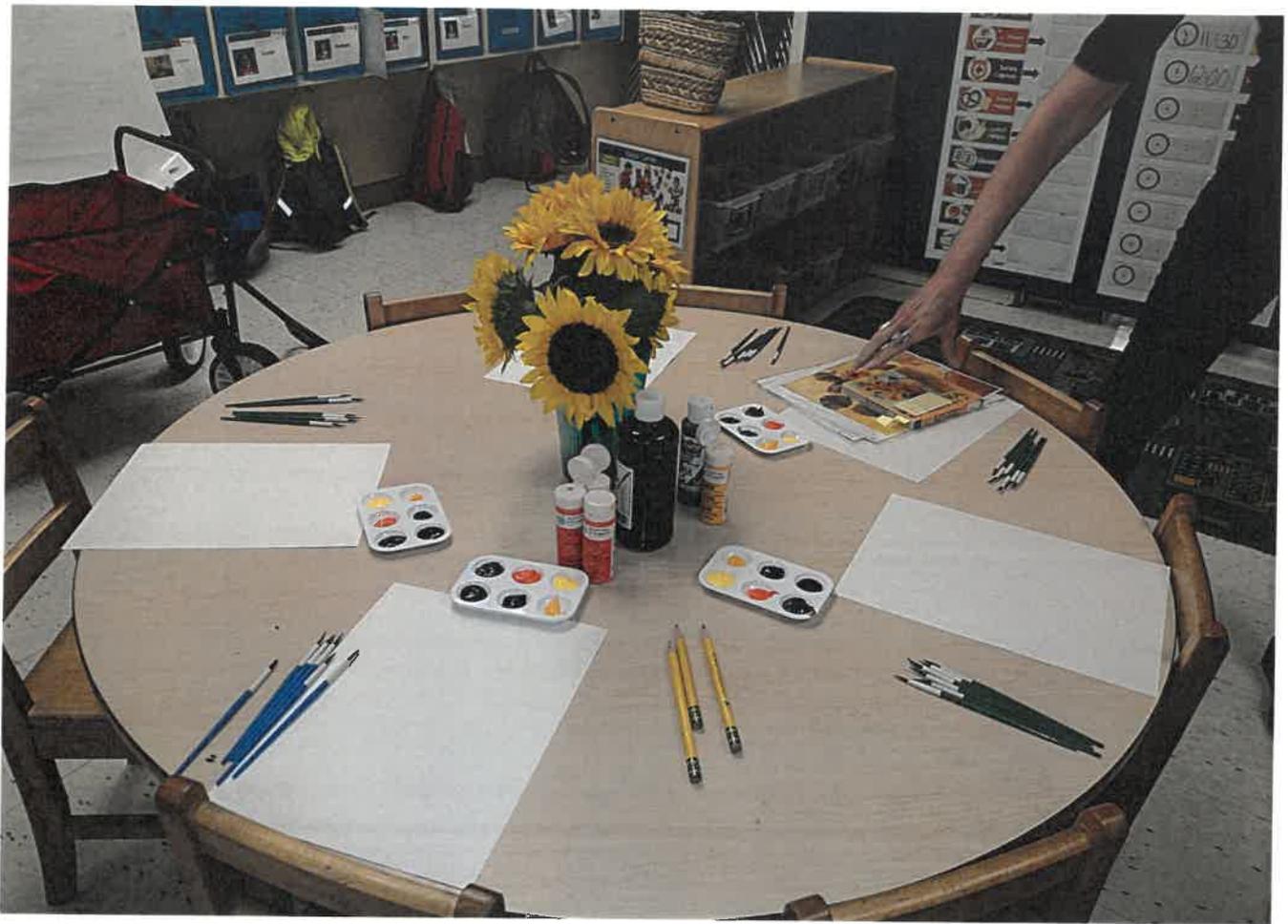
Instruction guide

(first paint a rectangle at the bottom of your page with blue paint. Then using the green paint make stems. Then paint the flowers with orange and yellow.)





Still Life: Painting or drawing of objects  
(animate)  
such as fruit, flowers, etc





## **PAINTING ON FOIL - AN EASY ART ACTIVITY INSPIRED BY VAN GOGH**

[Messy Little Monster](#) May 15, 2016 [19 Comments](#)

Painting on foil is an easy process art idea for kids that's perfect for the Winter months. This activity is great for toddlers and preschoolers working on fine motor skills and color mixing. For this art technique use cotton buds (Q tips) as paint brushes. Inspired by Van Gogh's paintings use different shades of blue and explore swirling the paint around the foil which gives the artwork a real Winter feel.

To paint on foil you will need:

- \* A piece of cardboard
- Foil
- Tape
- Paint (Use 2 shades of blue and white)
- For inspiration set the painting 'Starry Night' by Van Gogh on the table to look at.

**TIPS:** A few people have asked if the paint flakes off the foil once it is dry. It does after a while. If you want to avoid this so you can keep the artwork add a drop of washing up liquid (dish soap) to the paint or use acrylic paint (not recommend with small children)

Directions:

Set up your foil canvases by covering a piece of cardboard in foil and taping it in place on the back.

Squirt the blue and white paint onto a paper plate and took a look at Van Gogh's 'Starry Night' image for inspiration. Look at the different shades of blue and the swirls and brush strokes. Then get ready to paint. Using a Q tip dip into the paint and make swirls like in the painting.





[www.messylittlemonster.com](http://www.messylittlemonster.com)

## **Francois-Auguste-Rene Rodin**

**Born in Paris France. He was a famous sculptor. He started drawing first as a teenager. He had very poor eyesight so he was not good at school work but he could draw and that gave him confidence. He found his greatest talent in sculpting in his thirties and forties.**



## Sculpture

Sculpture is a form of art where one takes a certain kind of material like clay or metal and turns them into something. An artist who does sculpture is called a sculptor. Here are a few examples of different types of sculpture.



