

# Van Gogh & Kids

**Name:** .....

**School:** ..... **Class:**.....

**Museum:** .....



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## Welcome to 'Van Gogh & Kids'

This lesson package was designed to make working with the 'Van Gogh & Kids' CD-ROM even more fun and rewarding. You can print the pages and copy the worksheets. The first lesson includes brief instructions on how to use the CD-ROM.

Are you already familiar with 'Rembrandt & Kids', another CD-ROM from the Famous Artists series? A lesson package has been designed for this CD-ROM as well.

[www.vangogh-kids.com](http://www.vangogh-kids.com)  
[www.rembrandt-kids.com](http://www.rembrandt-kids.com)

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We hope you enjoy 'Van Gogh & Kids'!



## **How to use the CD-ROM**

Lesson suggestion 1

Work sheet:

1 Van Gogh & Kids

During this lesson pupils will be given an introduction to the museum:  
Van Gogh & Kids.

Duration child:                    about 5 minutes

Duration teacher:                    0 minutes

Materials required: CD-ROM 'Van Gogh & Kids' and work sheet



## Van Gogh & Kids

This lesson is an introduction to the CD-ROM 'Van Gogh & Kids'. Your teacher will start the CD-ROM or explain how you can start it.

You can choose:

- New game
- Old game
- Guided tour

If this is the first time you have played the game, click 'New game'. Now watch the intro on the CD-ROM.

You are now in the Central Hall. Have you already met the museum director? He has explained that you can play all sorts of games with Van Gogh's paintings. But there is a lot more to discover in the Central Hall (click on the lamps or the mermaid above the door). We're going to stay in this Central Hall for a while.

Go to the info counter first and click on it. You can now read about how this CD-ROM works. It's important to read it otherwise you won't understand how to play the game!

After doing that go back to the Central Hall. Click on the door over on the right-hand side. You can now wander through the museum and take a close look at the paintings hanging there. You can also try and play the games by clicking on the red piece of the jigsaw puzzle. Game-playing is linked to speed so do your utmost to solve all the puzzles as quickly as possible. If you have to stop before solving all the games, don't forget to save your game in the Central Hall near the cloakroom.

**Click on the green 'eyehole' to get a close look at the paintings.**



## Lesson suggestions and copy sheets

### Lesson suggestion

#### 1. 1 Draw your own 'Vincent van Gogh'

Van Gogh painted lots and lots of paintings. His most famous paintings are on the CD-ROM 'Van Gogh & Kids'. Name several titles of his paintings without the children getting to see the actual paintings in question. The children can pick out a title that appeals to them. Keeping the title in the back of their mind, the children will draw or paint what they imagine fits/matches the title. When all the drawings/paintings are finished, the teacher can stick one of the pictures next to the original by Van Gogh. It can be a fun way to organize a Van Gogh exhibition in the classroom. (To expand on this theme see lesson suggestion 3.)

#### **Titles:**

The Potato Eaters  
Portrait of a Woman  
Congregation Leaving the Reformed Church  
Agostina Segatori Sitting in Cafe du Tambourin  
A Pair of Old Shoes  
The Courtesan  
The Bridge in the Rain  
Self-Portrait (2x)  
Fishing Boats  
The Harvest  
The Langlois Bridge  
The Cafe Terrace by Night  
The Night Cafe  
The Yellow House  
The Bedroom  
Sunflowers  
Portrait of the Postman Joseph Roulin  
Gauguin's Chair  
Vincent's Chair  
Starry Night  
Irises  
Wheat Field with Ploughman  
Wheat Field with Crows  
Portrait of Doctor Gachet



Lesson suggestion

### **1.2 Be a real Museum Guard!**

Get the children in the classroom to search for a Van Gogh painting using the CD-ROM. (Perhaps they can look for the painting they previously picked out for lesson suggestion 1.) By activating the Image Viewer next to the painting ('eyehole' button), the child can discover the painting and learn many things about the work. They can give a short one-minute talk to demonstrate their presentation skills and, most of all, their enthusiasm. After all, it is the speaker (as the Museum Guard) who can fire the others' enthusiasm about art in general and Van Gogh's work in particular!

Another fun idea is to make an imitation museum in the school, and fill it with the pupils' paintings next to 'real' Van Gogh paintings. The Museum Guards (wearing a fake moustache) have to watch over the paintings and take turns to give a short talk about a painting. Visitors can get their free entrance tickets checked at the entrance. A catalogue containing essays on the paintings, written by the children, would provide a finishing touch to the museum (see lesson suggestion 6).



