

By Barb Rosenstock

Illustrated by Mary GrandPré

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Grades: 2 – 5

Spend one magical morning painting with Claude Monet. Monet waited for the light. He often painted the mists and moods of the Seine, the river near where he lived most of his life. While on the river, Monet's brush moved back and forth, chasing sunlight – arduously working, minute by minute, to create a seemingly effortless series of images.

Language Arts

As you read, notice these words including color names.

anchor	cadmium yellow	heft	series
awning	claspers	hue	steeped tea
bow	cobalt violet	lead white	studio
blazing	dollop	palette	sturdy
broad	emerald	punt	ultramarine blue

More about the Author

Barb Rosenstock likes true stories about real people. She is the author of nonfiction and historical fiction children's books that combine deep research and playful language, bringing history to life. Her book, *The Noisy Paint Box*, illustrated by Mary GrandPré, received a Caldecott Honor in 2015. Other awards include an Orbis Pictus Honor, a Sydney Taylor Honor and the California Library Association Beatty Award as well as numerous national and state recognitions. Barb loves sharing stories and inspiring students in schools and libraries across the country. She lives with her family near Chicago.

More about the Illustrator

Mary GrandPré began her career as an illustrator. The path that guided her to that point started with her education at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Her passion for light and color, drawing and design, came together in evocative paintings using various mediums. Much of her focus was creating paintings for numerous picture books and book covers. While she has illustrated over 20 picture books, she is perhaps best known for her illustrations on the Harry Potter books.



Language Arts Phrases are a small group of words that form a clause. Look back through the book and find the following phrases, pick one and explain what the author means by choosing this group of words.

1. 'past a palette he's rooted in earth: poppies, nasturtiums, hollyhocks'
2. 'patient the way those who work with plants, children, and artists learn to wait'
3. 'pushing back the way he pushed against school, the family business, a stable life indoors'
4. 'puts them in order dark to light'
5. 'a loaf of bread was a treasure'
6. 'see as Monet sees'
7. 'chasing sunlight'
8. 'swooping and spreading shadows'
9. 'where land meets sky'
10. 'catch this river'



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.2.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 2 topic or subject area*.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 3 topic or subject area*.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.1 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

Language Arts

Adjectives tell us more about a noun. Many times, adjectives come before a noun. Find the adjectives for these nouns in the story *Mornings with Monet*. (answer keys have words in order)

pink beard business punt leaves green waves sun line lilies

house, bushy, family, flat-bottomed, wet, bright, ocean, hot, broken, water

Antonyms are words that have contrasting or opposite meanings. Match the antonym for these words found in *Mornings with Monet*.

sturdy, battered, hushed, light, droop

weak, new, loud, dark, rise

Synonyms are words that have the same or nearly the same meaning. Find a synonym for these words found in *Mornings with Monet*.

capture, stable, hue, dollop, mix

catch, durable, color, glob, stir

A prefix is placed at the beginning of a word to modify or change its meaning.

Re – means again, un – means not, and mid- means middle. With this in mind define the following words found in *Mornings with Monet*.

unties midstream unfinished rewraps unwraps



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.2.3.d Decode words with common prefixes and suffixes.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.a Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes.

Math and Monet

During the book, Monet painted on fourteen different canvases depending how long the conditions lasted for each one. Calculate the following story problems.



1. Monet paints 3 paintings for 10 minutes, 4 paintings for 15 minutes, and 5 paintings for 12 minutes, how many minutes did it take him to paint all together? How many hours and minutes did it take? (Answer: 150 minutes; 2 hours and 30 minutes)
2. Monet had 14 paintings. If each painting was 3 inches thick and we stacked them all up on top of each other how tall would that be in feet and inches? (Answer: 3 feet, 6 inches)
3. If Monet's paintings were square 10 inches x 10 inches, what would the square inches be? (Answer: 100 sq. in.)
4. If Monet painted 5 paintings the first hour, 7 the second hour and 6 the third hour, how many more paintings did he paint the second hour that the first hour? (Answer: 2)
5. Claude Monet was born in 1840 and died in 1926. How many years did he live? (Answer: 86)

CCSS.Math.Content.2.OA.A.1 Use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems involving situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing, with unknowns in all positions, e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem.

