

How to study a picture from Charlotte Mason

1. Prior to studying the picture, children should be read-aloud a story of the artist's life- when he lived, and where he is to be placed on the timeline, also the general subject and type of pictures.
2. Introduce title and give prints of picture face down on a table.
3. Turn over pictures and study, silently, for several minutes.
 - Ask for first impressions
 - Direct them to foreground, background details, color, feeling of movement, etc.
4. Children silently look at picture again for one minute, eyes down.
 - suggest they close their eyes- can they see a complete colored picture in their minds? If not, perhaps they should have another look....
5. Everyone (teacher too!) turns picture over face down. Now children describe with as much detail as possible, listening carefully to one another and not repeating what has been said. With practice, they will give more vivid, detailed descriptions.
6. Turn over pictures- look to see if any part has been left out or is not clear in the mind.
7. Have a last, silent look at the picture- there should now be a photograph of this picture that stays in the mind for life.