Lesson suggestion

## **2. Painting copy sheets:**

- **Your favorite painting**
- **The painting you would never hang above your bed!**

The children carry out a couple of general assignments for the painting they like the most and the one they dislike the most.

Time spent by pupil:     about 15 minutes

Time spent by teacher:         0 minutes

Materials required: CD-ROM, copy sheets and pen





## 2.1 Your favorite painting

Name: .....

Make a tour round the museum, and look for the painting that you like best. Maybe the story appeals to you most. Or you might like the colors or the way light is used in the picture.

1) What is the name of the painting you like best?

.....

2) In which year was it painted?

.....

3) Where is the painting hanging now?

.....

4) What does the painting show?

.....

.....

.....

.....

5) What colors can you see in the painting?

.....

.....

6) Why do you like this painting best?

.....

.....

## 2.2 The painting you would never hang above your bed!

Name: .....

Make a tour round the museum And look for the painting you would never hang above your bed! It might be because it tells a story that does not appeal to you. On the other hand, maybe you just don't like how it was painted

1) What is the name of the painting you would never hang in your bedroom?

.....

2) In which year was it painted?

.....

3) Where is the painting hanging now?

.....

4) What does the painting show?

.....

.....

.....

5) What colors can you see in the painting?

.....

.....

6) Why wouldn't you hang this painting above your bed?

.....

.....



Lesson suggestion

Worksheets:

### **3. Search assignments for each painting**

In this lesson the children have to solve questions on four of Van Gogh's paintings.

If the children finish early, they can spend the rest of the lesson playing the games.

Time spent by pupil:                      about 30 minutes

Time spent by teacher:                      0 minutes

Materials required: CD-ROM, worksheet, pen, and sheet of paper to write down the answers.

### 3.1 Lesson 1

In this lesson you will carry out search assignments relating to four paintings. You can solve questions by looking for the painting in the museum or else by using the encyclopedia. Look up the painting first; then answer the question by reading the text next to the thumbtacks and/or the info next to the painting. Write your answers on a sheet of paper.

#### A) *The Potato Eaters*

- 1) How many people are depicted in this painting?
- 2) Do you know where the teapot is?
- 3) Who do you think are the oldest and youngest at the table?
- 4) The man on the left is sitting on a chair. What is the chair made of?

#### B) *The Bridge in the Rain*

- 1) In which part of the world is this scene set?
- 2) What colors stand out?
- 3) Van Gogh made paintings based on the woodcuts of a Japanese artist. What is the name of this artist?
- 4) What gave Van Gogh the idea to put writing on the borders?

#### C) *The Yellow House*

- 1) You can see many houses/buildings in this painting. Which is the house where Van Gogh lived?
- 2) What is the name of the town where the house is?
- 3) What country is this house in?
- 4) Can you see the bridge in the distance? What can you see on it?

#### D) *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear*

- 1) What can you see on the left in the background?
- 2) Why is Vincent wearing a bandage?
- 3) With whom did Vincent quarrel?
- 4) You can see a print hanging behind Vincent. Which country is it from?

### 3. Answers: lesson 1

#### A) *A) The Potato Eaters*

- 1) 5
- 2) On the right, in the foreground
- 3) oldest: the figure in the middle; youngest: the girl with her back to us
- 4) wood and straw

#### B) *The Bridge in the Rain*

- 1) In Asia
- 2) Blue, green and yellow
- 3) Hiroshige
- 4) He thought of it himself

#### C) *The Yellow House*

- 1) The house with the green shutters, exactly on the corner of the street
- 2) Arles
- 3) France
- 4) A steam engine

#### D) *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear*

- 1) A painter's easel
- 2) He had cut off part of his ear lobe
- 3) Paul Gauguin (painter)
- 4) Japan

## 3.2 Lesson 2

In this lesson you will carry out search assignments relating to four paintings. You can solve questions by looking for the painting in the museum or else by using the encyclopedia. Look up the painting first; then answer the question by reading the text next to the thumbtacks and/or the info next to the painting. Write your answers on a sheet of paper.

### A) *The Night Cafe*

- 1) What did Vincent write underneath his signature?
- 2) In which country can you see the original of this work?
- 3) How many people are depicted in this painting?
- 4) What is the name of the town where this cafe was?

### B) *Portrait of Joseph Roulin*

- 1) What was this man's job?
- 2) Vincent painted his friend often. Do you know how often?
- 3) Where exactly did Joseph live in Arles?
- 4) In which year did Van Gogh make this painting?

### C) *Fishing Boats*

- 1) Where did Van Gogh put his signature?
- 2) How many boats are moored on the beach?
- 3) Which sea is depicted here?
- 4) Did Van Gogh make this painting in his studio or on the beach?

