



Primary Focus: Shapes and Patterns

Discover the many shapes and patterns in this work.

Having the students look and discover all of the shapes they can find gives them confidence to discuss what they see. Many of the shapes and patterns are repeated presenting another opportunity to look carefully. For example, the pattern on her dress in the foreground and the pattern on the curtains in the middle ground are similar. Other examples are readily found with a close look of the painting.

Investigate the patterns in this work. This relates directly to the math curriculum.

Use Art terms: **Foreground, middle ground, background, and portrait.** (Notice in the very far background on the left the tip of a church steeple.)

Setting: If the students are into their social science unit that discusses the various places people live please emphasis the country setting.

Some questions to pose:

- Who are these people? (Reveal to the students the true identity of these two people).
- Why do you think the artist decided to portray them looking so serious?
- Where are they?
- When do you think this was painted and why?
- Do you see anything in the background? What do think is beyond the trees?
- What do you hear?

AT HOME SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER: HAVE THE CHILD CUT OUT SEVERAL SHAPES AND ARRANGE THEM ON A LARGE PIECE OF PAPER. GLUE THEM DOWN AND THEN ADD IN DETAILS TO MAKE A PORTRAIT TYPE WORK.