



## Artist & Composer Study

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

- *Ramsgate Sands (Life at the Seaside)*
- *A Private View at the Royal Academy*
- *The Railway Station*
- *The Crossing Sweeper*
- *Charles Dickens in His Study*
- *The Two Central Figures in "Derby Day"*

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

- A Midsummer Night's Dream Overture
- Songs Without Words
- Octet in E-flat Major
- Symphony No. 3 - The Scottish
- The Hebrides Overture
- Violin Concerto in E Minor

Artist & Composer Study



## William Frith

January 9, 1819 – November 2, 1909

Born in 1819, William Powell Frith was a British painter best known for his detailed and realistic depictions of Victorian life.

He grew up in a middle class family in a small village near Yorkshire and was encouraged by his father, who owned and ran a hotel, to study art.

At the age of sixteen, he moved to London to pursue his passion and enrolled at the Royal Academy Schools.

Frith's early works were influenced by the Romanticism movement, evident in his vibrant colors and dramatic compositions. However, during his studies at the Royal Academy,

he became more interested in the works of Dutch Golden Age painters, such as Rembrandt and Vermeer. This influence can be seen in Frith's later works, which focused on portraying scenes from everyday life with great attention to detail.

In 1854, Frith gained recognition and success with his painting "Ramsgate Sands," which captured the essence of Victorian leisure and became one of the most iconic images of the era. The success of this painting led to numerous commissions from wealthy patrons, including Queen Victoria herself, and established Frith as a leading artist in British society.

Frith's popularity continued to grow, with his paintings being exhibited at the prestigious Royal Academy and other prominent galleries. He also became a member of the Royal Academy, solidifying his position as a respected artist.

Despite his success, Frith faced criticism for his depictions of Victorian society, which were sometimes seen as too vulgar or exaggerated. However, he defended his paintings by stating that he wanted to capture the truth of everyday life rather than an idealized version.

In addition to being a successful painter, Frith was also a skilled writer and published two books about his artistic process and experiences. These autobiographies were well-received during his time, given that he was a gifted and amusing storyteller.

Throughout his career, Frith continued to paint scenes of Victorian society, capturing the rapid changes and advancements of the era. His paintings provide valuable insight into the social norms, customs, and values of Victorian England. Today, Frith's works can be found in prestigious museums and galleries around the world, including the Tate Britain and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

# Artist Study

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

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

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

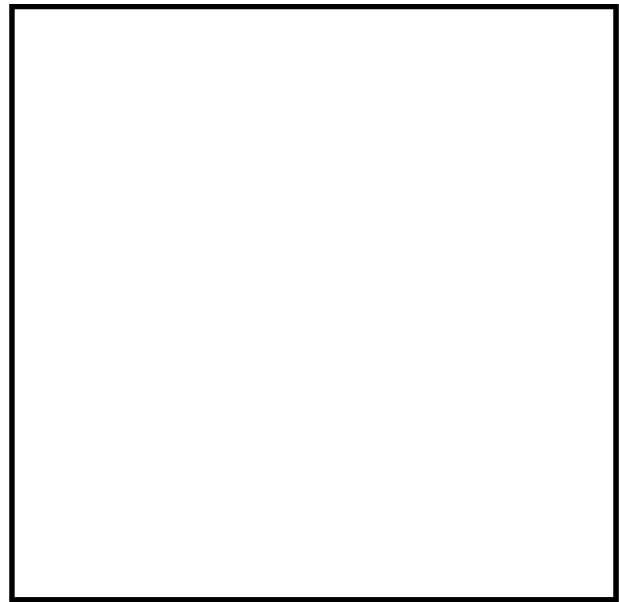
**Artist Fun Facts:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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**Further Study:**

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Ramsgate Sands (Life at the Seaside), 1854



*A Private View at the Royal Academy, 1881*



*The Railway Station, 1862*



*The Crossing Sweeper, 1858*



*Charles Dickens in His Study, 1859*



*The Two Central Figures in "Derby Day," 1860*

# 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.**