## Snow and Ice Sculpture



## Sand Sculpture

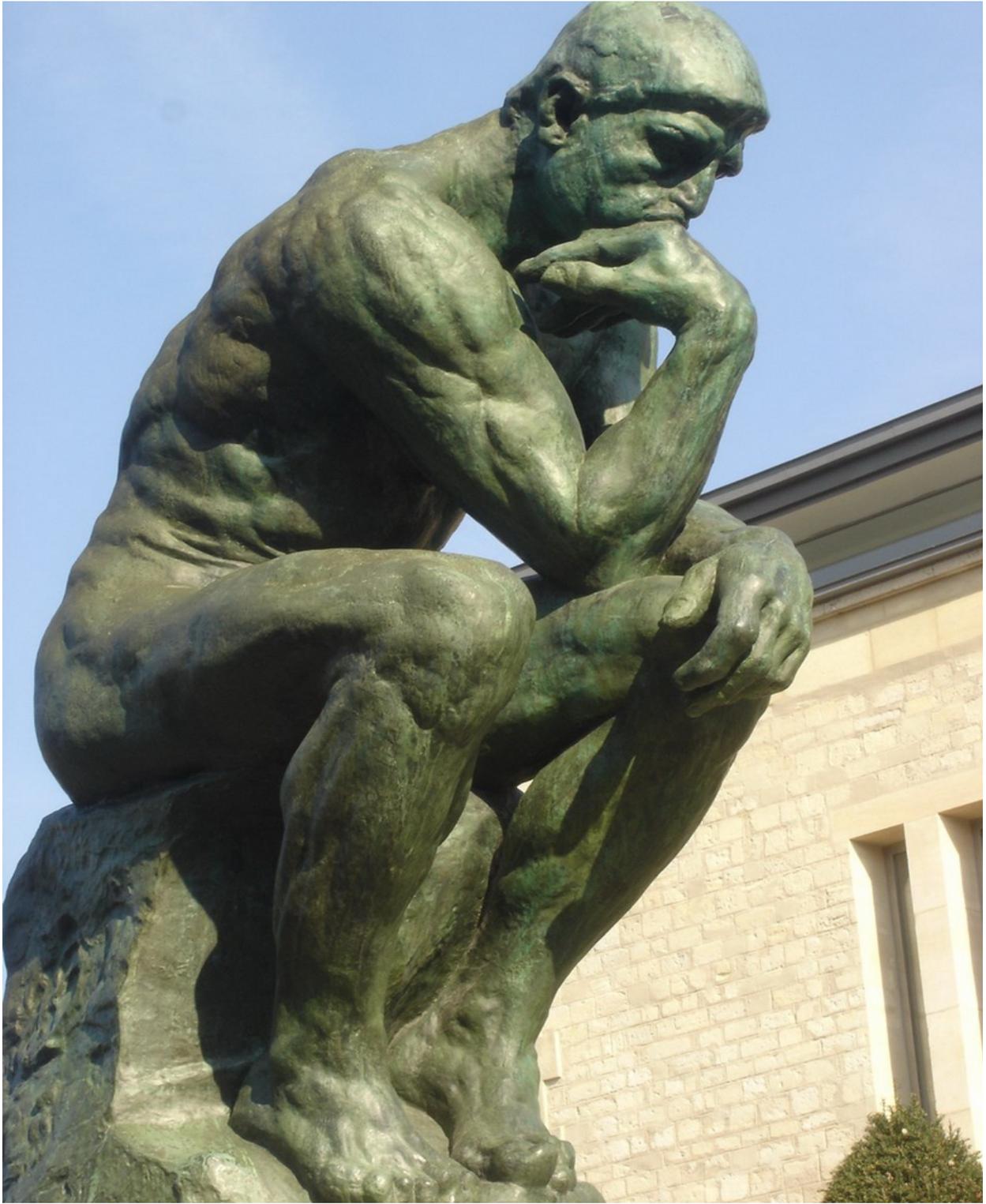


Example of Rodin's famous hand sculpture



The Thinker

by Francois Rodin



## Playdough Sculpting

### Supplies Needed:

Playdough

Pipe cleaners cut into 2-3 inch pieces

Toothpicks

Gems

Gems and sequens

Marbles



### 3 Easy Recipes for Making Homemade Play Dough

Making your own play dough with your child can be fun. Here are three easy recipes for Homemade Play Dough from [creativekidsathome.com](http://creativekidsathome.com).

The dough can be stored in air tight containers, or left to air dry to save a finished creation.

#### Recipe 1

3 cups flour  
1.5 cups salt  
6 tsp. cream of tarter  
3 tbsp. oil  
3 cups water

Pour all ingredients into a large pot. Stir constantly over medium heat until a dough ball forms by pulling away from the sides. Knead dough until the texture matches play dough (1-2 minutes). Store in plastic container. Should last for at least 3 months.

#### Recipe 2

1 cup baking soda  
1/2 cup corn starch  
3/4 cup water

Have your child mix the baking soda and corn starch in a pot. Use hands to make sure all the lumps are broken up. Add water. The adult should put the pan on the stove over medium heat and stir constantly. As soon as the mixture gathers together, remove from the heat. When it cools, have your child knead it into a smooth dough. Don't over cook this dough or it will crumble.

#### Recipe 3

1/4 cup salt  
1 cup flour  
1/4 cup water

Have your child mix the flour and salt in a bowl then add water. Knead and squeeze the dough to make a clay consistency. You may need to add more water. Note: This dough doesn't last as long as the cooked recipes.

Use unsweetened Kool-Aid for color and scent. Add glitter for sparkly play dough.

## Claude Monet



Famous artist born in France in 1840. He is known as the father of impressionism. What is impressionism? It is a style of painting that features rapid brushstrokes and various color mixing techniques. It is concerned more with form and light than with realism. He lived in poverty for many years before finally being noticed as an artist. He painted a total of 3,500 pieces of artwork during his lifetime.