### D) *Self-Portrait*

- 1) When did Van Gogh paint this work?
- 2) When did Van Gogh die?
- 3) Is it his left or his right ear that is bandaged?
- 4) Why is he wearing a bandage?

### 3. Answers: lesson 2

#### A) *The Night Cafe*

- 1) the title of the painting
- 2) the United States
- 3) 6
- 4) Arles

#### B) *Portrait of Joseph Roulin*

- 1) Postman
- 2) 6 times
- 3) between the two bridges near the yellow house in Arles
- 4) 1889

#### C) *Fishing Boats*

- 1) on the wooden mooring pile (in the foreground)
- 2) 4
- 3) The Mediterranean Sea
- 4) in his studio

#### D) *Self-Portrait*

- 1) 1889
- 2) 1890
- 3) his left ear
- 4) He wounded himself by cutting off part of his ear lobe after quarreling with the painter Paul Gauguin.

Lesson suggestion

#### **4. What happened then ...**

This lesson stimulates the children's imagination by getting them to write a story about one of the paintings on the CD-ROM. The assignments can vary from 'What happened after the potato eaters finished their supper?' to 'What were they talking about over supper?' Below you will find a few suggestions for assignments the children can write about.

A fun idea is to collect the stories afterwards and edit them to fit the catalogue for their own Van Gogh museum (see lesson suggestion 3).

Time spent by pupil: about 20 minutes

Time spent by teacher per assignment: about 5 minutes

Materials required: CD-ROM, pencil and sheets of paper

#### Assignments the children can write about:

##### **The Potato Eaters**

- What happened after the potato eaters finished their supper?
- What did they talk about over their meal?
- What kind of strange things happened on that day back then?

##### **Portrait of a Woman**

- This lady is a bit of a village celebrity. Tell us what you know about her!

##### **Congregation leaving the Reformed Church**

- There certainly is lots to talk about after church...

##### **Agostina Segatori Sitting in the Cafe du Tambourin**

- Agostina is waiting for someone. She is nervous. Do you know why?

##### **A Pair of Old Shoes**

- Whose shoes were they? You know her/him, don't you?

##### **The Courtesan**

- As one frog said to the other...



### **The Bridge in the Rain**

- The village is celebrating and everybody is there. But then it starts raining. People run home as fast as they can. What will they tell about the celebrations when they get home?

### **Self-Portrait**

- 'If I become rich and famous one day, what will my life be like?'

### **Self-Portrait (with bandaged ear)**

- What was the quarrel with his friend Gauguin about?  
- What do you think Vincent did with the piece of his ear lobe that he cut off?  
- What on earth will people think of him with such a large bandage?

### **Fishing Boats**

- Who are the owners of these boats? And what are they doing now?

### **The Harvest**

- Can you see the haystack? There's lots going on behind it!

### **The Langlois Bridge**

- The women were very busy when they heard the sound of a horse's hooves...

### **The Cafe Terrace by Night**

- A coach emerges from afar. Who is inside it? And where are they headed?

### **The Night Cafe**

- Thank goodness the cafe is quiet again! Oh boy, it sure was a night!

### **The Yellow House**

- There is a restaurant way over on the left. That's where Vincent often had a coffee. Who did he bump into there? What would they have talked about?  
- The street is quiet, but is it quiet inside the Yellow House?

### **The Bedroom**

- Good morning! Another day dawns! What does it have in store for us?

### **Sunflowers**

- Where do these sunflowers come from? Who has picked them and is it really allowed?

**Portrait of the Postman Joseph Roulin**

- I just had to laugh at him today; wait till you hear what happened!

**Gauguin's Chair**

- He went to drink a cup of coffee with his friend Vincent and then a gust of wind suddenly blew open the door...

**Vincent's Chair**

- Who left that box of onions there?

**Starry Night**

- It is dark. Most children are asleep in bed except for behind that window where the light still shines...

**Iris**

- These irises are for... because...

**Wheat Field with Ploughman**

- Someone is hiding behind the long wall. Do you know who?

**Wheat Field with Crows**

- Right there, at the bottom of the path, is a house where no one dares to enter...

**Portrait of Doctor Gachet**

- Doctor, please help me, I'm not well...

Lesson suggestion

## 5. Spot the mistakes

This is a lesson in listening and at the same time a dictation. The teacher will dictate the text below in front of the whole class. Some details in the text just aren't right. They might refer, for example, to things that weren't around in the nineteenth century or were not true in Van Gogh's life. Each child has to spot the ten mistakes in the dictation and write them down on a sheet of paper.

