

# Mary Cassatt

1844 – 1926

82



(cuh-Saht) American

Impressionists tended to prefer painting outdoors over studio work and varied widely in subject matter and techniques. Their styles generally involved vibrant colors in separate strokes which your eye merges in an “impressionistic” manner.

Composition is how an artist arranges things in a painting. Line of composition is how the artist guides your attention by placing and accenting their subjects.

**Mary Stevenson Cassatt** was an American painter and printmaker. She lived much of her adult life in France, where she befriended Edgar Degas and exhibited among the Impressionists. She preferred to be called “Independent,” not “Impressionist.” Mary was the only American to display her work with these Impressionist artists and one of the very few women in the group. Mary often created images of the social and private lives of women, with particular emphasis on the bonds between mothers and children. To help her child models to sit still, Mark Twain’s books were read to them.



*The Mandolin Player, 1872 (28), Mary’s first recognized work. A Kiss for Baby Anne, 1897 (53). Child in Straw Hat, 1886 (42). Mother Berthe Holding Her Baby, 1900 (56). Mother and Child, 1880 (36). Breakfast in Bed, 1897 (53). Self Portrait, 1878 (34). Children on the Beach, 1884 (40). Young Mother Sewing, 1900 (56). Auguste Reading to her Daughter, 1910 (66). The Boating Party, 1894 (50).*



## What do you remember?.... What can you find?...

1. Mary Cassatt was born in \_\_\_\_\_ however, most of her studies occurred in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(country) (city, country)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was an Impressionist artist who had a profound effect on Mary and who became her very good friend and mentor.
3. Subjects Mary tended to paint were \_\_\_\_\_.

## Historical Timeline

### What

### Who

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1844 – Morse’s <b>telegraph</b> used for first time   | 1807–1870 – Robert E. <b>Lee</b>                         |
| 1849, <b>50</b> – California Gold Rush, statehood   | 1809 – 1865 – Abraham <b>Lincoln</b>                     |
| 1851, <b>52</b> – <b>Sewing machine, Elevator</b> (Elisha Otis)   |  |
| 1851, <b>52</b> – Herman Melville <i>Moby Dick</i> , H. B. Stowe <i>Uncle Tom’s Cabin</i>                               |  |
| 1857 – <b>Germ theory</b> of disease  | 1811 – 1896 – Harriet Beecher <b>Stowe</b> (Uncle Tom’s) |
| 1859 - <b>61</b> – <b>Steamroller</b> , Charles Dickens <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> , Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i> |  |
| 1861 - <b>65</b> – <b>U.S. Civil War</b>  | 1812 – 1870 – Charles <b>Dickens</b>                     |
| 1863 – Gettysburg Address, W. Virginia statehood  |  |
| 1864 – <b>Pasteurization</b> , “In God We Trust” appears on coins, Tolstoy <i>War and Peace</i>                         |  |
| 1864, <b>67</b> – Nevada, Nebraska statehood  | 1820 – 1913 – Harriet <b>Tubman</b>                      |
| 1865 – 13 <sup>th</sup> Amendment (abolished slavery), Assassination of Abe Lincoln                                     |  |
| 1865 – L. Carroll <i>Alice in Wonderland</i>  | 1822 – 1885 – Ulysses <b>Grant</b>                       |
| 1865 - <b>77</b> – <b>reconstruction of U.S.</b>  | 1830 – 1886 – Emily <b>Dickenson</b>                     |
| 1867 – Nobel invents <b>dynamite</b> , U.S. buys Alaska from Russia, Strauss <i>Blue Danube Waltz</i>                   |  |
| 1868 – L. M. Alcott <i>Little Women</i>   | 1832 – 1888 – Louisa May <b>Alcott</b>                   |
| 1869 – <b>Suez Canal</b> opens, <b>Union Pacific Railroad</b> completed   |  |
| 1875 – Mark Twain <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> , Alexander G. <b>Bell</b> invents <b>telephone</b> .             |  |
| 1880 – <b>Edison’s</b> electric <b>light</b>  | 1832 – 1898 – Lewis <b>Carroll</b> (Alice in Wonderland) |
| 1882 – <b>R.L. Stevenson</b> <i>Treasure Island</i>   | 1833 – 1897 – Johannes <b>Brahms</b>                     |
| 1883 – <b>Brooklyn Bridge</b> open  | 1833 – 1896 – Alfred <b>Nobel</b>                        |
| 1884 – Mark Twain <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>   | 1835 – 1910 – Samuel L. <b>Clemens (Mark Twain)</b>      |
| 1884 - <b>85</b> – <b>Chinese – French War</b>  | 1853 – 1890 – Vincent <b>van Gogh</b>                    |
| 1886 – <b>Statue of Liberty</b> dedicated   | 1863 – 1947 – Henry <b>Ford</b>                          |
| 1889 – <b>Eiffel Tower</b> opens  | 1879 – 1955 – Albert <b>Einstein</b>                     |
| 1891 – <b>Zipper</b> invented   | 1882 – 1945 – F.D. <b>Roosevelt</b>                      |
| 1893 – <b>Ford’s</b> first <b>automobile</b> , <b>Sprague</b> invents <b>Electric Trolley</b>                           |  |
| 1895 – <b>Tchaikovsky</b> <i>Swan Lake</i>  | 1883 – 1945 – Benito <b>Mussolini</b>                    |