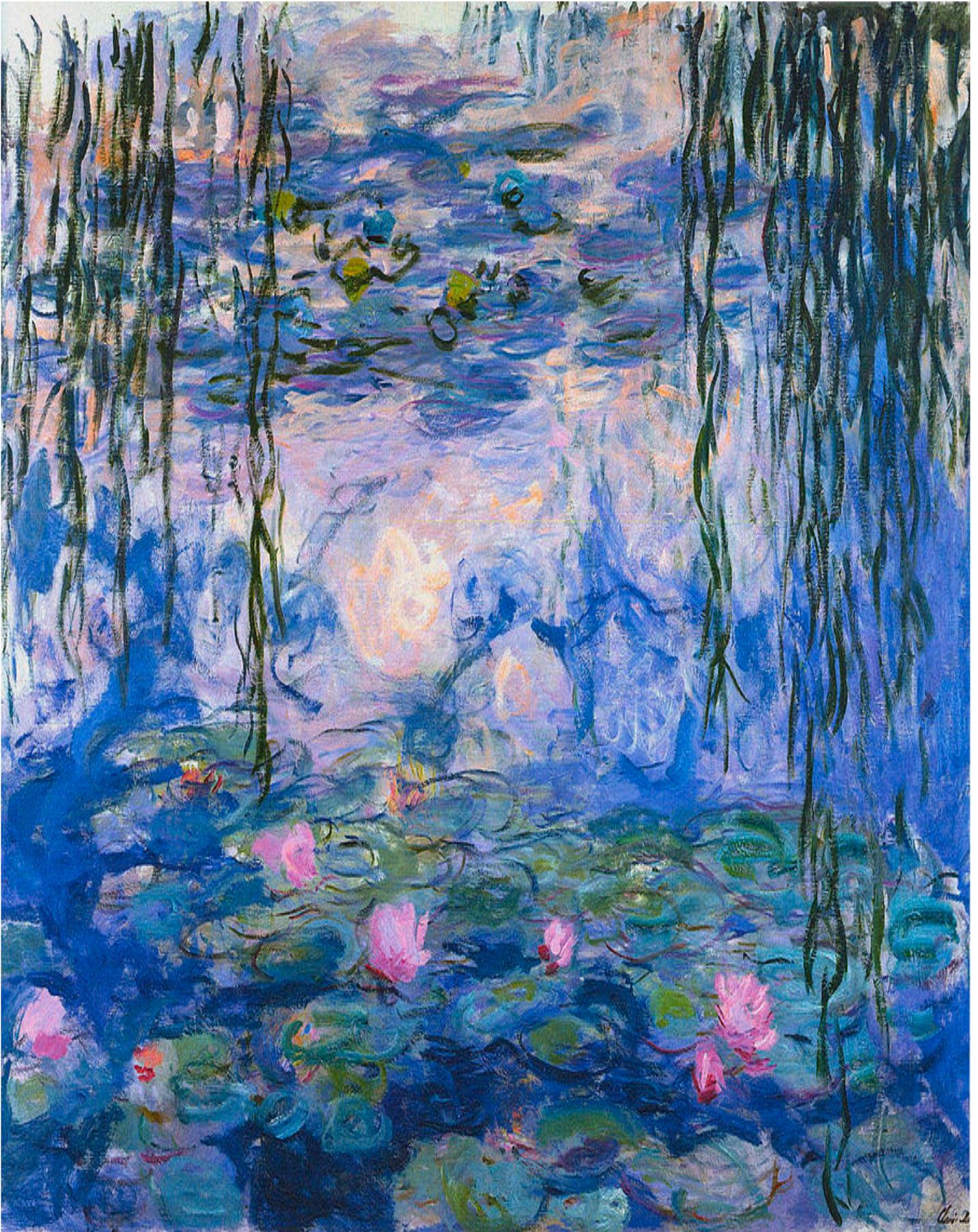
Monet's Wife Claudia



The Houses of Parliament

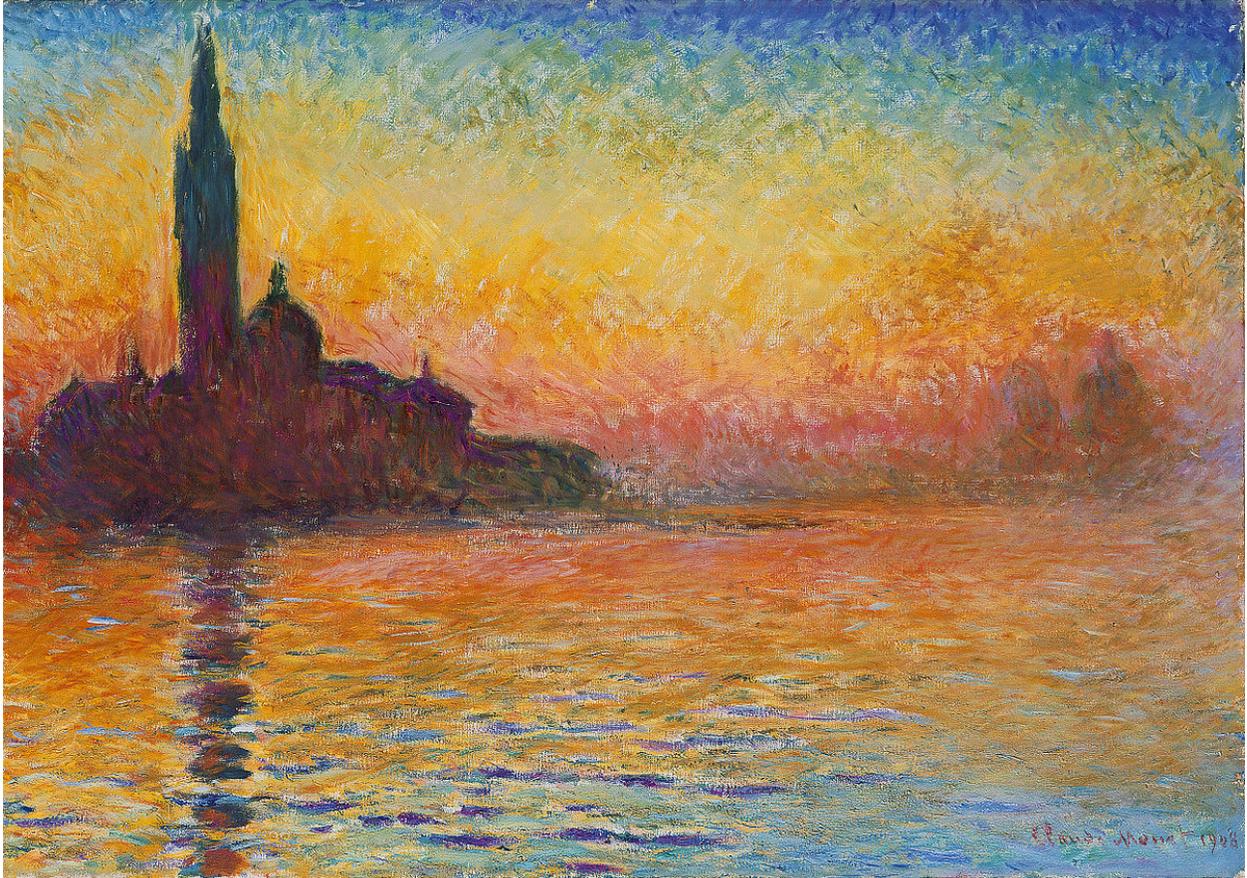


Water Lilly's by Claude Monet



## Sponge Painting like Monet

(San Giorgio Maggiore Al Crepuscolo) Monet 1908



**Step One: Collect your colors of paint: Yellow, orange, red, green blue and purple. Use only one sponge and do not wash between changes of colour. This will give Monets over-lapped colours effect. This is Mirror Image Painting.**



Create a layered rainbow going across the whole sheet of white paper. Start with red on the top half of the page only.



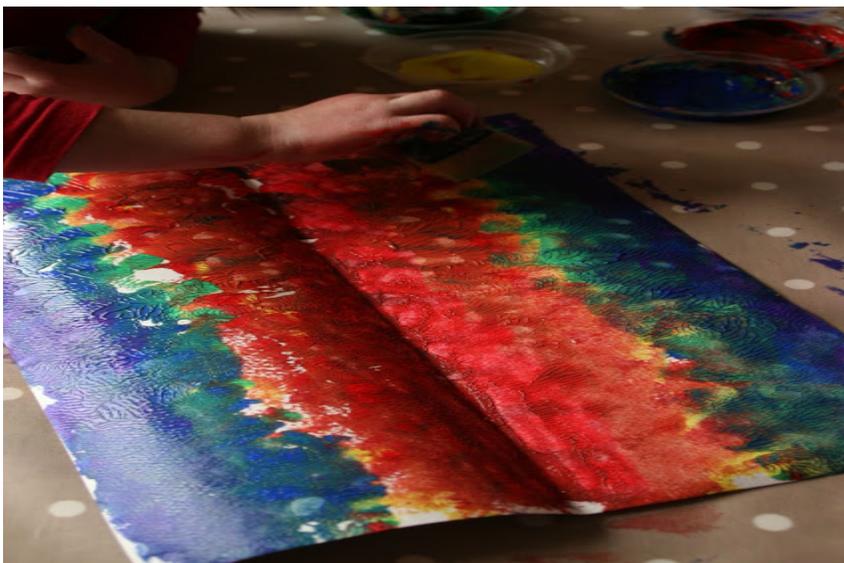
Then make a row of orange and yellow followed by green, blue and purple in that order. Again just use the top half of the paper...These two pictures are just showing the technique and the order of colours.



Fold the paper in half long ways.



Open up the paper.



Lastly add some buildings using brown paint





# Instructions for Claude Monet Paper Cup Liner Lily Pad Project

## SUPPLIES:

1. Tempera paint in various shades of blue and purple
2. 12" x 18" white construction paper
3. Large paint brushes
4. Small plastic cups
5. Green paper cup liners (flatten them out to make the lily pads)
6. Pastel paper cup lines ( these can be snipped by you or the children for the lilies or kept intact)
7. Tacky Glue
8. Scissors
9. Water
10. Example of project with pictures of Monet's lily pad paintings for the children to view and discuss.
11. Pencils to write names on project

