Edward Hopper House

Edward Hopper (1882-1967) is one of America’s greatest artists. He grew up in this house with his older sister, Marion. He loved to draw and he practiced for hours. After school, he would go down to the Hudson River and draw boats. He painted water, boats, and lighthouses his whole life.

“What I wanted to do was paint sunlight on the side of a house.”

Everywhere he went, Edward Hopper painted what he saw. He was fascinated by how light changed color.

He painted sunlit streets in the morning, old houses at noon, gas stations at dusk, and restaurants at night. By simplifying shapes, he used color and composition to create a mood. His drawings and paintings show scenes of the people and places of rural America.
Edward Hopper also painted city scenes. He painted people eating by themselves or working in their offices. The paintings show the loneliness of a big city. Edward Hopper painted from real life but he also used his imagination to show how he felt about the world.

Scavenger Hunt!

1. Edward Hopper decided to become an artist when he was young. Where did he keep his paints and brushes?

2. There were no cars when Edward Hopper grew up. What did he use instead?

3. Edward Hopper loved boats. Where is the photo of him rowing?

4. Edward made some models of small wooden boats. Find the boats.

5. Edward's sister Marion lived in this house her whole life. Where is the photo of Edward and Marion as children?

6. Edward Hopper was 6' tall when he was twelve. Find his height chart on the wall.

7. Edward painted oil paintings on this easel. Where is the easel?

Answers to the scavenger hunt can be found in the galleries.

Take a closer look at this painting. You can ask yourself these questions about this painting or any work of art.

WHAT DO I SEE? What do you notice about the people?

WHAT DO I THINK? Why is this painting called Nighthawks?

HOW DO I FEEL ABOUT IT? Do you like this painting?

Your Turn

At home, draw something you see every day.

For information on Edward Hopper House Art Center, please visit edwardhopperhouse.org

Written and designed by Amanda Wilson