



Artist & Composer Study

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

- *Migrant Mother (1936)*
- *Migrant Agricultural Worker's Family (1936)*
- *Turpentine Worker's Family (1936)*
- *Texas Tenant Farmer (1935)*
- *Migratory Children Living in Rambler's Park (1939)*
- *Eighteen-Year-Old Mother from Oklahoma Now a California Migrant (1937)*

Our featured composer is Jelly Roll Morton. We've included six of his pieces (with links to each) to listen to. They are:

- Hesitation Blues
- Wolverine Blues
- Jungle Blues
- Spanish Swat
- The Crave
- The Finger Breaker

Artist & Composer Study



Dorothea Lange

May 26, 1895 - October 11, 1965

Dorothea Lange was born May 26, 1895, in Hoboken, New Jersey, to a German family who immigrated to the United States. She had a difficult early life, contracting polio at the age of seven, which left her with a permanent limp.

Despite her disability, Dorothea chose to pursue photography and eventually secured two apprenticeships—one in portrait photography and the other in photojournalism. By the mid-1920s, she had established her own studio in San Francisco, where she focused on photographing the social realities of urban life.

During the time of the Great Depression, Dorothea Lange used her camera as a tool for social activism, traveling across rural America to

chronicle the lives of struggling farmers and laborers. Her stark, empathetic photographs brought attention to the people affected by the Great Depression, and her photographs helped to shine a light on the plight of those in poverty, encouraging policy-makers to take action.

Her most famous image, "Migrant Mother," captured the despair and hope that many felt during this era. The picture has since become an iconic representation of the human spirit during hard times and is a lasting symbol of resilience.

After the outbreak of World War II, she was recruited by the War Relocation Authority to document the internment camps for Japanese Americans. This project brought her to Manzanar in California's Owens Valley, where she captured images of life inside the camp that are now considered iconic representations of this period in American history.

After the war, Lange continued to photograph the post-war American society. One of her most notable endeavors was her extensive documentation of the Public Defender system in California during the 1950s. Commissioned by *Life* magazine, Lange captured in arresting detail the often-overlooked faces of America's criminal justice system—defendants, their families, and the public defenders who represented them.

Her passion for capturing the truth of people's daily lives also led her to pursue projects such as documenting poverty in Mississippi and photographing the civil rights movement. Throughout her career, Dorothea captured not only the physical realities of everyday life but also its emotional nuances. She continued to work until her death in 1965, leaving behind a body of work that continues to inspire to this day.