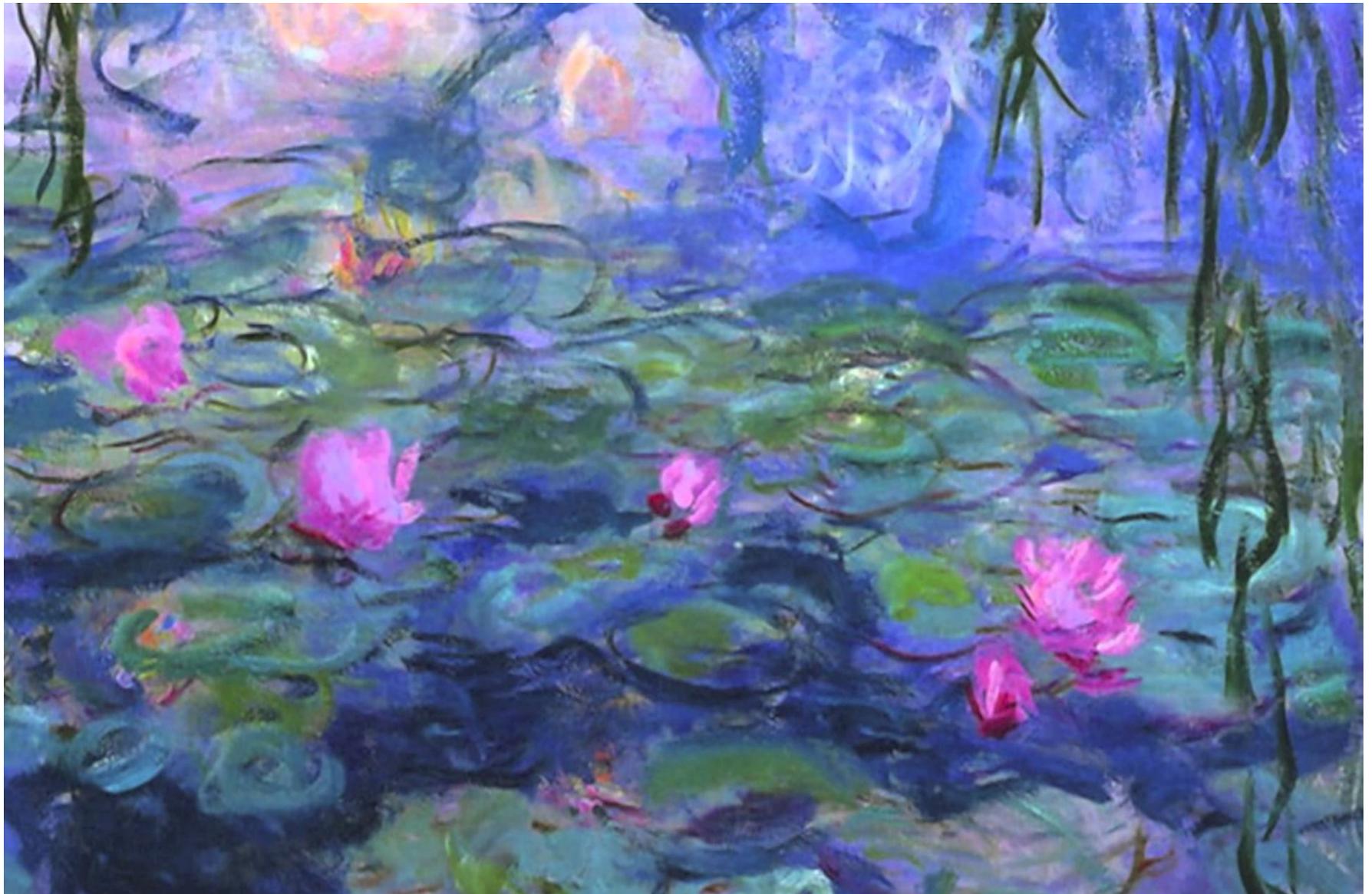
Start by filling the plastic cups with water-- (3 for the blues) and 1 for the purple paint. Then add the blue paints to make 3 different shades of blue wash—a diluted watercolor consistency. Repeat with the purple paint. Depending on how many children, have the appropriate number of filled paint cups to accommodate each group. Place a brush in each of the containers.

## PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS:

1. First, have the children look at some of Monet's water lily paintings and notice the different colors that Monet used for the water. He liked to use soft blues and purples.
2. Hand each child a piece of white construction paper. (Put name on back of paper)
3. Have the child use the different paint washes to create the blue water effect by covering their entire paper with the colors, using broad brush strokes horizontally across the paper. \*\*Some children like to paint in the same place so make sure they move across the whole page to avoid a puddle or hole in their paper!
4. 3 TO 4 LILLIES PER CHILD. Glue the flat green cupcake liners to the paper to make the lily pads.
5. Glue the pastel ones on top to make the lilies (Snips from the pastel liners can be glued to the lily to make a center). \*\*\*\*Your pastel liners should not be flat so that you can achieve a 2 dimensional effect!

The paper may be wet so make sure you apply enough glue to hold each lily pad securely on the paper.

Monet's Pink Water Lilly Painting



Monet



## Henri Matisse

French Impressionist artist. Born in 1869 and died in 1954. He was a famous sculptor, painter and known for his work with color. He was famous for his creation of cut-out art using pieces of colored paper and water colors to create a collage. He is known as one of the fathers of modern art.



The Goldfish



The Snail



Memory of Oceania



The Leaves by Matisse



## Matisse Collage Art Project

Gather your materials. You will need multicolor scrap paper, plain white paper, scissors and glue.



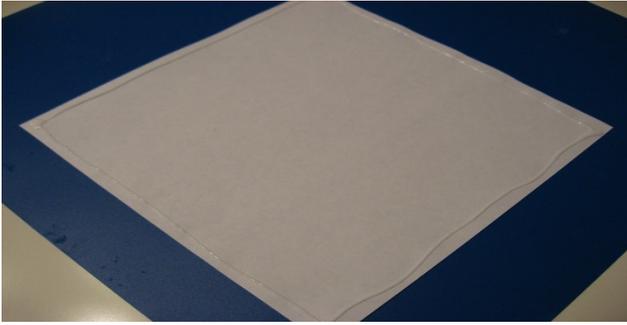
1. Look at the masterpiece you want to pay homage to. The Snail by Matisse



2. Cut the paper needed. Copy the shapes and colors and have the children cut them out if they are able.



3. Add glue to the edges.



4. Add the frame pieces



5. Glue and add the scrap pieces



6. Let dry



**Grandma Moses (American Painter)**

## **“Grandma Moses” Anna Mary Robertson**

Born Anna Mary Robertson on September 7, 1860, in Greenwich, New York, Grandma Moses was one of the most famous folk artists of the twentieth century. She grew up as one of ten children on her parents' farm. Leaving home at age 12, Moses went to work as a hired girl for a nearby farm. She married Thomas Moses in 1887, and the pair settled in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. There they ran a farm and raised five children together

In 1905, Moses returned to New York State with her family. She and her husband operated a farm in Eagle Bridge, New York. Moses later began dabbling in painting, creating her first work on a fireboard in her home in 1918. She occasionally painted after that, but she did not devote herself to her craft until much later. Moses suffered a great loss in 1927 with the death of her husband, and she sought ways to keep busy in her grief.

It was then in her seventies that she started devoting herself to her art. She was completely self taught and soon became famous for her images of country life.

Moses often drew from her memory for her captivating scenes of rural life. According to the *New York Times*, she once said that “I’ll get an inspiration and start painting; then I’ll forget everything, everything except how things used to be and how to paint it so people will know how we used to live.” Some of her images, such as “Applebutter Making” (1947) and “Pumpkins” (1959), brightly depict the labors involved in agricultural life. Others, such as “Joy Ride” (1953), showcase a moment of fun and play.

