

# ARTIST STUDY

## *discussion questions*

Look at the painting again and ask children to share the thoughts they have about the piece and what connections they have made. Ask a few of the questions below.

- What do you think the story of this painting is?
- How do you think these characters feel? What would they say if they could speak to you?
- What do you think the artist has in his mind or what idea is he trying to convey to us?
- Do you notice anything that reveals the time of day or setting?
- What does the painting remind you of?
- What do all the boats, dogs, trees (*objects*) suggest?
- What are the main forms or shapes in the painting?
- Where does your eye first go? Why do you think that is?
- What are the primary or main colors the artist used?

### **For older children:**

- What are the chief characteristics of the work?
- What parts of the image have the most light and what parts are cast in shadow (if any)? How does that affect your attention or direct your eye?
- What mood does the light or do the colors suggest?
- Is there higher contrast (or an extreme difference in values) anywhere in the painting? Does that attract your attention? If not, what part of the painting first captures your eye and why do you think that is?
- How has the artist framed the subject—with lots of empty space, or are you thrown right into the middle of things?
- Does the artist place the viewer far away or close to the subject? Why do you think that is? If the artist placed the viewer closer or farther away, what might that do to our experience of the subject?

