

**Kindergarten Art Print**

**Early Evening, After Snowfall - by Childe Hassam, 1906**



Childe Hassam, American Impressionist, 1859–1935, painted many cityscapes of New York City through the seasons. Point out that this is only a print, a picture of the real painting. Where do you think the real painting might be? (It is in a museum in North Carolina)

### Discussion Option 1:

Take a few minutes to let the children study the painting. Tell them that you would like them to pick two or three things that they notice so, when you go around the circle, perhaps everyone will say something different. You might try writing down their answers on a chart that they can see, asking what else we could add to the list. Or, perhaps repeat the answers as you move around the circle. We have a person, a person and a tree, a person, tree, and carriage, etc.

Another technique is to have the print already in view as the children are entering the room and getting seated. Then, when you are ready to start, turn the print over so that they cannot see it. Then, ask them to tell you what they saw. After getting their responses, you can show them the print again and ask them what else they see (this is a great technique to get everyone's attention).

### Discussion Option 2:

What do you see? Go around the room so everyone can answer.

How many people are in the picture? Who are they? What do you think they are doing? Are there any animals in the picture? What are they doing (pulling carriage)? Is the carriage moving? How can you tell?

Where is this? Are there any clues in the picture that helped you decide (it's a city street or whatever)? What time of the year or season do you think it might be? Why do you think so?

What time of the day do you think it is? How could you tell? (Street lamps, carriage lamps, lights in window, etc.)

What time period do you think this scene happened? Do you think it's modern-day or from a long time ago? Why (clues might be old-timer clothing, horse and carriage, old buildings)?

### Discussion Option 3:

How many people are in the painting? (3 or 4 depending on whether you think there is a person in front of the building that is behind the carriage way in the distance - point it out and let the kids debate that)

What is the person in the center of the painting doing? (Shoveling snow) How do you know that?

Who do you think this person is on the left? What is she doing? Can you tell anything about her from her clothes? Where are her feet? Can you see her face? Why not? (walking away) Choose a girl in the class with a dress or skirt on to model what the woman in the painting is doing. Why might her arms be bent like that? (she could be hurrying because it is cold or maybe she is carrying something)

Carriage driver. What is he wearing? Do you think there is anyone in the carriage? Where are they going?

Let's name some other things in the painting: trees, town houses, stores. Let's find some things that also tell us that we are in a city.

Talk about the colors the artist used. What color is snow? What colors did this artist use for snow? Why did he choose those colors for snow? (maybe the snow is dirty, maybe reflections from the sky, shadows from footprints)

## Activity Ideas

1. Draw your favorite snowy scene - you will need a lot of white and other light colored crayons, pencils, etc. It might be easier for them to draw their pictures on colored background paper, so that the white shows up. However, remind them that the snow may not be totally white everywhere, if there are reflections or dirt, so they can use their creativity and have other colors for "snow".
2. Precut different rectangles and shapes for the children to glue onto their paper as town buildings. They can fill in the scene with their own drawings and then add their fake snow at the end. Here are some techniques for doing fake snow:
  1. Make a sparkly glaze by mixing  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup each of table salt and talcum powder. Spray the piece with spray-on craft glue or place dabs of white glue where you want the "snow" to congregate (also see if glue stick works for this). Parents will probably need to help the kids with this step. Remind them only to put glue where they want snow! Sprinkle the mixture on the wet glue and allow to dry. Turn the project upside down to remove excess "snow."
  2. Use plain laundry soap flakes or instant potato flakes to depict fluffy, falling snow - sprinkle onto wet glue as above.
  3. Use same technique as above but with glitter - you can use silver or even other colors - remember, it doesn't have to be "white"!
3. Continuing with the wintertime snow theme, have them make cut-out snowflakes. Demonstrate how to fold up their paper (can use white and other colored paper) and cut into the paper. When it is unfolded, they should have a pretty one-of-a-kind snowflake. Maybe they can hang them in the classroom for wintertime decoration (ask the teacher beforehand if this is ok). Here is a link to making paper snowflakes ([http://www.firstpalette.com/Craft\\_themes/Colors/papersnowflake/papersnowflake-4side8side.html](http://www.firstpalette.com/Craft_themes/Colors/papersnowflake/papersnowflake-4side8side.html)). The 4-sided will be the easiest for small children (you may want to already have the paper cut into squares to eliminate this step). The above link also includes instructions to the more complicated 6-sided snowflake - this would probably be more appropriate for older kids. Let them make as many as time allows.

# 4-SIDED SNOWFLAKE INSTRUCTIONS



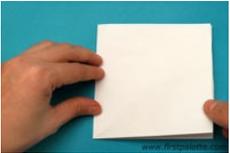
1.

Start out with a square piece of paper. You can use square origami paper or make your own squares from any rectangular piece of paper (see steps on next page). Try not to use thick or heavy paper as it may be difficult to fold and cut.



2.

Fold the square in the middle.



3.

Fold the resulting rectangle in the middle to obtain a smaller square.



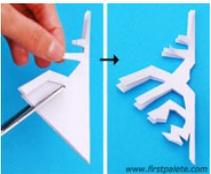
4.

Rotate the square so that it is oriented like a diamond. The solid corner corresponding to the paper's center (when unfolded) should be at the bottom.



5.

Fold the diamond vertically along the middle.



6.

While keeping the paper folded, cut away shapes along the edges.



7.

Carefully unfold the paper to reveal your unique 4-sided snowflake.

# Steps for Making a Square from Rectangular Paper



1.

Position a rectangular piece of paper vertically on a flat surface.



2.

Fold one top corner down to meet the opposite edge, forming a triangle.



3.

Cut the excess paper below the triangle.



4.