Materials required: pen, paper

Time spent by pupil: 25 minutes

Time spent by teacher: 20 minutes

- 1) Vincent van Gogh wrote his brother Richard a lot of letters.
- 2) The artist lived a prosperous life in France.
- 3) He only painted still lives and portraits.
- 4) When he awoke in the morning he saw his son skating.
- 5) He disliked the noise of his telephone so much he used to turn the radio up really loud.
- 6) He traveled by intercity train from France to the Netherlands.
- 7) He thought the best profession in the world was that of king.
- 8) When already very famous, Van Gogh painted 'The Night Watch'.
- 9) Van Gogh used his own website to get in touch with a friend.
- 10) At the market he bought carrot juice, which he used to dye his hair.



Lesson suggestion

Copy sheets:

## **6. Observation questions**

In this lesson, the child is forced to take a really good look at the painting.

Time spent by pupil:           about 15 minutes

Time spent by teacher:           0 minutes

Materials required: CD-ROM, copy sheet and pen

### 6.1. Observation questions:

Name: ..... Grade: .....

<b>1) Congregation Leaving the Reformed Church</b>	
How many people in the foreground are walking to the right?	a) 1
	b) 2
	c) 3
	d) 4

<b>2) Congregation Leaving the Reformed Church</b>	
Where did Vincent put his signature?	a) He did not put his signature anywhere.
	b) on the church tower
	c) on the hat of the lady front left
	d) bottom right of the canvas

<b>3) Irises</b>	
Where did Vincent put his signature on the painting?	a) nowhere
	b) on the vase
	c) on the left-hand green leaf
	d) bottom right

<b>4) Irises</b>	
What are the three main colors in this painting?	a) yellow, blue and green
	b) yellow, red and blue
	c) blue, green and brown
	d) blue, yellow and purple

<b>5) A Pair of Shoes</b>	
What type of shoes are they?	a) gym shoes
	b) work shoes
	c) slippers
	d) ballet shoes

<b>6) A Pair of Shoes</b>	
Where did Vincent put his signature?	a) He did not put his signature on the canvas.
	b) on the tip of the left shoe
	c) on the shoelace bottom right
	d) top left

<b>7) The Bridge in the Rain</b>	
How many umbrellas are there?	a) 2
	b) 3
	c) 4
	d) 1

<b>8) The Bridge in the Rain</b>	
How many people are using their coat to shelter them from the rain?	a) 1
	b) 2
	c) 3
	d) 4

<b>9) The Courtesan</b>	
How many frogs are there?	a) none
	b) 1
	c) 2
	d) 3

<b>10) The Courtesan</b>	
How many butterflies are there?	a) none
	b) 1
	c) 2
	d) 3

## 6.2. Observation questions:

Name: ..... Grade: .....

<b>1) The Courtesan</b>	
Which of these are not in the painting?	a) water lilies
	b) bamboo stems
	c) fishing boat
	d) spider web

<b>2) The Langlois Bridge</b>	
What has just gone over the bridge?	a) a bicycle
	b) a horse and buggy
	c) an automobile
	d) a tractor

<b>3) The Langlois Bridge</b>	
What do you see further down the canal?	a) a drawbridge
	b) a windmill
	c) a church steeple
	d) a boat

<b>4) Gauguin's Chair</b>	
The chair seat is made of:	a) plastic
	b) wool
	c) wood
	d) straw



<b>5) Gauguin's Chair</b>	
How many light sources are there?	a) 2
	b) 1
	c) 3
	d) 4

<b>6) Gauguin's Chair</b>	
What do you see on the chair?	a) a candle and two books
	b) a candle and a towel
	c) an oil lamp and two facecloths
	d) an oil lamp and two books

<b>7) Starry Night</b>	
It is nighttime. Is anyone still awake?	a) yes
	b) no

<b>8) Portrait of Doctor Gachet</b>	
True or false?	a) The doctor has a large beard.
	b) The doctor has a moustache and goatee.
	c) The doctor has curly hair.
	d) The doctor has long sideburns.

<b>9) The Terrace</b>	
What is the street paved with?	a) cobblestones
	b) concrete
	c) gravel
	d) boards

<b>10) The Terrace</b>	
The people on the terrace have enough light. What is the source of that light?	a) candles on the tables
	b) the stars
	c) a big lantern hanging above their heads
	d) street lights

### 6.3. Observation questions:

Name: ..... Grade: .....

