

FONDATION CLAUDE MONET-GIVERNY

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STEP INTO THE WORLD OF GIVERNY - TRAIL SHEETS -

# DURING YOUR VISIT

Due to high visitor numbers and to make it easier to get around, it is best to divide the class into several groups of 6-8 students accompanied by an adult. To make this possible, the proposed trails are independent of each other and do not follow a predefined timeline. Trails 3 and 4 are both focused on photographic perspectives so can be divided up according to the groups.



## **A FUN TRAIL**

Claude Monet, the famous impressionist artist, loved painting nature so much that he bought this house in the countryside to create his own garden. He moved there with his wife Alice and their eight children 130 years ago! At Giverny, Monet chose trees and flowers according to the colours and seasons. He extended the pond, planted water lilies and had a wooden bridge built. He arranged his garden like a painting and set up his house for working, hosting guests and enjoying family time!

#### Use this trail to explore his amazing world. Enjoy your visit!

### THE ARTIST'S PLACE

- Throughout your visit, look at the artworks below and find out where Monet stood to paint them. This is what we call the perspective. Tick the correct responses.
- Take a photo of the spot that corresponds to the painting.
- Monet painted:



- A / In his studio
- *B* / On the edge of the pond
- C/On the bridge



- A / On the Japanese bridge
- *B* / On one of the paths on the right, opposite his house
- C/Up high, perched in a tree



A / In his boat on the pond B / From Clos Normand C / From the bank opposite the jetty



- A / From his house
- B / In the henhouse
- C/On the central path opposite the house

#### SOUVENIR PHOTOS

- Photography is prohibited in the house but you can photograph the garden and create a souvenir album when you get back to school.
- Tick what you have photographed:

[]front of the house from Clos Normand and []from the pond, []arches on the central path, []henhouse, []garden from the window of Claude Monet's bedroom (which is often open in good weather), []pond with bridge, [] water lilies, []bamboo, []willows, []reflections in the water.

#### **HEART OF THE FLOWER**

- Use the flowering calendar and flower picture book you prepared in class to photograph the flowers you see today.
- Use the macro feature on your camera (flower symbol) to take close up photos and see as much detail as possible.

#### **COLOUR HUNTER!**

- Use the colour chart below, one that you made in class or one from a store to compare the colours and note down which ones you can find in the garden.
- When you get back to class, you can create your palette and do painting yourself.



3

4

#### STIMULATING SENSES

- On the banks of the pond, close your eyes for a moment. Listen to the sounds, smell the fragrances around you and be aware of your sensations (warmth of the sun, pricking from cold, wind on your skin, etc.).
- Remember them so you can share your impressions back in the classroom.

#### A TIDY HOUSE

• Hard not to get lost in this big house! All the rooms are mixed up! To find your way, number each room in the order that you visit them.



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# EAGLE EYE

- Find every detail during your visit and mark where they are in the Claude Monet's house or garden.
- Circle them when you find them.



















#### THE ARTIST'S PLACE

Monet painted outdoors. He wanted to capture each changing light and show his visual impression of the present moment in his paintings: the interplay between the shadows and light, reflections in the water, a ray of sunlight, the wind in the trees.

- 1-b, The water lily pond, 1897-1899, Musée d'Orsay.
- 2-b, The artist's garden at Giverny, 1900, Musée d'Orsay.
- 3- c, The rose arches, Giverny, 1913, Phœnix Art Museum, Arizona.
- 4- c, Path in Monet's garden, 1901-1902, The Österreichische Gallerie, Vienna

#### A TIDY HOUSE

- 1. Pantry
- 2. Studio/lounge
- 3. Monet's bedroom
- 4. Washrooms
- 5. Alice's bedroom
- 6. Dining room
- 7. Kitchen

#### EAGLE EYE

1. The Japanese bridge. Monet painted it 47 times!

2. A water lily on the pond. Monet used the more scientific name for water lily in French, 'nymphéa', instead of the more common name, 'nénuphar'.

3. The large willow on the banks of the pond. Monet had willows planted along the banks of the pond.

4. A tile in the kitchen. In this room, the walls are completely covered in Rouen ceramic tiles. Again, it was Monet who chose blue for the kitchen. In this way, he could admire the harmony between the colours from the yellow dining room. His motto was: colour everywhere - furniture, walls, ceilings and more.

5. The boat on the pond. Every morning, a gardener paddled across the pond in the boat to clean the water lilies damaged by the soot of passing trains.

6. A shutter on the house. Monet had the shutters painted green to make the house blend into the garden!

7. A Japanese print, Mother playing with her child, in Alice's bedroom. Claude Monet had a passion for Japan and collected prints (etchings) by masters, which he hung everywhere in his house. He had a total of 231!

8. Large photo of Monet in his studio/lounge. Monet transformed his first studio into a lounge after having a second studio built in the garden. This room was reserved for men and was used as a smoking room after meals. The dangers of tobacco were unknown at the time and smoking was seen as a sign of distinction. The photo shows Monet standing in the middle of this room. You can have fun comparing how it looks today to how it looked back then, like a 'spot the difference' game!

9. Writing desk in Monet's bedroom. You can imagine Monet reading and writing letters at his writing desk, surrounded by his collection of paintings by his friends Cézanne, Manet, Renoir, Degas, Jongkind, Corot and others.



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