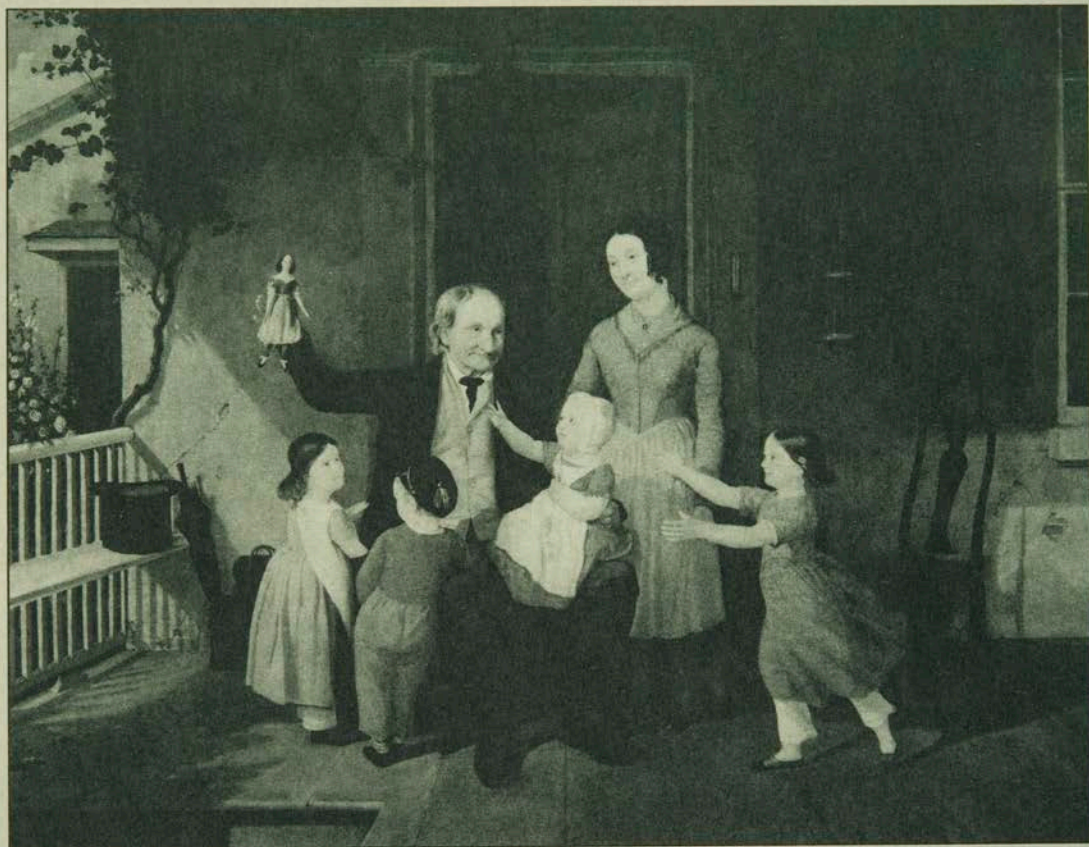


What Are You Wearing?



LOOKING AT CHILDREN'S FASHIONS IN PAINTINGS
FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART. This is a guide designed for children to enjoy with their friends and family. Use this guide to find children in the paintings in the museum, to learn about children's clothing, and to learn how artists painted children.

The paintings in this guide were painted from 100 to 300 years ago. Until about 150 years ago, children were often dressed the way that adults dressed. Few styles were designed just for kids the way that they are today.

The rooms in the museum where the art is kept are called galleries. As you walk through the galleries you will see many art objects. The labels on the walls tell you about the art.

How to read a label:

Name of artist	→	James Clonney
Country of artist and when the artist lived	→	England, active United States 1812–67
Title and date of work	→	<i>A Visit from Grandfather</i> , 1850
What the work is made of ("Oil" means oil paint.)	→	Oil on canvas
Names of people who gave the work to the museum	→	Gift of Cecile Bartman, John W. Bartman, and Judith Bartman in memory of Fred A. Bartman, Jr.
Museum I.D. number for the work	→	AC 194.202.1

A Visit from Grandfather will be on display in the special exhibition *The Fashionable Child of the Nineteenth Century* on the third floor of the Ahmanson Building from August 12, 1999 through January 17, 2000. Afterward it will be in Gallery 111 on the plaza level of the Ahmanson Building.



