



BOULEVARD

GRADES K-5

A Few Key Points

- Weather and climate can be conveyed in a painting
- Impressionists used broken brushwork and bright colors to indicate what and how they saw
- Impressionists did not use black in their paintings
- Many modern painters at the end of the 19th century wanted to paint what they saw in real life
- These painters liked to paint out of doors, directly on the spot, sometimes very quickly

Sparking Discussion

- What do students see?
- What are the subjects of the paintings?
- How do these painters make us feel specific weather or temperature?
- Does an artist have to fill everything in for us to understand a scene?
- How long do you think it took to make one of these paintings?
- How would you show your own time period?
- How do you show life happening in a fast-paced world?

Activities

1. Experiencing Autumn

Have the class make a list of everything that reminds them of autumn. Have each student draw their own picture of autumn. Then, have them go outside and sketch from nature (in the fall months).

2. The Great Collector

Ambroise Vollard was a great collector and dealer of art. Art was his passion in life. What makes a collection? Ask students what they collect or trade with friends (coins, bottle caps, stuffed animals, shells, Pokémon cards, or something else). Or, what

would they like to collect if they could? Where do they keep their collection now (a box? a drawer?). Have each student design a museum space or case to display their collection (imagined or real) and share it with the class.

3. Mapping the Weather

Impressionists like Monet worked hard to capture the effects of weather in paintings like *Autumn Effect at Argenteuil*. Have students break into 4 groups. Assign each group to chart the current temperature and weather in one of the following: Paris, France, Los Angeles, California, Havana, Cuba, and Auckland, New Zealand. Have the class come together to compare and to discuss the geographical differences. This data can be taken on a single day or recorded on a regular basis throughout the fall months.

4. Working En Plein Air (Out of Doors) Like an Impressionist

Have the class sketch out of doors, paying particular attention to setting and effects of light and weather. This can be done in the schoolyard or in a nearby park. If there is time, have them come back indoors and use this drawing as a sketch to create a second, more finished work. Have the group compare and discuss this exercise.