ACM

Art Club Monthly

DECEMBER 2026 • KIDS AGES 5 TO 12

Georges Seurat

A Sunday on La Grande Jatte (1884 to 1886)



THIS MONTH'S CHALLENGE

"Summer in winter! Use dots to paint your perfect sunny day at the park with your friends!"

"Art is harmony."

Georges Seurat

☀️ A Sunday on La Grande Jatte



A Sunday on La Grande Jatte

1884 to 1886 • Oil paint on canvas • About 7 feet tall and 10 feet wide • Art Institute of Chicago, USA

Welcome to a sunny Sunday afternoon in Paris, France, more than 140 years ago! People are relaxing in a park on an island in the river. There are parasols, sailboats, dogs, a little monkey and even a man playing a trumpet. But here is the big secret: **this whole painting is made of tiny dots and dabs of color!**

💛 The Story Behind the Painting

Georges was 24 years old when he started. He visited the island again and again to draw the people he saw there. It took him about two years to finish, and it is HUGE, about the size of a garage door! When he was done, he even painted a border of dots all the way around the edge.

🔍 Can You Find These in the Painting?



A monkey!
On a leash, near the bottom right



A trumpet player
Making music by the water



A girl in white
Right in the middle



A butterfly
Fluttering over the grass

Bonus hunt: Can you count the sailboats? Can you find the lady who is fishing?

👀 Magic Eye Colors

Georges did not mix all his colors on a palette. He put little dots side by side, like red next to yellow, and let your eyes mix them from far away. Look up close, then take a few big steps back. Whoa!

📏 Bigger Than You!

This painting is about 7 feet tall and 10 feet wide. That is taller than most grown-ups and wider than a couch!

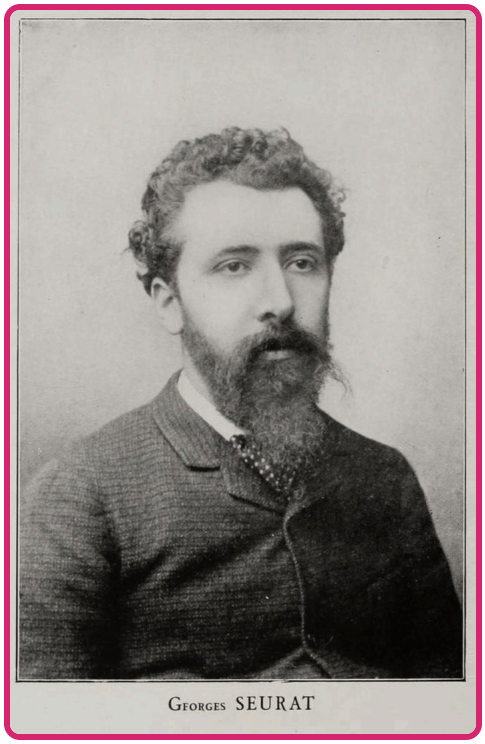
👨‍🎨 Meet Georges Seurat!

Georges Seurat

🇫🇷 French Artist

Born: December 2, 1859 • Died: March 29, 1891 (age 31)

Georges (say it: **zhorzh suh-ROH**) grew up in Paris and went to art school there. Before he ever painted with dots, he spent years drawing with a black crayon, making pictures out of light and dark.



Georges Seurat in 1888 (public domain photo)

🔬 A Color Scientist

Georges loved science! He read books about how colors change when they sit next to each other, and he used those ideas to make his paintings sparkle.

⚫ Dot Painting Has a Name

Painting with dots is called **pointillism** (say it: **POYN-tuh-liz-um**). It comes from the French word *point*, which means dot!

🎭 A Painting With Its Own Show

This painting is so famous that someone wrote a musical about it! It is called *Sunday in the Park with George*.

Start here. Go anywhere!

Everything you need is in your box, so you can make your whole painting with just what's inside. But your box is a starting point, not a limit! Add your own paints, try a bigger canvas or paper, or use our canvas as a practice run first. There's no wrong way to do it. Have fun and make it yours!

Paint colors are chosen for each month's painting. Exact shades may vary from box to box.

🏛️ Where Is It Today?

The Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois, USA



The Art Institute of Chicago, vintage postcard. Tichnor Brothers, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

This painting lives in Chicago, at a big art museum with two famous lion statues guarding the front steps. It has been there for about 100 years!

Fun fact: In 1958 the painting was visiting a museum in New York when a fire broke out. It was carried out to safety, and it was fine!

🎁 What's In Your Art Box!

- Green paint for grass and trees
- Blue paint for the river and sky
- Yellow paint for sunshine
- Orange paint for warm light and parasols
- White paint for clouds and sparkles
- Black paint for hats, shadows and details

✨ **Dotting tool for perfect round dots**

✨ **Dot stickers for testing your dot magic**

✓ 2 brushes: round and flat

✓ 8×10″ stretched canvas

✓ Paint palette for mixing

✓ This educational pamphlet

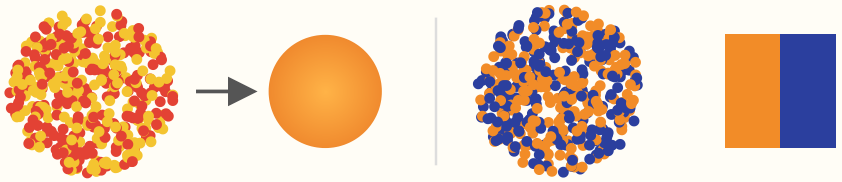
All paints are washable acrylics.

YOUR CREATIVE CHALLENGE

"Summer in winter! Use dots to paint your perfect sunny day at the park with your friends!"

It is cold outside, so let's paint summer! A picnic, a splash at the pool, a game of tag, a puppy chasing a ball. Who is with you? What are you doing? Fill it with dots!

🎨 Tips for Your Dot Painting!



Up close: red + yellow dots

Step back: you see orange!

Up close: orange + blue dots

Side by side: both look brighter!

1. Draw your park first. Lightly sketch a few big shapes: the ground, the sky, trees and your friends.

2. Paint the big areas. Use your flat brush to fill in the sky and grass with thin paint. Let it dry before you start dotting.

3. Time for dots! Dip your dotting tool in paint and press it straight down, then lift. Wipe it on a paper towel before you switch colors.

4. Put colors side by side. Do not stir them together. Try yellow dots next to orange dots, then take a few steps back and see what happens!

5. Practice with stickers. Stick your dot stickers on scrap paper in different color pairs to test them before you paint.

💡 Sunny Color Mixing Chart

- Blue + yellow = **green**, more grass for your park!
- Blue + white = **sky blue**, for a bright summer sky.
- Yellow + orange = **golden sunshine**.
- Orange + white = **peachy glow**, for sunny cheeks.
- Green + a dot of black = **shady green**, for under the trees.

📸 Share Your Dotty Masterpiece!

We want to see your sunny day! Ask a grown-up to share it on social media!

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