

# History and English Newsletter Fall 2017

## Teaching Art, History & Writing with the Charlotte Mason and Montessori Teaching Styles



**All Ages:** The study of art throughout time will add depth and breadth to our historical studies. Thomas Gainsborough was born in Suffolk, England May 14th, 1727 and lived during the time England lost the American Colonies. He painted many portraits and landscapes and was strongly influenced by earlier 16th century art and the works of [van Dyck](#). He made a living painting portraits, but declared, “I’m sick of portraits...” Gainsborough preferred painting landscapes though there was less money in it. As his success grew, he began including landscapes in his portraits so that he would be able to paint both. Gainsborough went on to be the originator of 18th century landscape art and was influenced by the Impressionist movement. These paintings not only show glimpses of the world during the 1700’s, but they also tell something about the person who made the art.

Connecting History and English for your High Schooler:  
High School Reading Literacy in History/SS: RH.11-12.1, RH.11-12.2, RH.11-12.3, RH.11-12.4, RH.11-12.5, RH.11-12.6, RH.11-12.7, RH.11-12.8, RH.11-12.9, RH.11-12.10 (American and British Literature)  
History Standards K.4.1,



### **All Grades: CM Style Picture Study**

Charlotte Mason was an early 19th Century educator who trained parents to teach their own children. She advocated what she called “picture study.” In this method, each week the parent shows the child a painting for 2 to 3 minutes then hides it and asks the child to recall as many details about the painting as possible. The family then displays it somewhere in their home. [This Link](#) contains more information about this method, along with directions for saving the art as a screensaver. View a video on how to add this 5 minute, weekly lesson [here](#).

## CM and Writing Extensions:

### Written Narrations

- **History Narratives** – ask the child to write a short narration about a historical figure they just read about and include this in their Book of Centuries.
- Perspective of a historical figure – I asked my daughter to write a narration about Queen Victoria once and she just *could-not-get-fired-up* about it. She struggled to put pen to paper, finding it boring and dry. I asked her to write from the perspective of one of Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting. She was to write a letter home to her mother and detail her perspective of her life with Queen Victoria. It worked, and was probably one of her best written narrations.
- **An obituary or a letter** – write the obituary or letter for a historical figure.

[Website Citation](#) IEM does not endorse the information in this website and you may not be able to purchase all recommended materials with school funds. We include this website for informational purposes to learn about the Charlotte Mason method.

### Connecting History and English Standards:

- Middle School Reading and Literacy in History/SS Grades 6-8:
  - RH.6-8.1, RH.6-8.2, RH.6-8.3, RH.6-8.4, RH.6-8.5, RH.6-8.6, RH.6-8.7, RH.6-8.8, RH.6-8.9, RH.6-8.10
- Listening and Speaking:
  - K: SL.K.1, SL.K.1a, SL.K.1b, SL.K.2, SL.K.3, SL.K.4, SL.K.5, SL.K.6
  - 1st: SL.1.1, SL.1.1a, SL.1.1b, SL.1.1c, SL.1.2, SL.1.3, SL.1.4, SL.1.5, SL.1.6
  - 2nd: SL.2.1, SL.2.1a, SL.2.1b, SL.2.1c, SL.2.2, SL.2.3, SL.2.4, SL.2.5, SL.2.6
  - 3rd: SL.3.1, SL.3.1a, SL.3.1b, SL.3.1c, SL.3.1d, SL.3.2, SL.3.3, SL.3.4, SL.3.5, SL.3.6

#### History Standards

Students understand that history relates to events, people, and places of other times.