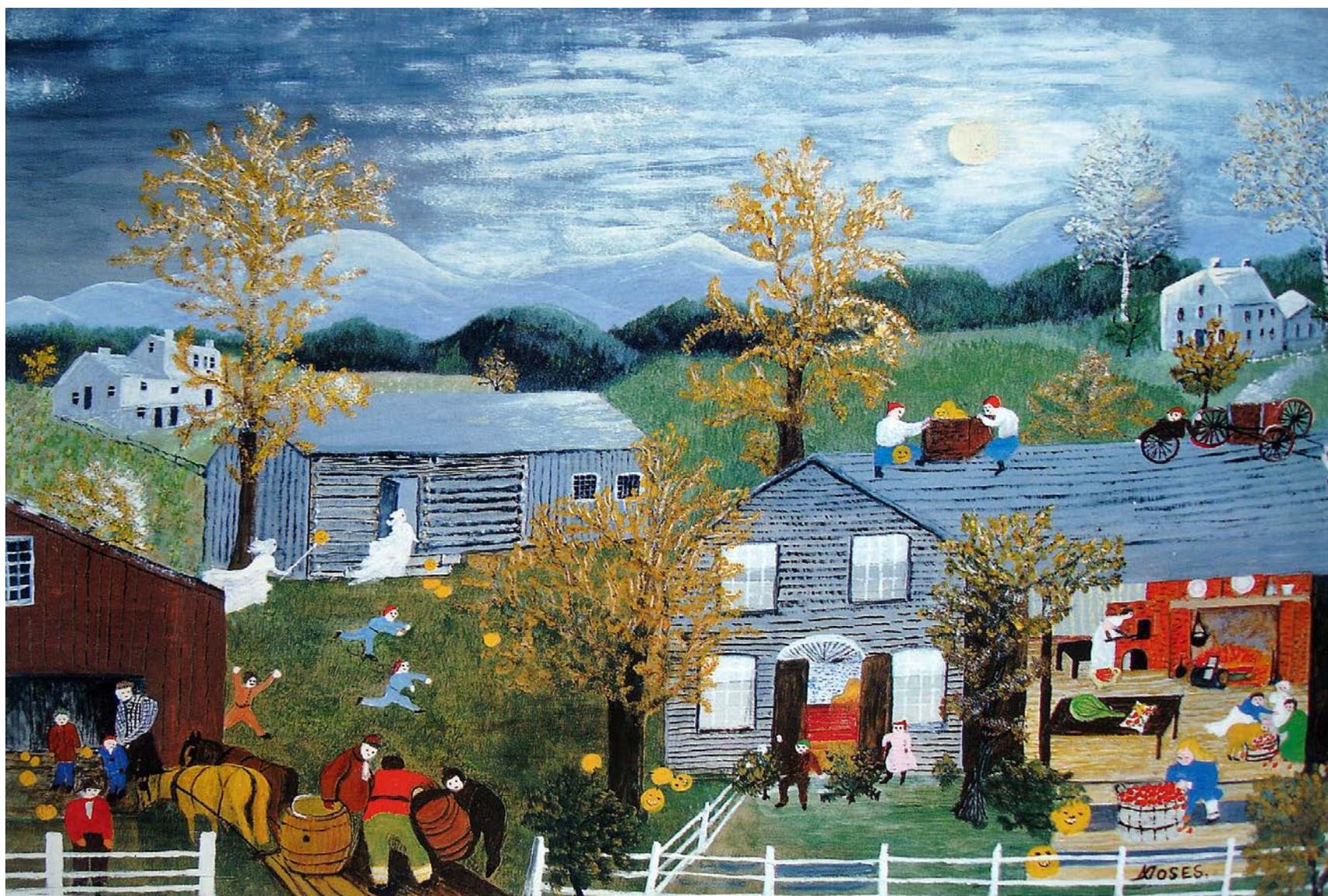
She loved to paint outdoors scenes in all the different seasonal colors. Her first show was at the Metropolitan Art Museum in New York at age 74. She continued to paint until she died at age 100. The governor of New York in 1960 on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday declared it National Grandma Moses Day.



**"Out For Christmas Trees" 1946**



**"I'll Catch" 1860**



Halloween by Grandma Moses 1955

## Bubble Wrap Fall Tree Painting



### Supplies Needed:

Background Paper  
Brown Construction paper for trunk  
Assorted paint colors (yellow, brown, red and orange)  
Bubble wrap 3 x 6 pieces

### Instructions:

Cut out long rectangles about 2 inches thick out of the brown paper for the trunk.  
Glue the trunk onto the paper.  
Put your four colors of paint onto a paper plate.  
Roll up the bubble wrap then fold over and bunch up. Have the kids hold onto the open end.  
Have them dip the bubble wrap into the paint then stamp the paint onto the paper onto the paper on top of the trunk. They need to make sure they don't have too much paint on their bubble wrap...have a few paper towels near by so they can dab the bubble wrap on that before they paint. At the bottom write Leaf Painting like Grandma Moses By \_\_\_\_\_ Put child's name on line.



## **Sponge Painting Fall Trees**

### **Supplies Needed**

White paper

Sponges cut up into 1 or 2 inch squares

Index cards or card stock cut into 4 inch rectangles or squares

Assorted Fall colors of paint

Paint Brushes

### **Instructions**

Squirt a variety of Fall paint colors onto a paper plate. Have brushes to go with each color. First have the children using a brush paint the ground at the bottom of the page. After that take the index cards or card stock pieces. Dip the edges of the card in the brown paint. Then just press the edges of the card onto the paper like a stamp to create the trunks. An old gift card or credit card can also be used instead of the index cards. For the leaves dip the sponges into the different colors and dab the sponge on top of the trunks.