JAMES CLONNEY

England, active United States, 1812–67

A Visit from Grandfather, 1850

Oil on canvas

Gift of Cecile Bartman, John W. Bartman, and
Judith Bartman in memory of Fred A. Bartman, Jr.

AC1994.202.1

THIS PAINTING SHOWS A GRANDFATHER VISITING WITH HIS DAUGHTER and grandchildren. He sits in a chair on the porch of their home holding a beautiful doll in a lovely red dress. The family gathers around him dressed in simple colorful clothing.

The smallest child sits on the grandfather's knee in a dark pink dress with a white apron and a pink bonnet with blue bows. She reaches up toward the doll in the grandfather's hand. Standing beneath the doll, a young girl in a green dress with a white apron and pantaloons pulls on the grandfather's coat. Beside her a little boy in a deep green velvet hat, a bright red coat, purple trousers, and red striped socks leans on the grandfather's knee and looks away.

On the right side of the painting, a girl in a soft red dress with green stripes runs toward the grandfather. She wears white pantaloons and socks with gray-and-black shoes. She might be rushing over to hug the grandfather or to grab the doll, it's not clear.

When this painting was made, it was common for young children to wear an apron over their dress to keep their clothes clean. When have you seen someone wearing an apron? Have you ever worn an apron? What were you doing?

Go down to the second level of the Ahmanson Building near Gallery 210. Enter the room titled "European Medals." Find the painting:



FRANS POURBUS THE YOUNGER

Flanders, 1569/70–1622

Portrait of Louis XIII of France, about 1616

Oil on canvas

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. William May Garland

M.48.1

THIS PORTRAIT WAS MADE WHEN LOUIS XIII WAS ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS old. He had been the king of France since he was thirteen! Look at how fancy his jacket is. This special jacket is called a doublet. Everything he wears is made of the finest materials.

Louis XIII is wearing a very expensive lace collar that fans out around his face. This collar is so large that it must be held up by a stiff collar underneath. His silk jacket is decorated with small openings that look like slits in the fabric. The openings were made on purpose because they were in fashion when this painting was made. The bright blue silk sash across his chest is called a baldric. It is used to hold his sword. His jacket is decorated with gold embroidery and also has a long row of buttons down the front.

If you were a king or queen, what would you like to wear? Why would you choose to wear those clothes? What would those clothes say about you? What do Louis XIII's clothes say about him?

*Go down to the plaza level of the Ahmanson Building.
Go into Gallery 113.*



GEORGE BAKER, JR.

United States, 1821–1880

Portrait of Children, 1853

Oil on canvas

Gift of Jo Ann and Julian Ganz, Jr.
in memory of Betty H. and Julian A. Ganz.
M.72.49

ON THE LEFT, THE OLDEST OF THESE FOUR CHILDREN STANDS TALL, dressed in a formal black jacket with shiny gold buttons and a green bow tie. On the right, two younger boys in loose-fitting jackets and large ribbon bows tied around their necks are blowing bubbles.

The youngest child stands on a table in the middle of the painting in a white dress with pink bows tied at the shoulders. This child is probably a girl, but one hundred years ago, very young boys and girls wore the same kind of clothing. Often boy's dresses opened in the front, but not always. Under this dress are layers of skirts called petticoats that make it full and wide at the bottom.

If you were in a painting with your brothers or sisters, what would you be doing? What kind of clothes would you wear?

Go into Gallery 111.



WILLIAM HAMILTON

Scotland, active United States, 1795–1879

Alexander Masterton and His Wife and Children, 1834

Oil on canvas

Purchased with funds provided by Steve Martin, the American Art Council in honor of Michael Quick,
Herbert M. and Beverly Gelfand, Jo Ann and Julian Ganz, Jr., Abby and Alan D. Levy,
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duffy, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Liebes, Mr. and Mrs. William M. Carpenter,
Dr. and Mrs. Matthew S. Mickiewicz, and Madeline and Eugene Goodwin

AC1992.54.1

THIS PAINTING SHOWS A WELL-DRESSED FAMILY SPENDING A DAY IN shady green woods beside a river. The parents, dressed in the stylish clothes of the day, sit on a bench. The mother and her daughter, who stands at the left end of the bench, wear long satin dresses with puffy sleeves. The mother wears a bonnet with a pink ribbon and a brown satin dress with two lace collars. Can you find the daughter's bonnet? Beside the mother a younger child stands in a pink dress, white pantaloons, and a green-and-black hat. Do you think this child is a boy or a girl? The clothes the child wears tells us that he is a boy. His dress is a boy's dress because it opens in the front.

