

# Pre-Visit Guide: French Moderns, 1850 to 1950

## Big Ideas & Major Themes

Review these topics with your students before experiencing this exhibition.

- Western art changed dramatically in this period, resulting in a proliferation of new artistic movements like Realism, Impressionism, Cubism, Futurism, Surrealism, and more.
- Starting around the mid-19th century artists began finding new ways of looking at the world and explored innovative ways of conveying it, making use of new technology and burgeoning scientific ideas.



Henri Matisse. *Flowers*. 1906. Brooklyn Museum.



Claude Monet. *Houses of Parliament, Sunlight Effect*. 1903. Brooklyn Museum.

## SC Standards Addressed

Visual Art CR.AL.1; R.IL.5.1; R.IM.5.1; R.AL.5.2; R.AM.5.2; C.AM.6; C.AH.7.1  
HG.1.2.PR. HG.4.1.HS, HG.5.1PR, HG.5.2.PR; MWH.1.1.CO, MWH. 4.1.CE,  
MWH.1.E, WH.2.E; EPF.1.ER, EPF.3.1N; OT.1.3, OT.1.4, OT.3.1, OT.3.2,  
OT.3.3, OT.3.4; NT.1.3, NT.2.6, NT.3.1, NT.3.3, NT.3.4  
Social Studies 6.1.P, 6.2.CE, 6.5.CO, 6.5.CE. 6.5.CX, 6.5.CC

## Before Your Visit

Prepare students for your visit with one or more of these activities.

- Look at early photographs and discuss what life would have been like in France or the U.S. in 1850. What were the latest breakthroughs in technology. How do they compare to innovations today?
- Go outside with colored pencils or watercolors. See what you can capture of a place in a short amount of time. Discuss which elements were helpful to include to capture particular aspects of the scene.
- Create a collaborative timeline of important events in France and the world between 1850 and 1950. Consider the impact these events would have had on: artists, world leaders, everyday people.

## Resources

Want to explore more? Review these references to learn and share information with your students.

- Charles Marville: Photographer of Paris [National Gallery of Art]. <https://www.nga.gov/features/marville.html>
- Becoming Modern [SmartHistory] <https://smarthistory.org/becoming-modern-an-introduction/>
- Impressionism: Art and Modernity [Met Museum] [http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/imml/hd\\_imml.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/imml/hd_imml.htm)

## Museum Manners

School tours are limited to 60 students per visit. Contact the CMA to see whether your group is better suited for an in-person or virtual experience. Please review these guidelines with your students before your tour.

- **Please note!** This exhibition contains nudity. Ask staff about previewing the artwork if need be.
- Touching can permanently damage works of art. Please don't touch the art or lean on the walls.
- Food, drinks, gum, pens, and large bags are not permitted in the galleries.
- Watch where you walk! Try to stay at least arms-length from works of art.

Questions? Contact us at 803-343-2163 or email [tours@columbiamuseum.org](mailto:tours@columbiamuseum.org)

[columbiamuseum.org/learn](http://columbiamuseum.org/learn)

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