

"The Childs Bath" by Mary Cassatt

(1844 to 1926)

Mary Cassatt was born in Pennsylvania on May 22 nd 1844. That was about 150 years ago. Her family moved to Paris, France when she was 7 years old, she loved to draw as a young girl and begged her dad to let her go to Art school.

She was an American artist and a woman; this was very unique in the time that Mary lived in long ago. Most artists were men. The women from this time usually were married and had families. Mary did not get married and she did not have children, although her favorite thing to paint **was** women and children. **(if you were a painter, what would be your favorite thing to paint?)**

Mary's paintings were painted in the "Impressionist" style, meaning she painted people doing everyday things showing light and pastel colors. "Impressionists" were the group of painters that Mary painted with. Mary was the only American to display her paintings with other Impressionist painters in Paris. **(name everyday things or scenes that painters paint).**

People liked Mary's paintings so much that they bought them from her and that is how Mary earned her living. She sold her paintings for money. After she died her paintings were even more valuable.

"The Childs Bath" is Mary's most famous painting. It was painted in 1893 when Mary was 49 years old. **(Show painting).**

What do you see? What colors do you see? What is going on in the picture? Is this the way that you take a bath? How do **you** take a bath? Who helps you?

Who is in the painting? What is their relationship to each other? What are they doing? What room in the house are the in?

Do you see any patterns in the picture? (Patterns are repeating elements). **Show the painting without the patterns in it. Talk about how different it looks from the one that Mary painted.**

Where in the painting does your eye go to first? What stands out in the picture? What do you notice first? Second? Third?

Hand out the drawing for the children to color. Ask if there are any questions.