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# Rembrandt And The Boy Who Drew Dogs: A Story About Rembrandt Van Rijn



## Synopsis

Author Molly Blaisdell transports young readers to the city of Amsterdam in the 1650s. It is a time when world-renowned artist Rembrandt van Rijn is at the height of fame among his patrons •and when his young son Titus longs to imitate his father and become a great painter. At first, Rembrandt rebuffs Titus's attempts at drawing, telling the boy he is too young to learn art. But gradually, the master painter is won over by his son's enthusiasm and persistence, and he begins to teach a very happy Titus the basic techniques of drawing from life. Here is a warmhearted story for children, with illustrations that capture the atmosphere of seventeenth-century Holland and suggest some of the genius that radiates from Rembrandt's own magnificent paintings.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 650L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series (May 1, 2008)

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.5 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #512,848 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #222 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art #1495 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Molly Blaisdell is a freelance writer who has published many articles and books for the children's educational market. She lives with her husband Tim and their four children in Woodinville, Washington. This is her first picture book. Nancy Lane is a freelance illustrator and creator of artwork that ranges from community murals, logos, and courtroom drawings to licensed T-shirt designs, and children's books. She is also the illustrator of the children's book, *Renior and the Boy with the Long Hair*, published by Barron's.

I was looking for something about Rembrandt for an Art in the Classroom session. This is a lovely book, but unfortunately I found it too young and a bit off-topic for my third grade audience. However, based on the sweet story and the gorgeous illustrations, it certainly deserves a spot in the elementary school library, or possibly in an art therapy setting.

Got this for kids aged 8, 6 and 3 before a trip to Holland. It made Rembrandt into a relatable character for them, and they were thrilled to visit his real house (a museum) and see his paintings in the museum, I think largely b/c of this book.

This is a kid-friendly intro to the famous painter Rembrandt van Rijn, in Amsterdam in the 1650s. Blaisdell built a father-son story from the historical fact that Rembrandt's son Titus sketched as a child. In this fictional version, Titus wants to imitate his father, but Rembrandt thinks he is too young. Titus must prove himself. It's a warmhearted story against the lovely backdrop of seventeenth-century Holland. An extensive author's note adds value.Â Rembrandt and the Boy Who Drew Dogs: A story about Rembrandt van Rijn

A beautiful book! I love the way the story is integrated with colorful modern illustrations juxtaposed with Rembrandt's own moody, emotive work. Blaisdell renders the world of this artist an inviting one by allowing us to view it through the eyes of Rembrandt's young son Titus. On one hand, Titus contends with a household of rambunctious pets who make a mess his father's studio, and on the other, struggles with his desire to win his father's approval. The gentle story-telling brings to life not only the world of a great artist, but the enduring warmth of a son's relationship with his father. It's clear that the mission of the book is to introduce kids to art and the artistic process, and the book definitely succeeds in this. Highly recommended.

Rembrandt and the Boy Who Drew Dogs: A Story about Rembrandt van Rijn is a children's picturebook set in 1650s Amsterdam, when artist Rembrandt van Rijn is at the peak of his prowess, and his son Titus longs to follow in his father's footsteps. But Rembrandt tells his boy that he is too young to learn how to draw and paint. What is Titus to do? The simple color illustrations bring to life this thoughtful story about father-son bonds, honing one's practice in a chosen craft, and the (sometimes) helpful efforts of man's best friend. Highly recommended.

This book makes Rembrandt relevant and relatable to kids by presenting the artist, in part, from the

point of view of his son. The story makes us sympathetic to the son, Titus, and his own artistic development while showing a good view of life in the mid-seventeenth century and cleverly integrating the artist's work into the illustrations. Great for budding artists, young dog lovers, and history buffs alike.

This sensitively written book combines colorful illustration, historical information with a storyline that appeals to children and adults alike. You and your children will cheer young Titus on as he gains confidence and learns to draw with the help of his father, the great master, Rembrandt. This is a wonderful gift for the artist in all of us.

Dogs, a monkey, the Amsterdam skyline, and a little boy who wants to grow up to be just like his daddy... this charming book will inspire young artists and daddy's of little boys, too! A great deal of historical information is worked very naturally into the text. A good book for every budding artist.K. Hamilton

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