- K.6.3

#### Chronological and Spatial Thinking

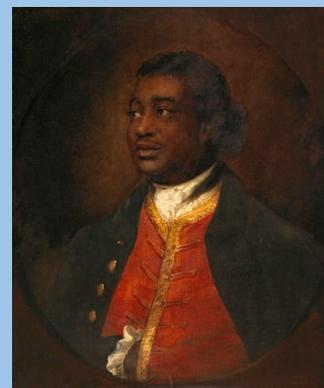
- K.1, 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.1

#### Research Evidence and Point of View

- K.3, 1.2, 2.2, 3.2, 4.2, 5.2, 6.2, 7.2, 8.2

## Montessori Style Art Study

In a Montessori Art Study we can progress through activities designed to introduce children to a variety of artists, eventually leading to the creation of art timelines. For this activity, print off 6 paintings by 4 different artists and [helpful links for this activity can be found here](#). Print the names of the 4 artists. Then show your child how to match each piece of artwork to the correct artist. Next, mix up the paintings and have your child try matching artist names to their artwork. For an in depth Montessori artist study, look [here](#). You can also teach the specific names of the Gainsborough paintings by using [this website](#).



### English Extensions:

- **Language:** The classroom/homeschool environment is filled with songs, verbal games, rhymes, riddles, poetry and conversational exchange. Language also includes extensive and correct vocabulary, spelling, dictionary and thesaurus studies, research skills, grammar, writing skills, composition, creative writing and research reports, literary discussions,

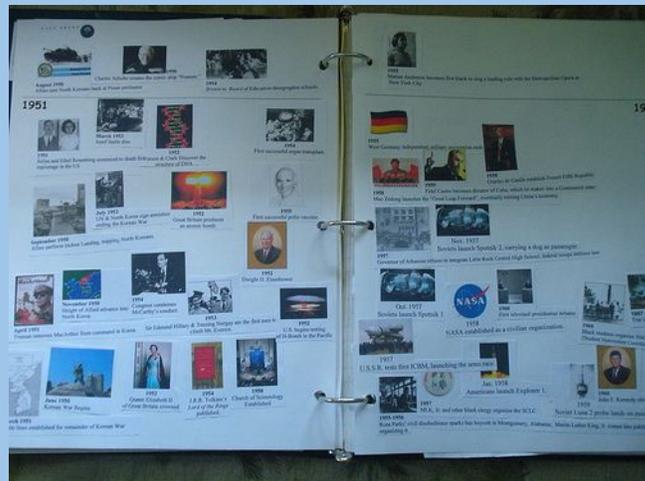
comprehension skills, unrestricted reading, proofreading skills, record-keeping, diary writing, poetry, general reports and word studies.

**Connecting Listening and Speaking Standards:**

- **Listening and Speaking:**
  - K: SL.K.1, SL.K.1a, SL.K.1b, SL.K.2, SL.K.3, SL.K.4, SL.K.5, SL.K.6
  - 1st: SL.1.1, SL.1.1a, SL.1.1b, SL.1.1c, SL.1.2, SL.1.3, SL.1.4, SL.1.5, SL.1.6
  - 2nd: SL.2.1, SL.2.1a, SL.2.1b, SL.2.1c, SL.2.2, SL.2.3, SL.2.4, SL.2.5, SL.2.6
  - 3rd: SL.3.1, SL.3.1a, SL.3.1b, SL.3.1c, SL.3.1d, SL.3.2, SL.3.3, SL.3.4, SL.3.5, SL.3.6



**Extending Art and Music into The History Lessons:** By downloading [Pandora](#) you can create stations that accompany the years you are studying and listen to the music in the background while your children work. Additionally, you can research art made during time periods using a [google image search](#) or look at [this list](#). As you study, you can create a timeline on your wall or a book of centuries or your student can create postcards or small printed images. [Dover Publications](#), an IEM vendor, sells many postcard books by artist very inexpensively. Another source for mixing art and history can be found [here](#).



**Image left:** A book of Centuries can be built up over many years.

**History Standards**

**Chronological and Spatial Thinking**

- K.1, 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.1

**Research Evidence and Point of View**

- K.3, 1.2, 2.2, 3.2, 4.2, 5.2, 6.2, 7.2, 8.2

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