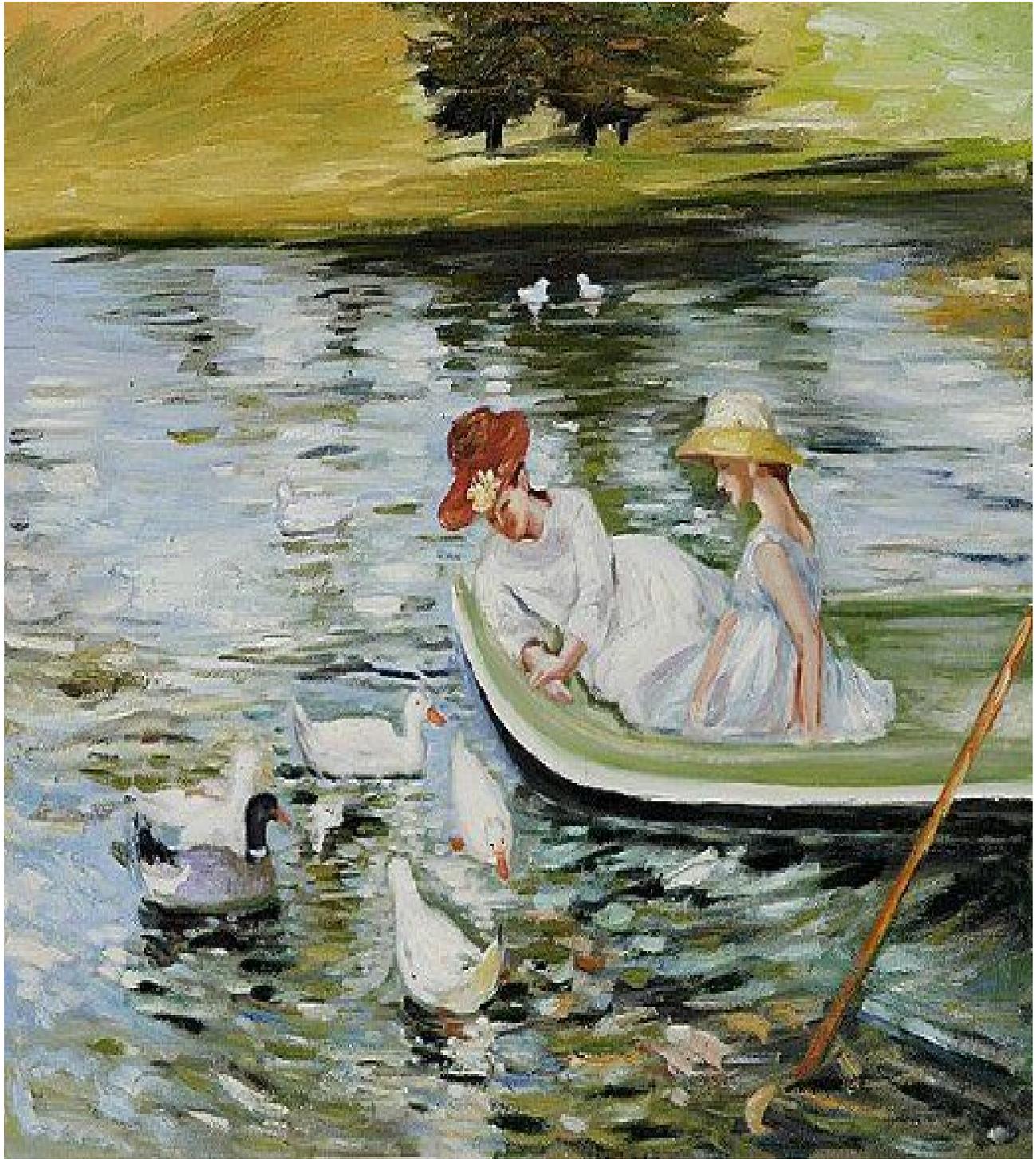


Mary Cassatt Born 1844 Died 1926

Cassatt was an American painter and printmaker. She was born in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, but lived much of her adult life in France. It was in France that she first met the famous artist Edgar Degas and later showed her own work with the impressionists like Monet and Van Gogh. Like other impressionists she used bright colors and experimented with light especially outdoors. Cassatt liked to paint images of the social and private lives of women, with particular emphasis on the bonds between mothers and children. She was one of the first women artists to become famous and be able to sell her work.



**Breakfast in Bed** by **Mary Cassatt**



**“Summertime”**



**"Baby Steps" 2016**



**Mary Cassatt (Self Portrait) Impressionist Painter**

## Styrofoam Print Making



### Supplies Needed:

Styrofoam meat tray

Pencil

Scissors

Mini foam paint roller

Acrylic craft paint

Blank Cards or pieces of cardstock



## Instructions:



### 1. Prepare your styrofoam tray

Wash and dry your produce tray and cut off the curved edges of the tray so you're left with just the flat bottom. Cut the bottom to fit the card (or paper) that you'll be printing on.

### 2. Draw your design

Using a pencil, draw your image on the styrofoam, pressing firmly to engrave your image into the foam.

Alternatively, you could draw your image on a thin piece of paper and then trace it firmly on to your styrofoam

**Note:** Remember to write any letters/words backwards as the finished print will be a mirror image of your styrofoam design

(see image).



**3. Gather your printing materials**

Place the following on a flat, even work surface: blank greeting card, your styrofoam image, paper plate, paint roller, paint.

**4. Load roller with paint**

Squeeze a good amount of paint on to a paper plate and roll the roller back and forth through it until it's completely and generously covered.

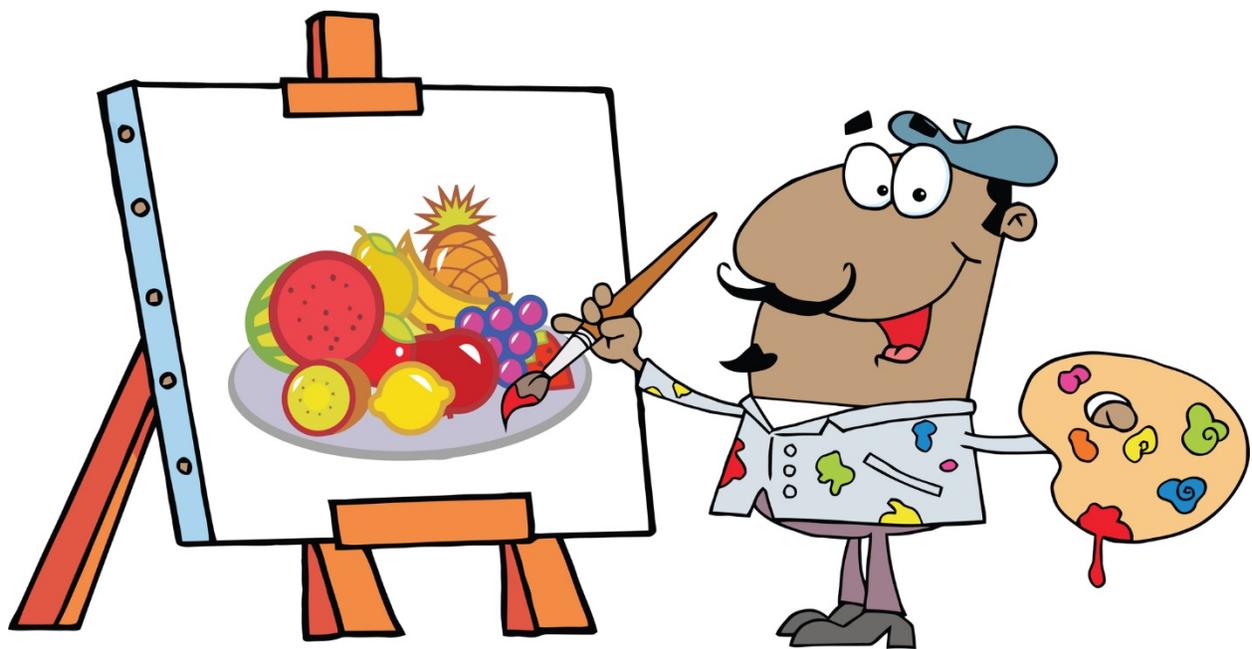
**5. Make your print**

Roll your paint roller back and forth over your styrofoam design, making sure the entire surface is covered with paint. Flip the styrofoam over and press it down on your card. Continue to press and rub the styrofoam firmly with your hands, taking care not to disturb the placement of the styrofoam. Carefully lift the styrofoam off the card to reveal your print!

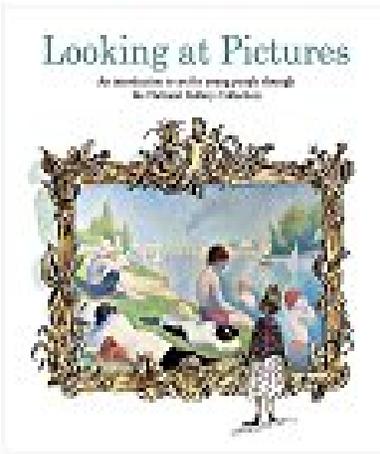
**6. Repeat to make more prints**

Allow your styrofoam template to dry for a minute or two and then repeat the process with a different color.

