

HENRI MATISSE



DRAWING

with

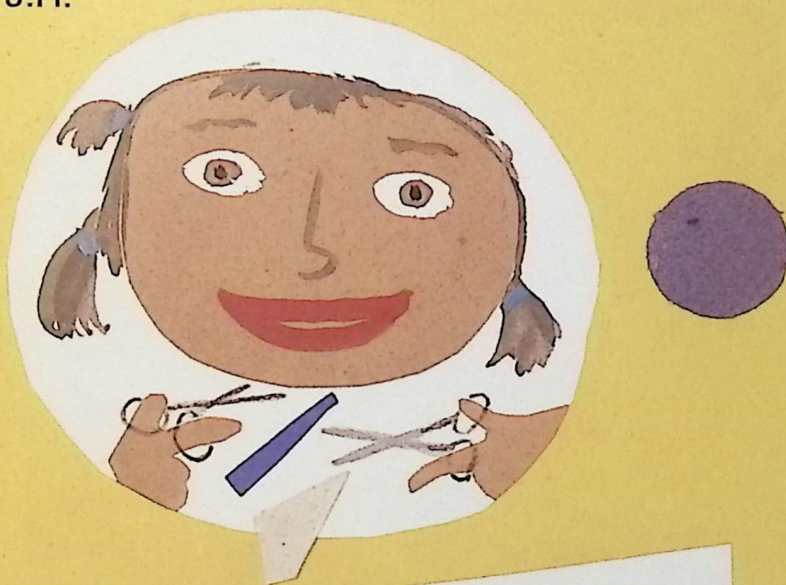
SCISSORS



by Keesia Johnson and Jane O'Connor
illustrated by Jessie Hartland

For Barbara, an art lover
and a great friend—J.O'C.

For Sam, my favorite
little artist—J.H.



Cover image: *The Sadness of the King*, by Henri Matisse. 1952. Musee National d'Art Moderne, Paris, France/Giraudon/Bridgeman Art Library. Page 15: Photograph copyright © 2001 by Olivier Rhee. All artwork by Henri Matisse copyright © 2001 Succession H. Matisse, Paris/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

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From the desk of

Ms. Brandt

Dear Class,

Our unit on famous artists is almost over. I hope that you enjoyed it as much as I did.

I am excited to read your reports. Here are some questions that you may want to think about:

🎨 Why did you pick your artist?

🎨 If you could ask your artist 3 questions, what would they be?

🎨 Did you learn anything that really surprised you?

Good luck and have fun!

Ms. Brandt

Happy Birthday

and Happy
New Year



M

y artist, Henri Matisse, was born on New Year's Eve. So was I. That's why I chose him for my report. It is weird to have your birthday on December 31. I wonder if Henri Matisse got sick of people saying "Happy New Year" instead of "Happy Birthday." (I do!)

You say my name
like this—
Oh-ree
Mah-teess

You say my
name like this—
Kee-sha





Icarus from Jazz, by Henri Matisse. 1947. Pochoir plate. Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK/Bridgeman Art Library.

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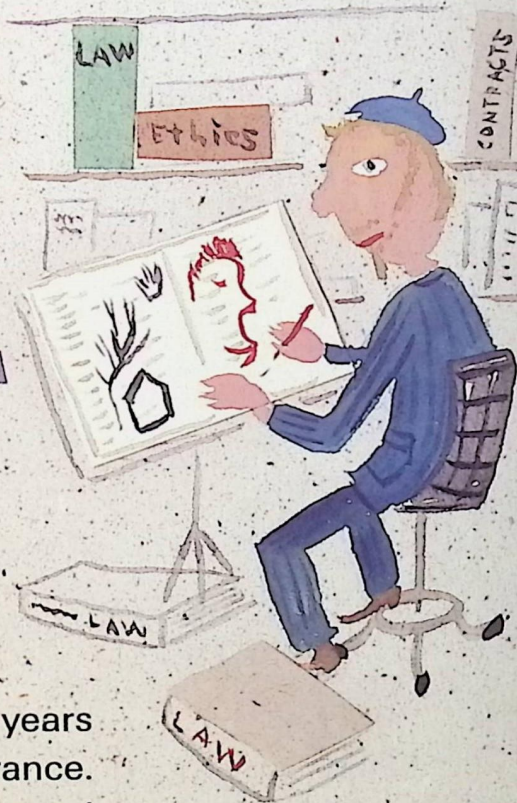
My grandfather sent me this card on my birthday. The picture is by Henri Matisse. I like the colors. They are so bright.

Henri and his mom

Henri was born here



Henri Matisse at age nineteen with his mother, Anna Héloïse Gérard Matisse. 1889. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Copy Print © 2001 The Museum of Modern Art, New York.



Henri was born in 1869. That is 125 years before me. He grew up in a small town in France. His parents ran a general store. His father wanted Henri to become a lawyer. Henri worked in a law office for a while but he was bored. He drew flowers on the law papers!



Then, when he was 20, Henri got very sick. He had to stay in bed for a long time. His mother gave him a set of paints to pass the time. That was it for Henri! From then on he knew he wanted to be a painter. His father said, "You'll starve!" But when he got better, Henri went to Paris anyway to become an artist.

SMART ABOUT



H

enri Matisse:

DRAWING with Scissors

Dear Ms. Brandt,

My report is on
Henri Matisse.
I love his art.
His paintings look so
happy. But Henri
worried about his art
all the time. Sometimes
it even made him
cry! I hope you like
what I have written!

Keeria Johnson

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