

Golden Road Arts

Mary Cassatt – American Impressionist

1. Overview

- a. Artist, printmaker, and teacher Barbara Mason discusses the life and artwork of Mary Cassatt, the Pennsylvania-born impressionist. Cassatt, who lived most of her life near Paris, France, was a skilled oil painter and pastel artist. She was mentored by her friend Edgar Degas, who introduced her to impressionism. Students will use watercolor, markers, and crayons to color a template of the picture, “Children Playing on the Beach” by Mary Cassatt.
- b. Grade Level: Grade 1st -5TH Grades.
- c. Vocabulary
 - i. Academy
 - ii. Louvre
 - iii. Parma, Italy
 - iv. Impressionism
- d. Art Medium
 - i. White computer paper
 - ii. Watercolor paper
 - iii. Watercolor paintbrush
 - iv. Pencil
 - v. Watercolors
 - vi. Crayons
 - vii. Felt markers
 - viii. Cup
 - ix. Water
 - x. Downloadable template on our website

2. Fun Facts

- a. Impressionism is a style of painting which began in France in the late 19th century.
- b. Mary Cassatt was the only American to exhibit with the Impressionists in Paris.
- c. Due to health issues, Mary Cassatt would eventually go blind. Even though she could no longer paint, she supported issues that helped women’s rights.
- d. Mary Cassatt has been an inspiration for generations of male and female artists.

- e. A bookbinder is a person that binds books.
- f. Writing things down helps us remember them. Writing your story in your own handmade book will help you recall your life years from now.
- g. Impressionist painters did not paint from their imagination, from literature, history or mythology. They painted what they saw in the world around them. They were interested in capturing in their paintings the light and the weather around them.

3. Lesson Plan

- a. Elements of Art
 - i. Line
 - ii. Shape
 - iii. Form
 - iv. Value
 - v. Space
 - vi. Color
- b. Principles of Art
 - i. Balance
 - ii. Emphasis (contrast)
 - iii. Proportion
 - iv. Gradation
 - v. Harmony
 - vi. Variety
 - vii. Movement
- c. Visualization
 - i. How did your pictures differ when you colored them with felt pens and crayons or painted them with watercolor?
 - ii. How were each of your pictures similar when you colored them with felt pens and crayons or painted them with watercolors?
- d. Goals and Objectives
 - i. Students will understand the process of painting with watercolors and a paintbrush.
 - ii. Students will observe how textures and values change depending upon which medium they use.
- e. Students Critique Questions
 - i. What do you like about the pictures you have created?
 - ii. What do you like about your classmate's pictures?
 - iii. What would you do differently next time you create a drawing or painting from a famous artist's template?

4. To meet standards, students should be encouraged to watch the following videos.
 - a. Mary Cassatt <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlK1QrUb1A4>
 - b. What is Impressionism?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nesTk_6j-0c

COMPLIANCE WITH EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS (PER GRADE)

1 st Grade	VA.1.CR1.1 #1., #2., & #3., VA.2.CR2.1 #1., VA.3.CR3.1 #1., & #2., VA.8.RE2.1 #1., VA.9.RE3.1 #1., VA.10.CO1.1 #1. & #2., VA.11.CO2.1 #1. & #2., VA:Cr1.1.1a, VA:Cr1.2.1a, VA:Cr2.1.1a, VA:Cr3.1.1a, VA:Pr4.1.1a, VA:Re.7.1.1a, VA:Re.7.2.1a, VA:Re8.1.1a, VA:Re9.1.1a, VA:Cn11.1.1a
2 nd Grade	VA.:1.CR1.2 #1., #2., & #3., VA.2.CR2.2 #1., VA.3.CR3.2 #1., #2., & #3., VA.8.RE2.2 #1., VA.9.RE3.2 #1., VA.10.CO1.2 #2., VA.11.CO2.2 #1. & #2., VA:Cr1.1.2a, VA:Cr1.2.2a, VA:Cr2.1.2a, VA:Cr3.1.2a, VA:Pr6.1.2a, VA:Re.7.2.2a, VA:Re8.1.2a, VA:Re9.1.2a, VA:Cn11.1.2a
3 rd Grade	VA.1.CR1.3 #1., #2., & #3., VA.22.CR2.3 #1., VA.3.CR3.3 #1., #2., & #3., VA.5.PR2.3 #1. & #2., VA.6.PR3.3 #2., VA.8.RE2.3 #1. & #2., VA.9.RE3.3 #1. & #2., VA.11.CO2.3 #1. & #2., VA:Cr1.1.3a, VA:Cr1.2.3a, VA:Cr2.1.3a, VA:Cr3.1.3a, VA:Pr6.1.3a, VA:Re7.1.3a, VA:Re8.1.3a, VA:Re9.1.3a, VA:Cn11.1.3a
4 th Grade	VA.1.CR1.4 #1., #2., & #3., VA.2.CR2.4 #1., VA.3.CR3.4 #1., #2., & #3., VA.5.PR2.4 #1. & #2., VA.7.RE1.4 #2., & #3., VA.8.RE2.4 #1., VA.9.RE3.4 #1. & #2., VA.11.CO2.4 #1. & #2., VA:Cr1.1.4a, VA:Cr1.2.4a, VA:Cr2.1.4a, VA:Cr3.1.4a, VA:Re.7.1.4a, VA:Re.7.2.4a, VA:Re8.1.4a, VA:Re9.1.4a, VA:Cn11.1.4a
5 th Grade	VA.1.CR1.5. #2., & #3., VA.2.CR2.5 #1., #3., & #4., VA.3.CR3.5 #1., #2., & #3., VA.5.PR2.5 #2. & #3., VA.7.RE1.5 #1., #2., & #3., VA.8.RE2.5 #1., VA.9.RE3.5 #1. & #2., VA:Cr1.1.5a, VA:Cr1.2.5a, VA:Cr2.1.5a, VA:Re.7.1.5a, VA:Re8.1.5a, VA:Re9.1.5a, VA:Cn10.1.5a