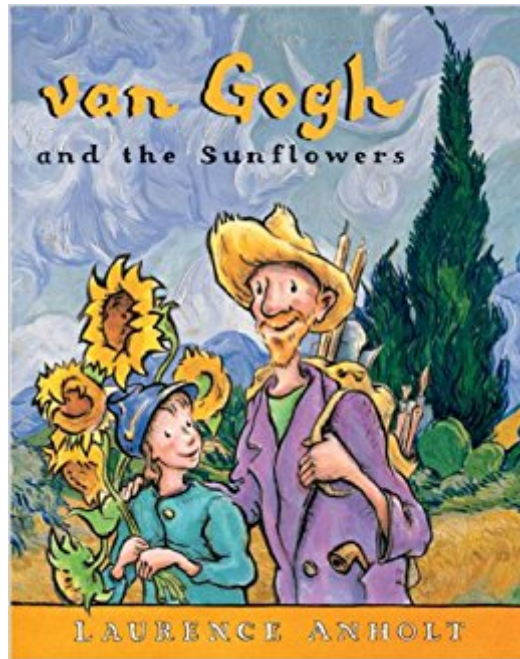




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# Van Gogh And The Sunflowers (Anholt's Artists Books For Children)



## Synopsis

Young Camille befriends a strange visitor to his small town, and one day he brings this man a gift of bright, beautiful sunflowers. The man is the artist Vincent van Gogh, and the sunflowers quickly become the subject of a magnificent painting. This is a title in Barron's Anholt's Artists Books for Children series, in which author and illustrator Laurence Anholt recalls memorable and sometimes amusing moments when the lives of the artists were touched by children.

Anholt's fine illustrations appear on every page and include reproductions of works by the artists.

## Book Information

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Series: Anholt's Artists Books For Children

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series (October 1, 2007)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9.2 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #21,500 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art #78 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art

## Customer Reviews

Laurence Anholt is the author and illustrator of several children's books about famous artists, all available in North America from Barron's. They include Degas and the Little Dancer, Leonardo and the Flying Boy, The Magical Garden of Claude Monet, and van Gogh and the Sunflowers.

Our 5 year old granddaughter is an artist

I was looking for books about painters to add to our library's collection. I picked this one, as well as another one from the same author, with the title "Van Gogh and the Sunflowers". The covers are different, the titles are different, so I was really surprised and upset when I realized that they were

actually the same books, same illustrations, same texts, but only two different titles. It is really not nice to trick the client like this. Apart from this, it is a very nice book.

This is a wonderful series and I love this wonderfully illustrated story of Van Gogh's time in Arles, France. The story tells of him moving in to the "yellow house" and being inspired by the colors in southern France. There are many easily recognizable works by Van Gogh in this story. But it also talks about how the town's people felt that Vincent and his paintings didn't fit in with their town. At one point in the story, the kids throw rocks at Vincent and his friend Camille. Camille's father does explain to Camille that "people often laugh at things that are different, but I've got a feeling that one day they will learn to love Vincent's paintings." Eventually Vincent is forced to leave the town but he gives Camille one of his paintings of the sunflowers. \*\*\* My caution does not come from the story itself but a book note that is printed on the last page of the story (not even on a book jacket that you can take off and put away). It explains how Vincent later becomes depressed and cuts off one of his ears. It also explains that even after seeking the help of a doctor that he commits suicide by shooting himself with a pistol. This is a tough fact for me to reconcile sharing with the age group that this book is intended for. You of course can choose not to read it to your child (or children if sharing with a class), however any curious early reader is sure to take notice of this information since it is simply printed on the last illustrated page of the story. Just be prepared and have an explanation for this information if you don't have the chance to censor the last page of the book.

This simple little fictional story is a lovely way to introduce young children to the wonderful world of art. I like that the author has inserted a child into the story to interact with the artist. The illustrations are colorful and inviting. My 5 year old granddaughter loves Vincent Van Gogh and wanted a book about him. This book has been a gentle way to introduce her to an artist, who struggled to be accepted in life, and ultimately conquered with his art. The book showcases a few of Van Gogh's masterpieces (photographs) inserted along throughout the storyline. I liked this book so much I have ordered additional books by this author, about other artists.

I can't say enough good about this series. It is a creative way to introduce kids to these artists. They are written to be kids stories and entertain while throwing in some information about who the artist is, to show the artists' general style and introduce some specific works by the artist. My daughter is 5. She soaks this stuff in. I think she would have been able to be as receptive to the stories at age 4 and maybe just earlier than that but it would have been pushing the envelope. I suspect she will

enjoy the stories for another couple years. It has lead us to google some of the actual artists' works. My daughter now wants to find some museums that have some of the pieces that are addressed in the books.

My five and a half year old twins loved this story and ALL of Anholt's artists books for children. We just came back from a trip to Paris, and what better prepping for that trip's artistic components, than the series of Anholt's childrens' books! BRAVO! (But, beware, I made the mistake of reading the author's notes on the back jacket flap aloud after we'd finished the story, about how VG had cut off his ear and then shot himself, and my kids had bad dreams that night! Too much "ununderstandable stuff" for my guys at least!) It's great how copies of some of the real paintings are included in the books, so the kids can look for those when we go to the museums!

Cute Book :-)

I read this book to my preschool class for one of our Preschool Art History books & they all were very engrossed with the story.

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