The father watches his three other sons fish in the river. Look at how the sons and the father are dressed. They all wear the same style of suit with different shoes and vests. What else makes their suits different?

Beginning about 100 years ago, many European people thought that children should wear simpler clothes that were easier to move around in. Do you think the children in this painting are wearing clothes that are easy to move in? Because this family wanted to look wealthy, they wore their best clothes. The family did not really go to the woods to have their portrait painted. They posed for this portrait indoors! The painter created this outdoor scene from his imagination.

If you were going to the woods with your family what kind of clothes would you wear? Would you be comfortable? Why?

Go into Gallery 112.



JOHN HOPPNER

England, 1758–1810

Miss Charlotte Papendiek as a Child, 1788

Oil on canvas

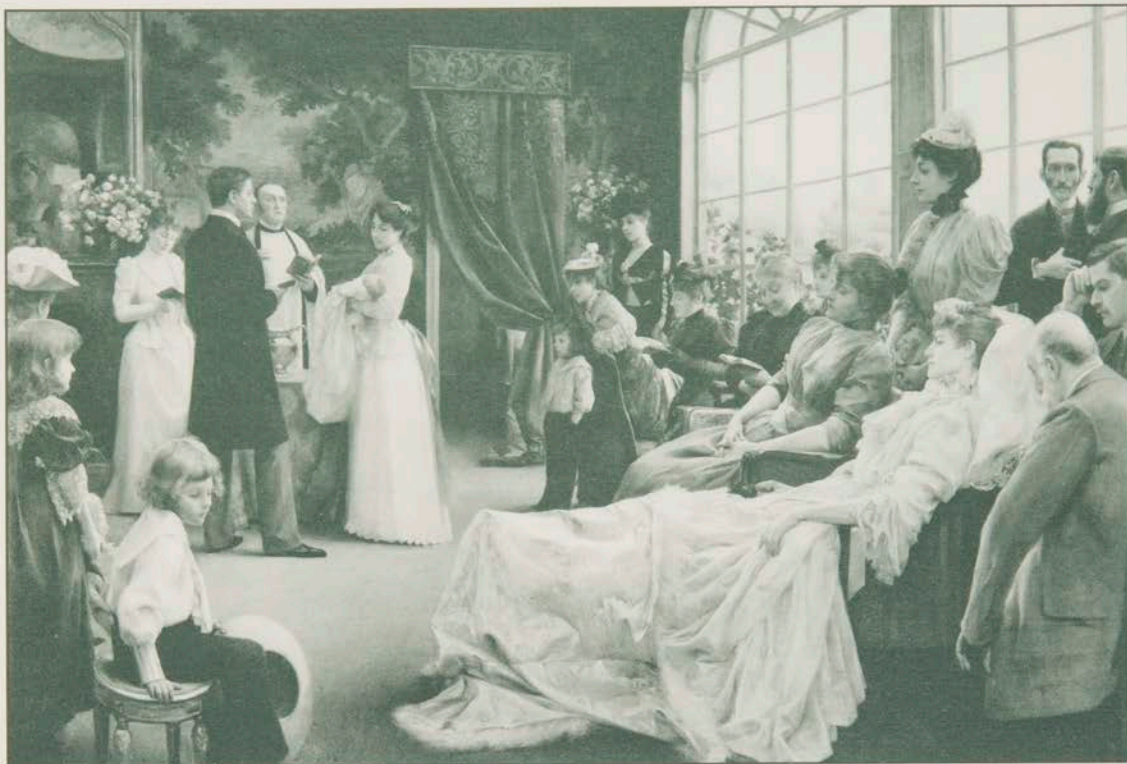
Purchased with funds provided by William Randolph Hearst

47.29.8

THIS GIRL WAS FOUR YEARS OLD WHEN THIS PAINTING WAS MADE, BUT her dress is similar to an adult woman's dress of the day. She wears a lace-edged white mobcap with a blue ribbon, a white dress with a low-cut square neckline, and a wide blue sash around her waist. The English liked this picture so much that the artist painted another version of it and also made inexpensive prints of the image for middle-class people to own.

