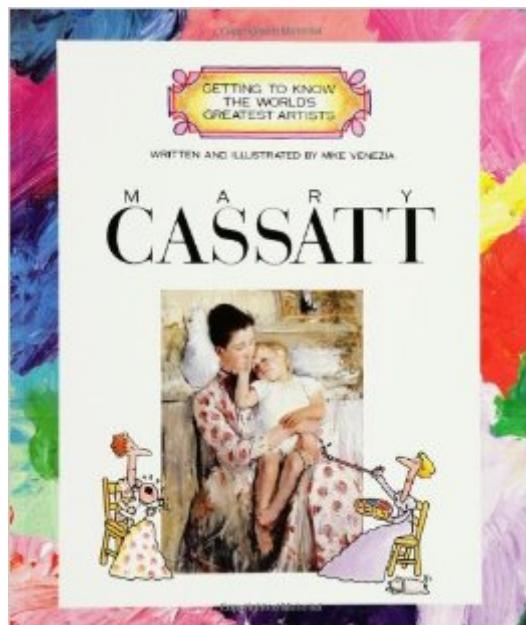


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# Mary Cassatt (Getting To Know The World's Greatest Artists)



## Synopsis

This book provides an entertaining and humorous introduction to the famous artist, Mary Cassatt. It includes excellent colour reproductions of the artist's work. '

## Book Information

Series: Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists

Paperback: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #232,014 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #121 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art

Age Range: 6 and up

Grade Level: 1 and up

## Customer Reviews

"... she seemed to understand the love between mothers and their babies better than any other artist", p. 26. The young reader will learn about Cassatt's early years in Pennsylvania, her family moving to France for two years when she was 7, her years at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and her moving to France at the age of 22 to learn more about art. Cassatt's paintings have a current day presence to them. Regardless of how far we as a society progress, most children will be lovingly cared for by their parents. She captured the mothers and fathers in a relaxed state with their children going about their every day activities. Children will readily relate to the paintings given their own very recent experiences. The young are very sensitive to feelings. The warmth expressed in the paintings will easily be absorbed by their delicate nature. They will come away from the book with a warm tummy feeling. My favorite painting in the book is Cassatt's "Little Girl in a Blue Armchair," painted in 1878. It remains contemporary. It could be any one of my nieces or even myself. When I was young, my mother used to make me dress up for family functions to which I agreed if I could bring my play clothes with me. This picture reminds me of what I must have looked

like until I could change into my play clothes. Venezia's illustrations are humorous. His narrative is delightfully entertaining. His approach brings the artist within reach of the young. His re-enactment of why Mary joined the impressionist group pokes fun at the upheaval they caused. The size of the book is perfect for smaller hands. It enables the young to have art within their grasp. Venezia gives the locations of the paintings and as result if the child lives near one of the museums or will be near one on vacation, she/he would be able to see the original. This is the 6th in Venezia's "Getting to know the World's Greatest Artist" series. He also has a similar series on composers. Venezia's back cover illustration ties back to the subject. "Working on Mary Cassatt inspired Mike to paint his own family's portraits, capturing ...". The price of the book is well worth paying. The book contains the following: Cassatt's paintings (17) and print (1), Venezia's illustrations - 7, Others' paintings - 4.

Mary Cassatt was a true master when painting mothers and their children. Mike Venezia's book captures her life and work beautifully. This series on artists is so educational, I have bought the entire series for my brother's children. I first saw them in the gift shop of the Virginia Museum and have enjoyed them ever since.

Our family LOVES this series. If you get a chance to purchase the dvds they are also hilarious and educational. WE borrow the dvds from the library but the kids fell in love with a few of the artists so we bought those books. I'd love to have the entire series but it's expensive so i'll have to buy one at a time. I homeschooled and we use these books as our curriculum base. We read through and I think of a project to go with it teaching a certain style, technique, skill, or medium. Meanwhile the kids are cracking up laughing and quote the books and movies. It is because of these books that my kids recognize the works of VanGough, Cassatt, Michelangelo and so far a couple more. We have gotten into discussions not only about art and artists but about their lives, the history of their times, the reason they painted that way, expressing emotion, mental illness, patriotism, religion, determination and other morals. But if all you do is put the book on your child's book shelf they will have a common knowledge of artists most kids are never taught about. Beyond education they will enjoy it. They will laugh until they cry. They will talk about it and make inside jokes about the funny stuff and you may just learn something yourself. I grew up learning and loving art and I didn't know half of what I've learned from these books.

You have to read this. Mike Venezia does a great job of teaching children about artists. Mary Cassatt is crucial as she is the reason we Americans love Impressionists so much. When all of Paris

was hating on them, Mary Cassatt was encouraging her rich American friends to buy the paintings of this once scorned group of artists. Way to go Mary! Way to go Mike for doing such a great job teaching about artists. We have a lot of his books and use them to educate our children before we go see museums. We read a lot of his books to prepare for our recent trip to France and Spain. My children enjoyed the museums more because they knew the artists.

These books are great. Our daughter has been having us read them to her for a couple of years (she is five now). She loves art and really enjoys knowing who artists are and she will spot famous works of art when we are in public or watching tv or movies, reading other books etc.

Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists, Mary Cassatt is another entertaining and informative edition in this fantastic collection by Mike Venezia. These books are perfect for exposing elementary and junior high aged students to a large variety of artists and styles of art.

I was worried that this book, and the accompanying video by the same name, would be too silly or trivial, but I actually enjoyed their presentation very much. The book uses the third person, while the DVD uses the first person. There are a few other details in the DVD; the book is a bit more succinct, and the images seem smaller (but the DVD provides a nice zoom on one picture that the book does not). They're both a bit cartoony in places, but this book was an enjoyable way to help cement the identity of this artist in my kids' minds (they're 3.5 and 6.5). I also enjoyed its treatment of the relationships among the Impressionists, particularly between Cassatt and Degas; it includes small (perhaps too small) samples of several other artists' work. (the video covers this at greater length) This book has been a pleasant intro to art history for them, and for me as their homeschooling mama. Considering I have no art background to speak of, this book and DVD have been fun, helpful and educational for ALL of us!

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