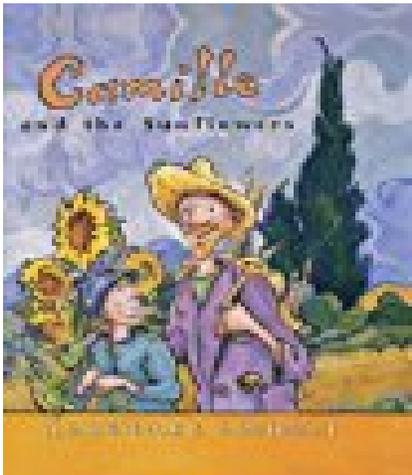
# Art Book Picks



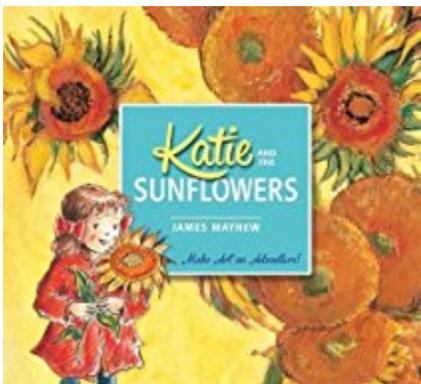
## Exploring The Great Artists –Great book picks for Kids



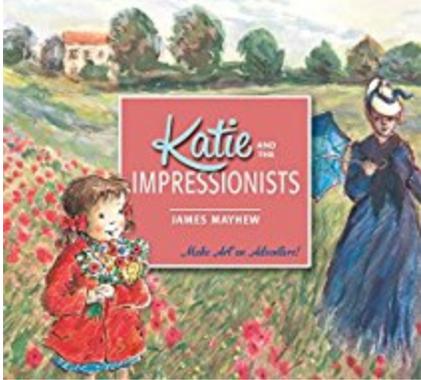
This book is a collection of works of art that are displayed at the National Gallery of Art in London. This book features works from Monet, Rembrandt, Picasso, Seurat, Matisse and more. This book also includes facts about the paintings and their artists.



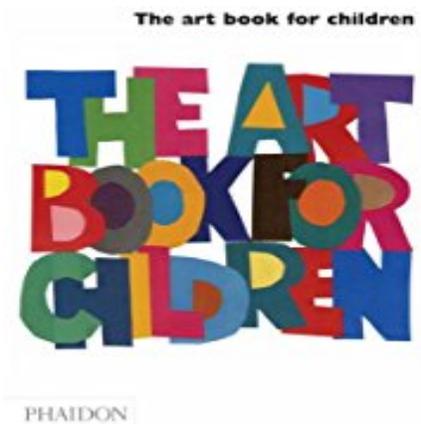
Young Camille befriends a strange visitor to his small town, and one day he brings this man a gift of bright, beautiful sunflowers. The man is the artist Vincent van Gogh, and the sunflowers quickly become the subject of a magnificent painting.



Join Katie as she steps into some of the most famous paintings in the world for an exciting art adventure! Katie would love to grow her own flowers, so when she sees some seeds in Van Gogh's Sunflowers masterpiece she can't resist reaching in and grabbing some ...Mimi, a little girl from a painting nearby, comes to help, but when Mimi's dog Zazou comes too disaster follows!



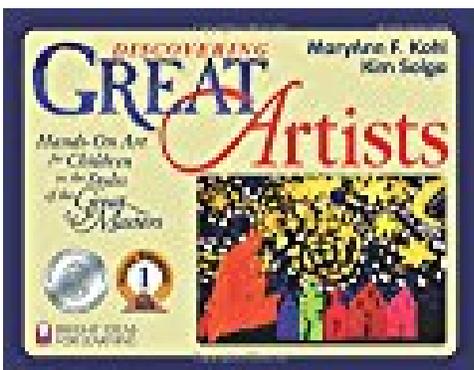
Katie's trip to the museum to see Impressionist art leads to a magical journey through the actual paintings. In paperback for the first time. "This British import pays joyful homage to the world of the Impressionists. When Katie and her grandmother visit an art museum to celebrate the elder's birthday, the girl wanders into a gallery where she admires Claude Monet's *The Luncheon*.... With a blink of her eyes, Katie is magically transported into the painting...



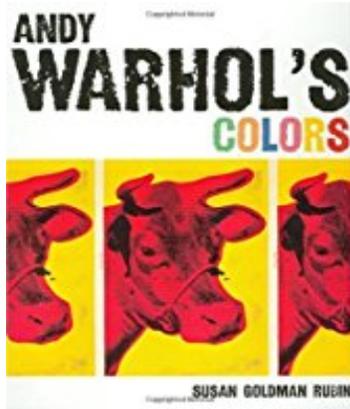
A perfect introduction to art for children everywhere, *The Art Book for Children* brings the clarity and innovation of Phaidon's bestselling *The Art Book* to our youngest readers ever. A guide to 30 great artists and their most famous works, designed for both parent and child to enjoy together



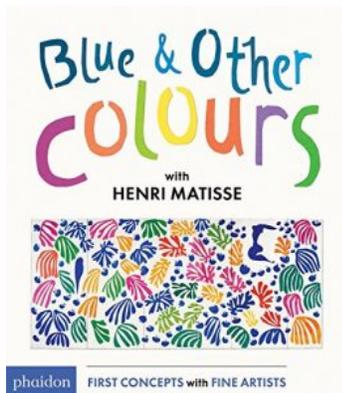
"Susan Schwake's *Art Lab for Kids* is a well-thought-out guide, making it easy to introduce art into children's lives. Simple, clear explanations of technique, combined with inspiration from established artists, will enable children to feel successful and encouraged to explore art as a form of expression."



"Discovering Great Artists" has 75 great artists featured in 110 amazingly fun and unique quality art appreciation activities for children. They will experience the styles and techniques of the great masters, from the Renaissance to the Present. A brief biography of each artist is included with a fully illustrated, child-tested art activity, featuring painting,

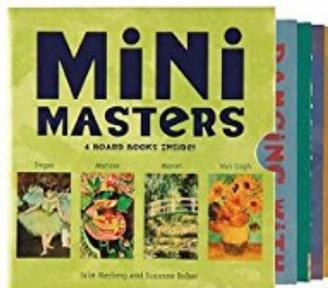


Learning about colors has never been so hip! In Andy Warhol's imagination, horses are purple and golden monkeys wear pink baubles on their tails. Through *Andy Warhol's Colors*, children will learn their colors as they discover that in modern art, anything is possible.

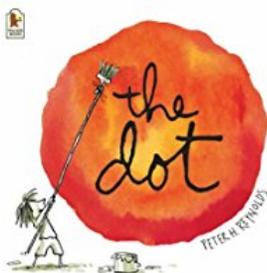


**Fine artists are paired with early learning concepts in this groundbreaking series for the toddler set.**

Henri Matisse's abstract cut-outs are used to teach colors in this polished read-aloud board book. *Blue & Other Colors* takes children through Matisse's color palette, one artwork per page, beginning with blue and returning to it as a familiar refrain throughout. The variance of shapes, depth, and scale will keep readers engaged, while the text enriches the reading experience with relatable and humorous commentary. Readers will not only learn their colors, but also grow familiar with fine art in this relevant and relatable first title in this series of concept books featuring the most innovative and influential artists. Includes a read-aloud "about the artist" at the end.



Four beautiful board books from the best-selling Mini Masters series, all packed in a colorful box. The set includes: *Dancing with Degas*, *A Picnic with Monet*, *A Magical Day with Matisse*, and *In the Garden with Van Gogh*.

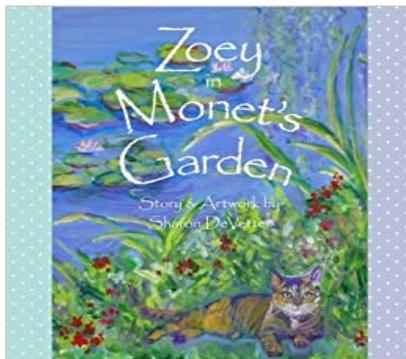


**With a simple, witty story and free-spirited illustrations, Peter H. Reynolds entices even the stubbornly uncreative among us to make a mark - and follow where it takes us. "**

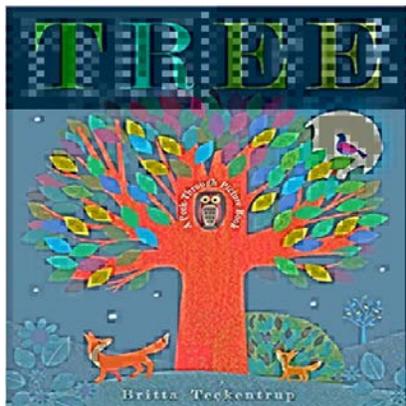
Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper. The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw - she's no artist. To prove her point, Vashti jabs at a blank sheet of paper to make an unremarkable and angry mark. "There!" she says. That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery.