If you had your portrait painted what would you choose to wear? How would you want to pose? Is there a picture of yourself that you would like to give to your friends and family?

Go into Gallery 109.



JULIUS STEWART

United States, 1855–1919

The Baptism, 1892

Oil on canvas

Purchased with funds provided by the Museum Acquisition Fund,
the Mr. and Mrs. William Preston Harrison Collection, Mr. and Mrs. J. Douglas Pardee,
Jo Ann and Julian Ganz, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Shoemaker,
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Witherspoon, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Crawford, and other donors
80.2

THIS PAINTING SHOWS A GROUP OF MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN gathered for the baptism of an infant. Near the center of the painting, the godmother stands in a white dress holding the baby, who wears a long white silk-and-lace christening gown. This gown is much longer than the baby is. Similar to a wedding gown, the great length and expensive fabric of this gown are meant to show the wealth of the family and the importance of the christening ceremony.

Present around the room are several women and children dressed in soft, flowing fabrics with many elegant details. On the right the baby's mother wears a peach-colored dress with lace ruffles. Because she is weak from childbirth, she rests her head on a pillow and raises her feet. Her legs are covered with a blue blanket with fur trim. On the left a young girl wears a long green velvet dress with a delicate lace collar and lace sleeves. She wears two gold bracelets on her arm and holds a small doll. Can you find others who are also wearing gold bracelets?

Beside this girl, a boy in a white shirt and black pants sits on a stool. His outfit is called a sailor suit. His shirt has a wide collar that lies on his back and ties in a knot on his chest. Look around the painting for another young boy. Can you find his twin brother standing across the room wearing the same suit? Leaning on a chair above this boy is a young woman who listens carefully to the baptism ceremony. She wears a blue dress with gold gloves and a short cape with a lace edge. Resting on her head is a small feathered hat with dotted netting over her face.

Have you ever watched a special ceremony like a baptism? What kind of clothes did you wear? Why did you wear those clothes?

Here is a list of other paintings at LACMA that feature children. Look for these paintings in the Ahmanson Building and in the Hammer Building:

The Ahmanson Building

Gallery 214

Pieter de Hooch

Holland, 1629–1684

Woman Giving Money to a Servant,
about 1668–72

Oil on canvas

Mr. & Mrs. Allan C. Balch Collection

M.44.2.8

Hallway between Galleries 103 and 104

Robert Henri

United States, 1865–1929

Pepita, 1917

Oil on canvas

Mr. and Mrs. William Preston

Harrison Collection

20.3.2

Thomas Hart Benton

United States, 1889–1975

The Kentuckian, 1954

Oil on canvas

Gift of Burt Lancaster

M.77.115

Gallery 115

Guillim Scrots (or Stretes)

Holland?, active London, about 1537–51

Portrait of Edward VI, about 1551

Oil on panel

William Randolph Hearst Collection

51.12.1

Gallery 111

Unknown artist (United States)

A Family Group, late 1840s

Oil on canvas

Gift of W. L. Adams

45.7

Attributed to Randall Palmer

United States, 1807–1845

The Young Artist, about 1845

Oil on canvas

Gift of the 1992 Collectors Committee

AC1992.70.1

Allen Smith, Jr.

United States, 1810–1890

The Young Mechanic, 1848

Oil on canvas

Gift of the American Art Council

and Mr. and Mrs. J. Douglas Pardee

M.81.1.79

The Hammer Building

Second Level

David and Sylvia Weisz Family Gallery

Pierre-Auguste Renoir

France, 1841–1919

Two Girls Reading, 1890–91

Oil on canvas

Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand Hammer

M.68.456.1

Pierre-Auguste Renoir

France, 1841–1919

The Huntsman, 1910

Oil on canvas

Gift of Jean Renoir and Dido Renoir

M.79.40

Paul Cézanne

France, 1839–1906

Boy with Straw Hat, 1896

Oil on canvas

Mr. and Mrs. George Gard De Sylva Collection

M.48.4

What are the children in these paintings wearing? What do you think it would have been like to be a child at the time these paintings were made? Try to imagine yourself in these paintings.

This family guide was written by Bridget Cooks, Education Department, Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Education programs are supported in part by grants from the California Arts Council and the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department.