CCSS.Math.Content.3.OA.D.8 Solve two-step word problems using the four operations. Represent these problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity. Assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies including rounding.

CCSS.Math.Content.3.MD.A.1 Tell and write time to the nearest minute and measure time intervals in minutes. Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of time intervals in minutes,

CCSS.Math.Content.3.MD.C.5 Recognize area as an attribute of plane figures and understand concepts of area measurement.

Geography

Monet traveled throughout Europe to paint. <http://www.monetpainting.net/places.php> Have students research to find out more about one country, its traditions and customs.



United Kingdom (England)



Netherlands(Holland)



On your classroom map, point out these countries.



Rouen, France
All pictures public domain



Argenteuil, France



Italy



Paris, France

On a map of France, how many cities can you find in which Monet painted?

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.8 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which point(s).

Art and Science – Shadows

Cast Shadows

Monet's paintings show numerous examples of his use of shadow. His light source, typically, was the sun.

The size and sharpness of a cast shadow depends on:

- Size of the light source
- Distance from light to object
- Distance from light to surface

Use a table lamp or reading lamp and put an object on a table.

Examine the difference the shadow makes when you move it close to the wall versus when you move it closer to the lamp.

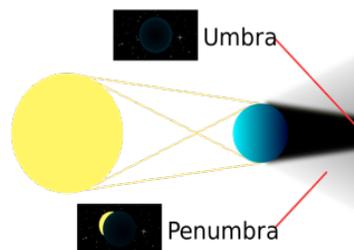
Using paper and pencil draw your object and its shadow.

Next use another lamp and another object to make shadows.

The object directly in front of a source makes an umbra shadow, the ones on the sides are called penumbra and are fuzzier.



Shadows on the Sea – Pourville Wikimedia Commons



Wikimedia Commons



Go outside on a sunny day and find the natural shadows. The farther away from the light source the bigger the shadow. Use paper and pencil to draw the natural setting.



Have students create an art piece with paper and pencil using a shadow like this hand holding a rose over sheetmusic. Let students choose their objects and background paper.



If possible, have students use distinctive shapes like this elephant.

All photos not otherwise identified are from pixabay.com

See how the trees seen from above cast a shadow as they line up? Have students line up their own examples of objects. Looking down at their line-up, like a bird's eye view, use pencil and paper to draw the shadows. Have students exchange papers and guess what the other drew.



Art and Science – Reflections

Materials:

- Watercolor paints
- water in container
- brushes (medium)
- paper (at least 4 x 5)
- paper towel (for clean-up)

Procedure

Have students fold a piece of paper in half. Paint a picture of their choice on the top half of paper. While the paint is still wet, fold the paper in half again and pull it apart. The result will be a reflection of the top half. The process can be done a step at a time. 1. Paint water on the fold then fold the paper. 2. Paint a tree trunk next and fold. 3. Then paint the leaves of the tree and fold. In another example we have a boat with green clouds. Be sure to encourage creativity and fun when creating your reflection art pieces.



Boats at Argenteuil is an example of reflection in Monet's paintings.

<https://www.wikiart.org/en/claude-monet>

If an object does not emit its own light (which accounts for most objects in the world), it must **reflect** light in order to be seen. The walls in the room do not emit their own light; they reflect the light from the ceiling. Reflection involves two rays - an incoming or incident ray and an outgoing or reflected ray. Monet painted many series that involved light, shadows, and reflection.



*Jean-Pierre Hoschedé and Michel Monet
on the Banks of the Epte*
Photo: © National Gallery of Canada

Have students use a color scheme of cool colors (blue, green, purple) or warm colors (red, orange, yellow) to make an art reflection of their name. Depending on the grade level this can be done in print, cursive, simple or elaborate lettering. Have students write their name and its reflection and create a color scheme for their reflection art.

