



# The Art Institute of Chicago

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## Art Appreciation Lesson based on the Fourth Grade Field Trip

Today in Art Appreciation we discussed our upcoming field trip to **The Art Institute of Chicago**. We learned a few facts about the Art Institute itself, and then reviewed some of the specific pieces of art we will see in the museum.

- The Art Institute is the oldest and largest art museum and school in the midwest.
- It is the second largest art museum in the U.S. behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.
- It was established in 1879 as the **Chicago Academy of Fine Arts**.
- It took its current name of the **Art Institute of Chicago** in 1882.
- The Art Institute moved into its current building in 1893, which was designed as part of the **World's Columbian Exposition**.
- The museum has more than 300,000 works of art representing 5000 years of art from cultures all over the world.
- It is especially recognized for its collection of **19th and 20th century French paintings** as well as its collection of American paintings.

Artwork and artists we discussed in today's presentation were...

***A Sunday Afternoon on La Grande Jatte*** by Georges Seurat

***Ancestors of Tehamana*** by Paul Gauguin

***The Star*** by Edgar Degas

***Water Lilies*** by Claude Monet

***Self Portrait*** by Vincent VanGogh

***America Windows***  
by Marc Chagall



We then took a more detailed look at Marc Chagall's "***America Windows***" which was created by the artist for the **Art Institute of Chicago** in 1977 to celebrate the U.S. Bicentennial. This stained glass artwork celebrates the country as a place of cultural and religious freedom, detailing the arts of music, painting, literature, theater and dance. As a class project, we then created "***Ms. Duffy's Window***" a celebration of the many unique talents and individuals of their 4th grade classroom...