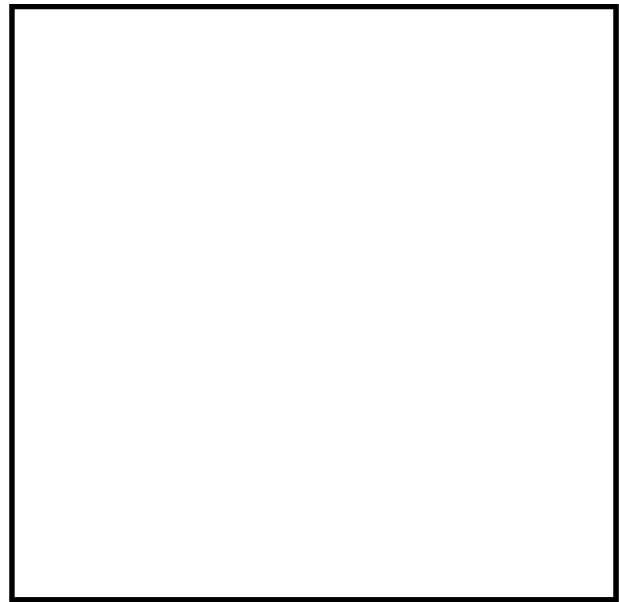
Artist Study

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

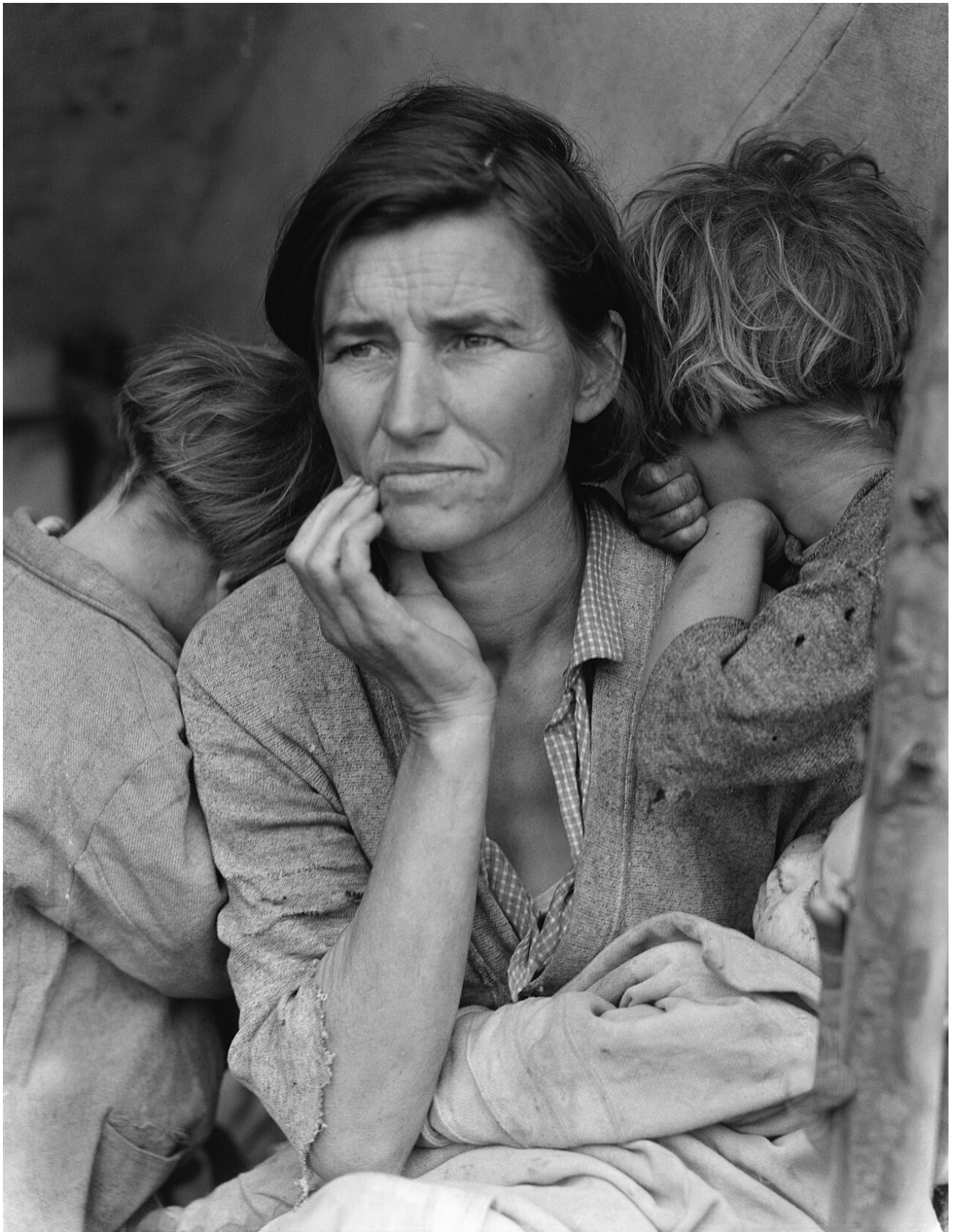
Artist Fun Facts: _____



Art Mediums Used: _____

Famous Artworks: _____

Further Study:



Migrant Mother, 1936



Migrant Agricultural Worker's Family, 1936



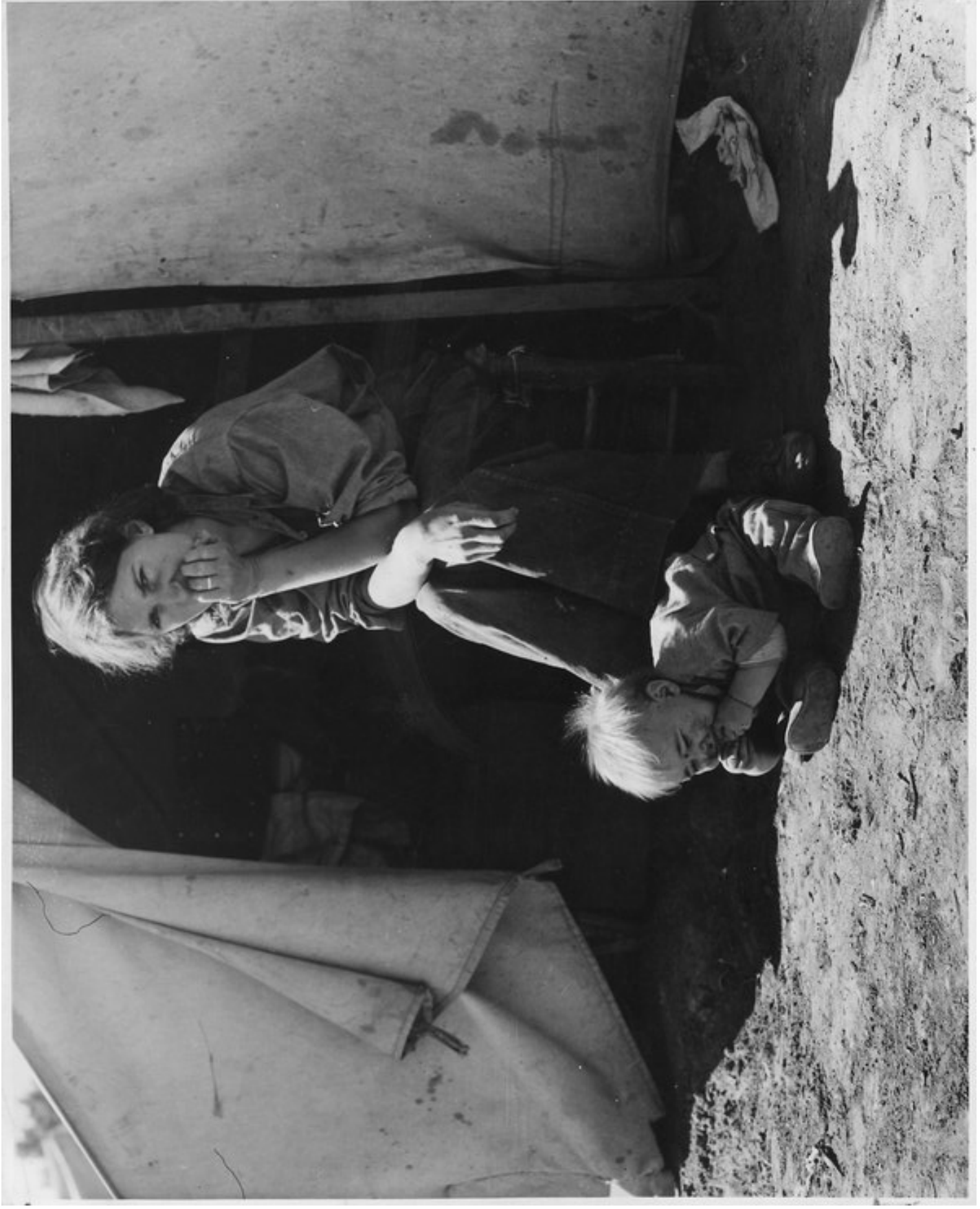
Turpentine Worker's Family, 1936



Texas Tenant Farmer, 1935



Migratory Children Living in Rambler's Park, 1939



18-Year-Old Mother From Oklahoma Now a California Migrant, 1937

Picture Study

Title: _____

Date Created: _____

Art Mediums Used: _____

Further Study: _____

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