Full-color illustrations and easy-to-follow directions explain basic techniques as well as every step of the crafting process for 29 clay projects — a sloth, flamingo, narwhal, llama, panda, zebra, unicorn, koala, elephant, and other cute critters. Each project includes a list of materials consisting of colored clay and ordinary household items. The step-by-step instructions feature numerals corresponding to color photos that provide helpful examples. Crafters of all ages will adore these fun-filled projects, which make charming keepsakes and unique gifts.

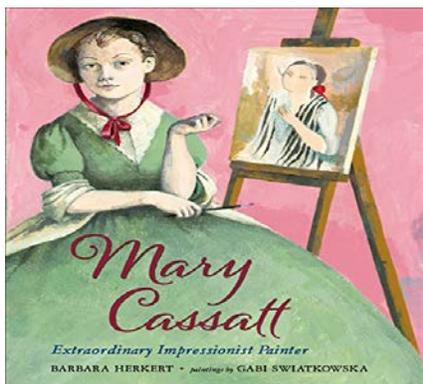


"Zoey in Monet's Garden" is the story of Zoey the cat's mischievous day frolicking around Impressionist painter Claude Monet's beautiful garden in Giverny, France. With lots of pretty flowers and meandering paths, Zoey weaves her way through a colorful adventure, along the way discovering some of Monet's favorite subjects to paint – such as the shimmering, pastel pond and his much-loved Japanese bridge!

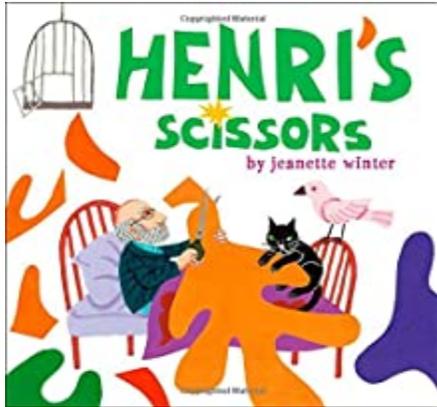


Through a hole in the book's cover, an owl invites you inside to meet a majestic tree and all its forest inhabitants during the changing seasons. With clever peekaboo holes throughout, each page reveals a new set of animals playing and living in the tree—baby bears frolicking in the spring, bees buzzing around apples in the summer, squirrels storing nuts in the fall, and finally the lone owl keeping warm during the winter chill—until another year begins. . . .

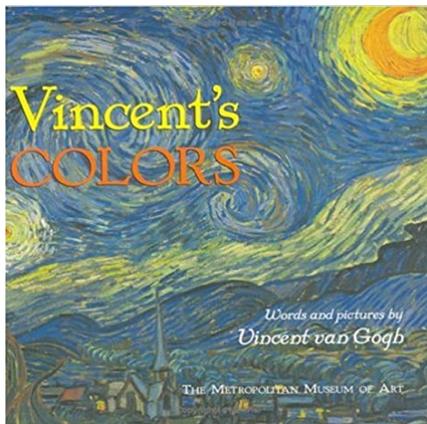
Children will love seeing a new set of animals appear and then disappear as each page is turned, and along the way they'll learn about the seasons and how a forest and its inhabitants change throughout the year.



Mary Cassatt was a headstrong, determined girl. She wanted to be an artist in 1860, a time when proper girls certainly weren't artists. It wasn't polite. But Mary herself wasn't polite. She pursued art with a passion, moving to Paris to study, painting what she saw. Her work was rejected by the Salon judges time and time again. One day, the great painter Edgar Degas invited her to join him and his group of independent artists, those who flouted the rules and painted as they pleased—the Impressionists. Mary was on her way.

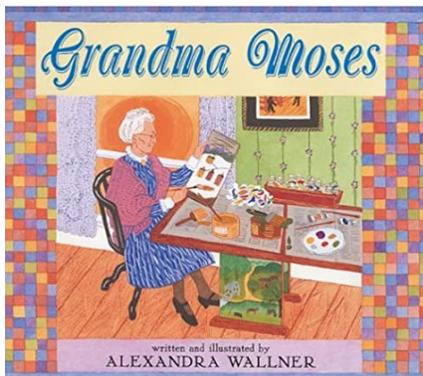


In a small weaving town in France, a young boy named Henri-Emile Matisse drew pictures everywhere, and when he grew up, he moved to Paris and became a famous artist who created paintings that were adored around the world. But late in life a serious illness confined him to a wheelchair, and amazingly, it was from there that he created among his most beloved works—enormous and breathtaking paper cutouts.



Vincent van Gogh is one of the world's most famous artists. Throughout his life, he wrote to his younger brother, Theo, about his colorful, dynamic paintings. This book pairs the artist's paintings with his own words.

Van Gogh's descriptions, arranged as a simple rhyme, introduce young readers to all the colors of the rainbow and beyond. The descriptive words combine with spectacular reproductions of many of the artist's most beloved and important works to create a perfect art book for young and old alike.



A brief biography of Anna Mary Robertson, the artist who was known as Grandma Moses, describes the inspiration behind and development of her paintings.

## **Meet the Masters Program Activity Supplies**

### **Dot Painting Like Seurat**

Large White Construction paper  
Assorted colors of washable paint  
Round foam brushes  
Small paper plates  
Pencils

### **Sculpting like Rudin**

Make any color playdough  
Small paper plates  
Items to decorate the sculptures like: toothpicks, marbles, pipe cleaners and sequins  
Black sharpies  
Ziplock gallon size bags

### **Sunflower Painting like Van Gogh**

8 ½ by 11 inch size white construction paper  
Plastic paint trays  
Washable paints in Blue, yellow, brown, green and orange  
Watercolor brushes  
Pencils

### **Water Lily Picture like Monet**

Large white construction paper  
Washable paint: two shades of blue and purple (3 different colors)  
Clear plastic cups  
Kids paint brushes  
Colored muffin cups in assorted colors  
Tacky glue  
Pencils

### **Sponge Painting like Monet**

Large white construction paper  
Kitchen sponges (thick ones)  
Washable paint in: yellow, orange, red, green, blue and purple  
Pencils

### **Making a Matisse Collage**

8 ½ by 11 white construction paper  
Assorted colors of construction paper  
Scissors  
Elmers glue  
Small paper plates  
Q-tips  
Pencils

### **Fall Tree Painting like Grandma Moses**

#### **Bubble Wrap Painting Trees**

Brown Construction Paper  
Large white construction paper  
Fall paint colors (orange, red, brown and yellow)  
Small paper plates  
Pieces of bubble wrap cut into 6 inch squares  
Glue

#### **Sponge Painting Trees**

Large white construction paper  
Fall paint colors (orange, red, brown and yellow)  
Index card, business card or old gift card  
Small paper plates  
Kitchen sponges cut into 2 inch squares

#### **Styrofoam Print Making like Mary Cassatt**

Styrofoam meat trays  
Pencils  
Paint (any color you choose)  
Small paper plates  
Foam paint roller  
White copy paper  
Card stock if making cards