

## **Teacher's Notes: World's Most Expensive Painting Sold**

**General Tips:** Have students locate the word 'hurricane' in the article and highlight the word (frequently used word). When appropriate have students write the word a few times on a sheet of paper and/or draw a picture of a hurricane.

Addressing Problem Solving: Throughout the presentation, help students identify the problem that the various issues are causing people. Talk about what people might have to do given the circumstances on each page. For example, if there is a flood, help them see what problems that would cause and what they might have to do. With the tree on the car, what is the problem? Help them see that now that car won't work. There is glass everywhere, they would need to be careful they don't get cut. How will they get places with no car? Etc.

**Page 1:** This article is about a painting that sold for 450 million dollars!!! That is way more than a fancy mansion that someone famous lives in. No one has ever, ever paid that much for a painting. What do you see in the picture? What does that picture tell us? What do you think might be special about this painting that someone would pay so much for it?

**Page 2:** This says that the buyer is anonymous. What does anonymous mean? It means that the person is not giving their name. We don't know who it is. It was an anonymous buyer. Have you ever heard of sending an anonymous letter? What would that be? What about giving an anonymous gift? Why do you think that the buyer of this painting would want to be anonymous?

**Page 3**: The name of the painting is "Salvador Mundi". It is in Italian. Did you know that some paintings have names? Does anyone speak Italian? The article says that the name of the painting means "Savior of the World". It is a picture of Jesus Christ. It is a Christian painting. What do you see in the picture? Do you see the orb? Do you see is fingers? That means peace.

**Page 4:** This painting was sold on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Is Wednesday a day you have school? What were you doing on the day this was sold? Were you at school? What day of the week was that. What day was right after that? What else happens in November?

Page 5: The painting was sold at a place called Christies in New York City. That is where the Statue of Liberty is located. That is the city where Jessie from the Disney TV show "Jessie" lives. Look at the picture of Christies. See the map? Christies is in New York. There are also Christies in other cities around the world too, but the Christies in the U.S. is in New York. Christies is a place that auctions very expensive art. Do you know what an auction is? It's when people bid on something. For example, I say one hundred and then you say two hundred, and finally, the last one who bids and no one else wants to pay more has to pay that amount and they get to keep the painting. Would you like to see the auction where this painting was sold? When you see the men on the phone in the video, they are talking to someone who they are bidding for. Sometimes very rich people hire someone to go and bid for them at Christies Auction House. Christie's is a fancy place. Not every auction is fancy, but Christies is a fancy

place for auctioning art. <a href="http://www.christies.com/Features/Leonardo-and-Post-War-results-New-York-8729-3.aspx">http://www.christies.com/Features/Leonardo-and-Post-War-results-New-York-8729-3.aspx</a> (watch for a bit and then move it to the end to see the sale finalized)

**Page 6**: Do you know why this painting sold for so much money? It's because the artist was Leonardo da Vinci. He is one of the most famous artists who has ever lived. He was alive 500 years ago, so he is dead now. He is the one who painted the picture, and because he is such a good artist and so famous, it is worth a lot of money. Look at Italy. It is in Europe. That is where Leonardo lived. Look at the U.S. Look at Leonardo. How would you describe him? Point to his beard, hat, mustache. Do you know the names of any famous artists?

**Page 7**: 500 years ago Leonardo da Vinci was commission to make that painting for King Louis the 12<sup>th</sup> who was the king of France. Other kings owned the painting at different times. The statue in the picture of a king on a horse is King Louis the 12<sup>th</sup>. There are not pictures of him because cameras were not invented yet. Kings used to like to hire good artists to make paintings for them. Can you think of any statues you have ever seen?

**Page 8:** This painting is not the only paintings that are famous by da Vinci. Another famous one is the Mona Lisa. No one really know who it was that Leonardo painted, but the picture is called The Mona Lisa. Have you ever seen this painting before?

**Page 9:** Another famous painting you may have seen before by Leonardo da Vinci is The Last Supper. A lot of Leonardo da Vinci's paintings are of Catholic Bible stories.