<b>1) Vincent's Chair</b>	
Where did Vincent put his signature?	a) on the chair leg
	b) on the flagstone under the chair
	c) on the door
	d) on the wooden box

<b>2) Vincent's Chair</b>	
What is the green strip on the right of the painting?	a) a window
	b) a door
	c) a curtain
	d) a wall

<b>3) The Night Cafe</b>	
The name of the cafe is written in large letters on the billiard table. True or false?	a) true
	b) false

<b>4) The Night Cafe</b>	
How many empty chairs are there?	a) 5
	b) 7
	c) 6
	d) 8

<b>5) The Night Cafe</b>	
What time is it?	a) 12:15 a.m.
	b) 12:15 p.m.
	c) 1:15 a.m.
	d) 1:15 p.m.

<b>6) The Night Cafe</b>	
What is covering the floor ?	a) boards
	b) concrete
	c) gravel
	d) shells

<b>7) The Langlois Bridge</b>	
How many trees are there?	a) 8
	b) 7
	c) 6
	d) 5

<b>8) The Langlois Bridge</b>	
What can you see reflected in the water?	a) women washing
	b) the drawbridge
	c) the clouds
	d) the trees

<b>9) The Langlois Bridge</b>	
If you were standing beside the water now, what would you definitely hear?	a) ladies singing and a steam boat
	b) birds and a horse
	c) a horse and buggy and the lapping of the water
	d) a horse and buggy and church bells

### **6.1. Answers to observation questions**

- 1) b
- 2) a
- 3) a
- 4) a
- 5) b
- 6) d
- 7) b
- 8) a
- 9) c
- 10) a

### **6.2. Answers to observation questions**

- 1) d
- 2) b
- 3) a
- 4) d
- 5) a
- 6) a
- 7) a
- 8) b
- 9) a
- 10) c

### **6.3. Answers to observation questions**

- 1) d
- 2) b
- 3) b
- 4) d
- 5) a
- 6) a
- 7) a
- 8) b
- 9) c



Lesson suggestion

Copy sheet

## **7. Animals, faces, clothing and objects**

In this lesson, the child has to look for various things like animals, faces, clothing and objects.

Time spent by pupil: 20 minutes

Time spent by teacher: 0 minutes

Materials required: CD-ROM, pen, copy sheet

**7. Animals, people, clothing and objects**

a) In which of Vincent's works do you find an **animal**?

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

b) In which of Van Gogh's works do you find **several people**?

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

c) In which of Van Gogh's works do you find only **one person**?

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

d) In which works do you find **one lady** depicted?

1) .....

2) .....



e) In which paintings do you see **objects** you also have at home?

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

f) In which works do you see **a house**?

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

g) In which paintings do you see **a book or notebook**?

1) .....

h) In which works do you see someone wearing **something on their head**?

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

Answers to **Animals, people, clothing and objects**  
(lesson suggestion 8)

a) In which of Van Gogh's works do you find an **animal**?

The Courtesan, The Harvest, The Langlois Bridge, The Cafe Terrace by Night (horse in front of buggy at the end of the street), Wheat Field with Crows

b) In which of Van Gogh's works do you find **several people**?

The Potato Eaters, Congregation Leaving the Reformed Church, The Courtesan, The Bridge in the Rain, The Harvest, The Langlois Bridge, The Cafe Terrace by Night, The Yellow House

c) In which works do you find only **one person**?

Portrait of a Woman, Agostina Segatori, Self-Portrait, Self-Portrait (with bandaged ear), Portrait of Postman Joseph Roulin, Wheat Field with Ploughman, Portrait of Doctor Gachet

d) In which works is only **one lady** depicted?

Portrait of a Woman, Agostina Segatori

e) In which works do you see **objects** you also have at home?

The Potato Eaters (including plate, fork, teapot, cups, chair, clock), A Pair of Old Shoes, Self-Portrait (2x), The Cafe Terrace by Night, The Yellow House, The Bedroom, Sunflowers, Irises, Gauguin's Chair, Vincent's Chair, Wheat Field with Ploughman

f) In which works do you see **a house**?

The Cafe Terrace by Night, The Yellow House, Starry Night, Wheat Field with Ploughman, and possibly Congregation Leaving the Reformed Church

g) In which painting do you see **a book or a notebook**?

Gauguin's Chair

h) In which works do you see someone **wearing something on their head?**

The Potato Eaters, Portrait of a Woman, Congregation Leaving the Reformed Church, Agostina Segatori, The Courtesan, The Bridge in the Rain, The Langlois Bridge, The Cafe Terrace by Night, The Night Cafe, The Yellow House, Portrait of Postman Joseph Roulin, Wheat Field with Ploughman, Portrait of Doctor Gachet