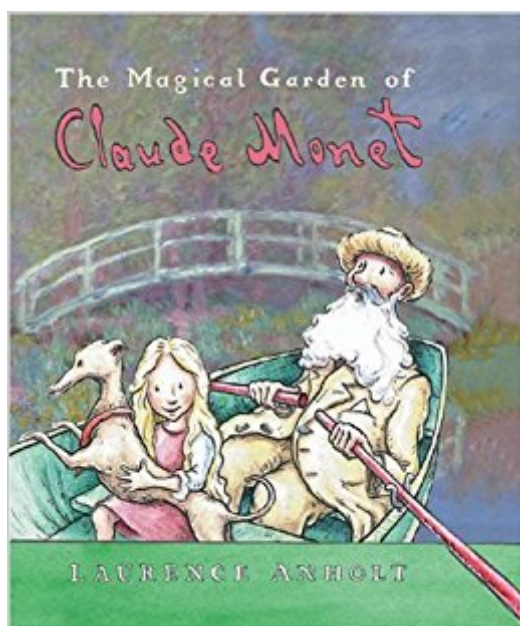


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# The Magical Garden Of Claude Monet (Anholt's Artists)



## Synopsis

Julie is a happy little girl who lives in Paris, but she wishes she could walk in a country garden. Julie is pleased when her mother decides to take her to visit the most wonderful garden in the world, owned by a great friend of the family. They arrive at their destination, and for this little girl it is like walking in a dreamy world where twisting plants grow as tall as trees. When Julie's dog runs away, she asks the gardener to help find her pet, and soon she and the gardener are friends. But this amiable, bearded old man is a very unusual gardener, for not only does he cultivate his many plants, he also paints beautiful pictures of them. Julie has made a friend of the great impressionist painter, Claude Monet. Based on a true story about the daughter of another fine artist, Berthe Morisot, this charmingly illustrated picture book includes reproductions by author-illustrator Laurance Anholt of a famous waterlilies painting, which Monet completed in his garden at Giverny, a few miles from Paris.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 710L (What's this?)

Series: Anholt's Artists

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series; 1 edition (September 1, 2003)

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Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 51 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #129,017 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #475 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art #949 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Grade 1-4-An engaging introduction to Monet's later work, featuring his gardens at Giverny. Based on a visit to the artist by a girl who turns out to be the daughter of Impressionist Berthe Morisot and a niece of Edouard Manet, The Magical Garden effortlessly combines artistic fancy with biographical

fact. The simple story of a city child's day in the country is brought to life through clear text and vibrant gouache illustrations that blend seamlessly to provide an ideal introduction to Monet's temperament, work habits, and aesthetic. Anholt pulls off a deft illustrative trick, using his own fluid style to capture the flavor of many of Monet's most frequently reproduced works. Several illustrations are successful combinations of photo reproductions of Monet's paintings overlaid with Anholt's drawings of the artist and Julie. Particularly impressive is the foldout spread that depicts Monet, Julie, and her dog gliding across the lake in a small boat. The figures are incorporated into Monet's masterpiece *Waterlilies: Morning*. Perfect for children not old enough to enjoy the detail and comparatively intricate plot of Christina Bjork's *Linnea in Monet's Garden* (R & S, 1987), this volume also includes a page of biographical information about Monet. Sophie R. Brookover, Mount Laurel Library, NJ Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

PreS-Gr. 3. From the creator of picture books such as *Leonardo and the Flying Boy* (2000), this story features Julie and her dog, Louie, who spend an idyllic day with Claude Monet. With Louie providing some comic relief along the way, the artist rows his young friend across the pond, where he picks a water lily for her, then takes her back to his studio, where he shows her a huge, panoramic work in progress: a series of paintings depicting his water garden. In the appended note, Anholt tells readers about Monet's life and explains that the little girl is based on Julie Manet, daughter of Monet's friend artist Berthe Morisot. Sunny colors predominate in the illustrations, fluid drawings brightened with colorful washes that incorporate some of Monet's paintings (identified on the copyright page). Folding out horizontally, the center spread features one of Monet's water lily paintings with a smaller, superimposed picture showing Monet, Julie, and Louie in a rowboat. The combination of simple story and enticing art makes for a charming introduction to Monet. Carolyn Phelan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

I love these books! We teach classical art and artist in my after school program so I decided to get this book for my students. I have used this book in the past and just didn't know where it was so I repurchased it. I love the bright illustrations and the beautiful writing in the book. The author does a great job explaining who the artist is and what they stand for. I like that these books allow my students to experience the artist in a new way. The pictures are stunning and the kids love seeing his paintings in the illustrations. The art is simple to mimic with young children. They love making tash marks. I have actually recreated the bridge and plant with students and they turn out beautiful!

This is one of my favorite artist and have visited the DIA with my students to see a real Monet!

I love this series of books and you can't go wrong with any of them. They are beautifully written and illustrated, and the stories are based on the real lives of famous artists and the young people in their lives who inspired them, which kids really like. The books also encourage young readers to be creative and explore possibilities in art, and the stories end with a project the child can do at home, based on the artistic style discussed in the book. Each book could really be an art lesson in itself, with art history, an interesting story, artistic techniques and a specific exercise included in each one. My daughter is in first grade but I imagine she will get more out of these books in the years to come.

I gave this as a gift to a 9 year old girl who loves art. We had a great time reading the book together. She especially loved the colors in the book as did I. The colorful fold-out of Monet's water garden is very nice.

I can't say enough good about this series. It is a creative way to introduce kids to these artists. They are written to be kids stories and entertain while throwing in some information about who the artist is, to show the artists' general style and introduce some specific works by the artist. My daughter is 5. She soaks this stuff in. I think she would have been able to be as receptive to the stories at age 4 and maybe just earlier than that but it would have been pushing the envelope. I suspect she will enjoy the stories for another couple years. It has lead us to google some of the actual artists' works. My daughter now wants to find some museums that have some of the pieces that are addressed in the books.

This is such a cute and sweet story! I bought it as part of our artist study for my daughter's first grade curriculum. We've read it several times, and although it doesn't go in depth to Monet's biography as part of the story, it gives a very general overview of his love of gardening, and his work as an artist. There is a one page biography at the back, which I paraphrased for my children. I hope to get more of these books in the future!

My 5 year old loves these books. The pictures are beautiful, the stories engaging. We started with one and liked it so much that I bought the rest. Educational, but they don't know it ;-)

I would give this 10 stars if I could. You would be doing yourself and your children a favor by

purchasing this! I learned more than what I thought I knew, and my 8 year old ate it up. I love that this book can connect with adults and children alike. A must buy for anyone wanting to expand their children's knowledge of an incredible painter!

This is a great story, also includes a fantastic bio in the back. Beautifully colored pictures, this really opens up your children to learning more about the greatest impressionists.

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