



## Artist & Composer Study

This session's featured artist is Winslow Homer. We've included six art selections for your kids and teens to use for picture study. They are:

- *Home, Sweet Home*
- *Shark Fishing*
- *The Country School*
- *A Calvary Charge*
- *The Adirondack Guide*
- *The Gulf Stream*

Our featured composer is Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore. We've included four music pieces of his (with links for each) to listen to. They are:

- Famous 22nd Regiment March
- When Johnny Comes Marching Home
- Norwich Cadets
- Voice of a Departed Soul

Artist & Composer Study



# Winslow Homer

February 24, 1836 – September 29, 1910

Winslow Homer was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1836, to Charles and Henrietta Homer. Henrietta was a stay-at-home mother who cared for Winslow and his three brothers, while Charles was a businessman. However, Charles eventually left the business in search of wealth during the California gold rush, and when that failed, he left his wife and sons to seek profit in Europe.

With his father absent much of the time, Winslow grew close to his mother, learning to paint with watercolor during his childhood. His artistic talent became evident in his early years of school, and after graduating, Homer's father secured him an apprenticeship with J. H. Bufford, a commercial lithographer.

Winslow spent the next twenty years working as an illustrator and contributed to magazines such as *Ballou's Pictorial* and *Harper's Weekly*. His engravings of urban and country social scenes won him much attention, and crowds were impressed by his simple and clean work.

In 1859, Homer moved to New York City, opening a studio of his own in the publishing capital of America. In 1863, he started attending classes at the National Academy of Design, where he began oil painting.

When the Civil War broke out, Winslow was sent by *Harper's Weekly* to the front lines to sketch battle scenes and daily life in the army. After the war, Winslow focused his work on scenes of childhood, wanting to remember simpler times in his own life and country.

In 1867, Homer traveled to Paris, where he worked for a year. Here, he began to practice landscape painting while also working for *Harper's*. He focused on subjects such as peasant life, rural scenes of farm life, and children, straying away from the mainstream focus on new fashion at the time.

Winslow eventually quit his work as an illustrator in 1875, using his newfound love for oil painting and watercolor as his main line of work. After that, he began exhibiting many of his pieces, eventually becoming a part of "The Tile Club," a group of artists and writers who gathered to foster a creative community. His success throughout this period is often attributed to his reclusive behavior.

Throughout the 1880s, Homer focused on sea scenes and returned to the East Coast of the United States. He moved to his family's estate in Maine, which was right next to the ocean. He frequently took trips to other parts of the country in search of inspiration. Many of these trips were to Key West, Florida. His largest painting, *The Fox Hunt*, became one of his most famous works in 1893. It was purchased by the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and became his first painting in a major American collection.

By the early 1900s, Homer had achieved financial stability due to his success in the painting world. He continued to take trips to Florida and Canada, depicting the many different landscapes. In 1910, he passed away at the age of 74 with his painting *Shooting the Rapids* still incomplete. Today, he is remembered fondly as one of the most influential and successful American landscape painters.

# Artist Study

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

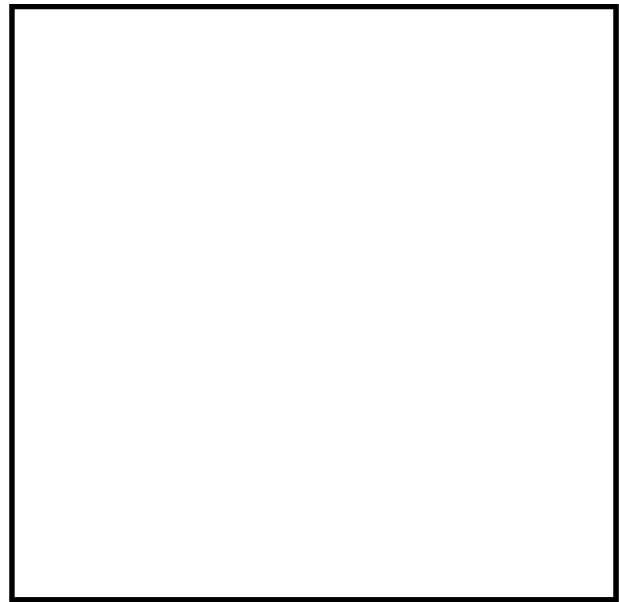
**Artist Fun Facts:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Art Mediums Used:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Famous Artworks:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Further Study:**

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*Home, Sweet Home, 1863*



*Shark Fishing, 1885*



The Country School, 1871



THE WAR FOR THE UNION, 1862—A CAVALRY CHARGE.

A Cavalry Charge, 1862



*The Adirondack Guide, 1894*



*The Gulf Stream, 1906*

# Picture Study

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Created: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Mediums Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Further Study: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Use the box to draw a picture inspired by this artwork.**

