

**Meet The Artist Guidance**  
**Cunningham Creek Elementary**

**When showing the print:**

Carry it around the room so the children can see it up close. Find a place to display the print (chalkboard ledge). For a little drama, drape a large dark piece of cloth over the painting while discussing the artist's background. When it is finally removed with a flourish, the children sense a special excitement. Permit the class to enjoy looking at the picture before continuing. Ask the students to guess what they think is the title of the painting. They really enjoy this at any age and often come up with the exact title.

**Ask the students the following questions:**

What medium did the artist use - oil, watercolor, pencil, etc.? What is the focal point of the painting? (Where did the artist want the viewer to look?) Do they like the painting? Why? or Why not? How do the colors used affect the painting?

**For students in grades 3, 4, and 5, ask the following questions:**

Where is the original displayed? What medium and support were used? (Oil on canvas, tempera on panel.) When was it painted? How long did it take to paint it? Was it finished? What was happening in the world or in the artist's life while it was being painted? What type of painting is it? Landscape, still life, or portrait? Who were the models? What do the costumes tell us? Is there a theme taken from history, mythology or religion?

**Additional Questions**

Questions have been provided for you to go with each set of pictures. However, if you would like to add more questions, or substitute other questions, the following list may be of help:

- What is the subject of the painting? Why did the artist paint it?
- What did he/she want to say? (To record an event or history; to tell a story; or to suggest a feeling?)
- What do you see first? Where does your eye move next? Does color have anything to do with this? Does line?

- Would you like to be inside the painting? Does the painting make you feel you are there or just watching? How does the artist accomplish this?
- Who are the people? Would you like to talk to them? What would you ask them? Does the picture tell a story? If so, what does it tell us?
- How does the painting make you feel? Why?
- Does the artist use perspective? Can you point to where he used it?
- Is there movement or motion in the painting? How do you think the people would move?
- What sound does this painting make?
- What clothes are the people wearing? How are they similar or different from yours?
- Do you think the artist is kidding us? Why?
- Do you see light? Do you see shadows? What colors are used for light and shadows?
- Do you like the painting? If not, how would you change it?
- What would happen if we turned the picture upside down? Would it look better or worse?
- What is your favorite color? Can you find it? It may be hiding or not mixed yet. Does this picture make you feel warm or cool? What colors make it feel warm? Cool? You can do the same for happy and sad colors, exciting and calm colors. Ask which is their favorite painting and why; take a vote.
- Does the painting remind you of a place you have visited?
- If there is a container (box, building, etc.) in the painting, ask what they think is inside.
- Have the children name everything in the painting.
- Look for repeated shapes and lines. Point to these repeated shapes in the pictures.