



Teacher's Notes: Julian Onderdonk Biography

Activity Ideas:

- Have students take a walk and take pictures with their phone with a buddy.
- Buy small canvas' from the Dollar Store and acrylic paints and have the students paint a landscape painting of bluebonnets. Use the picture from the book as a model. Talk about using small strokes-big dots.

Page 1: Julian Onderdonk was a famous painter. He lived a long time ago. He is dead now. Look at the numbers underneath his name. It is 1882. 1882 was the year that Julian Onderdonk was born. That was a long time ago. Look at the second number. It is 1922. That is the year that Julian Onderdonk died. Have students view a few minutes of the following video showing Onderdonk's work. Pause and discuss periodically. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJNJS6NyIfE>

Questions: What is Julian Onderdonk famous for? Is Julian Onderdonk alive today? When was Julian Onderdonk born? What year did he die? What year were you born? Do you like to paint? Do you know anyone who likes to paint? **Point:** Julian Onderdonk, year born, year died, paint brushes, paint

Take your **Julian Onderdonk** Main Idea card and find a partner to ask questions and quiz each other about what we know about Julian Onderdonk so far.

Page 2: Julian Onderdonk lived in San Antonio, Texas. San Antonio is a city in the state of Texas. Have the students view the following video showing some of San Antonio's attractions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiH00lrVc>

Questions: What state do you live in? What city do you live in? What state did Julian Onderdonk live in? What city did Julian Onderdonk live in? Have you ever been to Texas? Would you like to visit Texas?

Point: US map, Texas, city of San Antonio, sky, building, windows

Take your **San Antonio** Main Idea card and find a partner to ask questions and quiz each other about what we know about the states that where you live and where Onderdonk lives?

Page 3: The landscape is the land and the sky that you see outside. The landscape could have mountains. The landscape could have grass. The landscape could have a lake. Julian Onderdonk painted landscapes. Look at the pictures on the page. These are landscapes that Onderdonk painted. Have the students view the following video of beautiful landscapes. Pause periodically and have students point to some of the features. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMcQidZdaOk>

Questions: What do landscape painters paint? What did Julian Onderdonk paint pictures of? What do you see in the landscape pictures on the page? What is the landscape like where you live? What is your favorite landscape? **Point:** sky, flowers, trees

Take your **landscape** Main Idea card and find a partner. Talk to each other about the landscape in the Julian Onderdonk painting on the page.

Page 4: Bluebonnets are flowers. Every state has a state flower. The Texas state flower is the bluebonnet. Have students view the following music video that shows bluebonnets. Pause periodically and have the students point to the bluebonnets. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDGxIRhLN6Y>

Questions: What is a bluebonnet? What color are bluebonnets? What did Onderdonk paint? What is the Texas state flower? Do you like flowers? What color flowers do you like? **Point:** painter, easel, bluebonnets

Take your **bluebonnet** Main Idea card and find a partner talk. Talk about what color bluebonnets are. Share your favorite colored flower.

Page 5: Impressionist painters paint pictures that look fuzzy. Julian Onderdonk was an impressionist painter. His paintings were fuzzy. The bluebonnets look fuzzy. Look at the photograph at the bottom of the page. That is what a field of bluebonnets looks like. Look at the picture at the top of the page. That is an impressionist style of painting. See how the fields and the bluebonnets look fuzzy. Impressionist painters make dabs with paint on the paper. Have the students paint an impressionist landscape. You can have the view the following video showing a man's brushstrokes while painting an impressionistic landscape. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k8MQxsq8U4>

Questions: What kind of painter was Onderdonk? What does impressionist art look like? Do you like impressionist art? **Point:** Impressionist picture of bluebonnets. Photograph of bluebonnets.

Take your **impressionist** Main Idea card and find a partner. Describe what impressionist art looks like.

Page 6: Julian Onderdonk wanted people to like his paintings. He was worried that people would not like them. **Questions:** Do you know how to look worried? Show me a worried face. (Teacher gives an example of when they have been worried) What have you ever been worried about? What was Julian Onderdonk worried about? Did people like Onderdonk's paintings? **Point:** painting, bluebonnets, trees, man, hands on head

Take your **worried** Main Idea card and find a partner. Show your partner a worried face.

Page 7: George W. Bush was the president of the United States from 2001-2009. George W. Bush lived in the White House when he was the president. He wanted something that reminded him of Texas. He wanted a painting from Texas. **Questions:** Who was George W. Bush? Who is our president today? Where was George W. Bush from? What did George W. Bush want? **Point:** George W. Bush, White House, trees, windows, flag

Take your **George W. Bush** Main Idea card and find a partner to ask questions and quiz each other about who George W. Bush was and what he wanted.

Page 8: Borrow means to take something and promise to return it. We can borrow books from the library. That means we can take the books and read them, but we have to return them to the library. George W. Bush borrowed an Onderdonk painting. He hung it in the Oval Office. The Oval Office is the room where the President work. Have students view the following video showing a tour of George W.

Bush's Oval Office. See if the students can find the bluebonnet painting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0DA49GCOIM>

Questions: What did George W. Bush borrow? Where did he hang the painting? What does the President do in the Oval Office? Have you ever borrowed anything? **Point:** bluebonnet painting, Oval Office, painting on wall, flag, desk, chairs, windows,

Take your **borrow** Main Idea card and find a partner to ask questions and quiz each other about what borrow means and what George W. Bush borrowed.

Page 9: Bush borrowed the painting. He could not keep it forever. He returned it to a museum in Texas. Now that the painting is in a museum, many people can see it? **Questions:** What did Bush do with the painting? Where did he return it to? Have you ever been to a museum? Have you ever returned something that you borrowed? **Point:** museum from outside, people, bluebonnet painting

Take your **returned** Main Idea card and find a partner to ask questions and quiz each other about where Bush returned the painting?