



## Claude Monet – French Impressionist Famous for Water Lilies

### 1. Overview

- a. Artist, printmaker, and teacher Barbara Mason discusses the life and artwork of Claude Monet, perhaps among the most famous French painters of his generation and considered the founder of the impressionist style of painting. Monet was born in Paris, France. With the exception of his time in the military in Algiers – and several years spent in London and the Netherlands to avoid fighting in the Franco-Prussian War – Monet lived in France most of his life. He was a skilled oil painter and was influenced by his mentor Eugène Louis Boudin – one of the first French landscape painters to paint outdoors – and his contemporaries Alfred Sisley, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Frédéric Bazille. When in London, he also saw the pre-impressionist landscapes and historical paintings of J. M. W. Turner (also famous for his use of light). Claude Monet lived north of Paris in Giverny for the final four decades of his life, where he cultivated gardens and constructed lily ponds that inspired his later work. His family gave the home and Gardens to the French government as a national monument.
- b. Grade Level: Grade 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Gr.
- c. Vocabulary
  - i. Landscape painting
  - ii. Impressionism
  - iii. Four key impressionists – Sisley, Renoir, Bazille and Monet
  - iv. Monet Gardens at Giverny
  - v. Capturing natural light and shadows
  - vi. Painting nature according to how it makes you feel
- d. Art Medium
  - i. Heavy art paper or construction paper
  - ii. Sponge paint brushes
  - iii. Tempera paints
  - iv. Water Soluble Markers
  - v. Spray bottle
  - vi. Coffee Filters
  - vii. Glue Stick
  - viii. Scissors
  - ix. Colored construction paper

- x. Artist tape
- xi. Water

## 2. Fun Facts

- a. Claude Monet is seen as the father of Impressionism, a style of painting which began in France in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- b. Monet painted his subjects many times at times of the day to capture the differences in light and shadows .
- c. Monet painted often with his friend August Renoir, and they painted the exact scene many times.
- d. Some of Monet’s early subjects were haystacks.
- e. Monet was among the first modern painters to paint on multiple canvasses with the idea they would be combined
- f. 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 from previous watercolors using the sponge brushes? Did you feel more able to create like Monet using the sponge painting process?
  - ii. Consider how an artist can “mask” an area of a painting to make a design that is able to be worked on later. Compare the art of Monet with later abstract artists such as Mondrian or Kandinsky – do you see how they might have used the same idea with much different results?
  - iii. Do you see how a painter or artist might combine media such as the tempera paints and the watercolor markers to make art

the is three dimensional? Did you adding the Coffee Filter flowers to your art give you other ideas?

- d. Goals and Objectives
    - i. Students will understand the different process of painting with tempera and sponge brushes and the textures they can create.
    - ii. Students will learn about collage and mixed media as they create artistic elements with water soluble markers, coffee filters and spray bottle and water.
    - iii. 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 inspiration?
4. To meet standards, students should be encouraged to watch the following videos.
- a. Claude Monet: [https://youtu.be/pP1uXYT8n\\_M](https://youtu.be/pP1uXYT8n_M)
  - b. Claude Monet: <https://youtu.be/YUmlaaUXsbg>
  - c. What is Impressionism?  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nesTk\\_6j-0c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nesTk_6j-0c)

#### COMPLIANCE WITH EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS (PER GRADE)

1<sup>st</sup> 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<sup>nd</sup> 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<sup>rd</sup> 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, VACr1.2.3a, VA:Cr2.1.3a,

VA:Cr3.1.3a, VA:Pr6.1.3a, VA:Re7.1.3a, VA:Re8.1.3a, VARE9.1.3a,  
VA:Cn11.1.3a

4<sup>th</sup> 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<sup>th</sup> 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