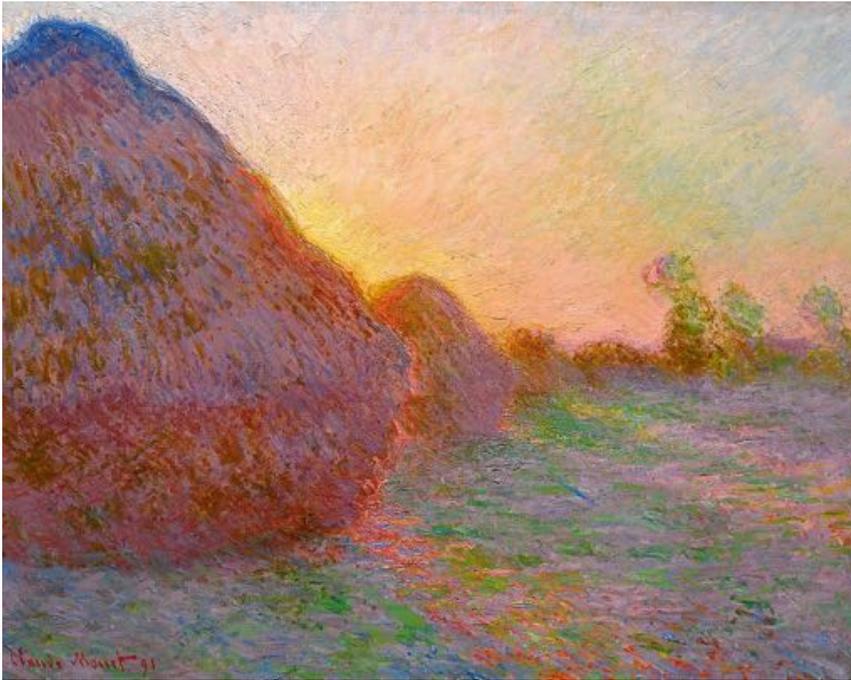


Example on the left is warm color scheme and the one on the right is cool color scheme.



Art – Impressionism

Impressionism is a 19th-century art movement characterized by relatively small brush strokes emphasizing the changing quality of light and movement with the subject matter of ordinary life. Impressionism originated with a group of Paris-based artists whose independent exhibitions brought them to prominence during the 1870s and 1880s. Monet was one of the main leaders of the Impressionist movement. Monet's Impressionist process worked through laying color beside color rather than mixing colors.



Claude Monet, *Meules*, Wikimedia Commons

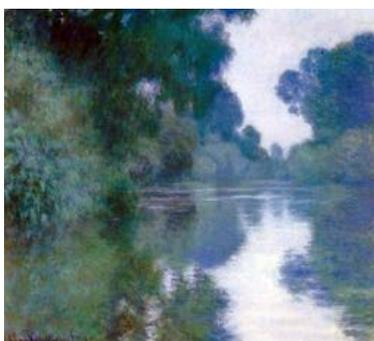
Discuss primary colors: red, blue, and yellow. What are the secondary colors? Orange, purple, and green. Complimentary colors are drawing from the opposite colors from the color wheel: red-green; blue-orange; yellow-violet.



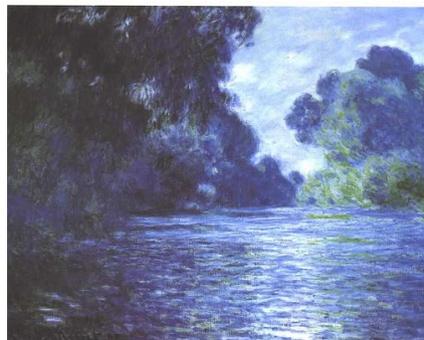
By Adalvis - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19467381>

Have students draw a landscape picture. Have them pick a pair complimentary colors to use in their painting and lay the colors of paint down like the Impressionists did, side by side.

Another choice is to have students do a series of pictures like Monet did in the example below with the Seine series. Make a painting for several days in a row at different times of the day.



Branch of the Seine near Giverny



Arm of the Seine at Giverny



The Seine at Giverny, Morning Mists, 1897

Photos Public Domain