Artist Spotlight

Sir Edwin Landseer

Born in 1802, Sir Edwin Landseer was a skilled painter and huge animal lover. He grew up in a big English family with six siblings and won art awards as early as thirteen years old. Landseer went to the famous art school in London, The Royal Academy of the Arts, and became a well-known artist by his twenties. His teachers told him to carefully study how dog bodies look including their muscles, facial expressions, and movement. By the late 1830s, Landseer became famous for his ability to paint dogs with great emotions. People loved his artwork because it highlighted the friendship between man and dog, as well as how human-like dogs’ emotions can be. Landseer was so talented in his dog paintings that he eventually became the animal painter for Queen Victoria!

Below is an example of Sir Edwin Landseer’s expressive dog paintings. Titled, The Two Dogs, this painting shows one dog caring for a wounded dog by liking his head. Notice how Landseer makes the wounded dog seem sad with the animal’s eyes and body position. Now it is your turn! On the following page is a blank space for you to create your dog art. Just like Landseer, create an expressive scene with two dogs.
**Activity**

Draw a picture of two dogs and assign one emotion to each animal. You can imagine them doing anything like playing in a park, sleeping at home, or eating a treat. Keep in mind you can use the dog’s body language and face to create emotions like Landseer.

*Example:* A dog with its tail between its legs can mean it’s sad.

Which emotions did you draw?

1st Dog’s Emotion ____________

2nd Dog’s Emotion ____________