

# Toddler Thursdays



## Create a Landscape with Dabs of Color!

Now that it's summer, do you like to play outside? Let's look at Edward Bannister's *Apple Trees in a Meadow*. What do you notice about the trees? How did the artist paint the leaves and flowers? If you look very closely, especially at the branches toward the bottom, you'll see that the artist used small dabs of paint to create beautiful details! Look outside and find a tree. Do you notice that the tree is made up of many leaves and individual colors?

Edward Mitchell Bannister was one of the first African American painters to achieve worldwide fame in the 1800s, more than two hundred years ago. He believed in the "harmony of all created things." Mr. Bannister liked to paint landscapes around his home. The word

"landscape" means anything you can see outside, such as trees and flowers. Have you drawn or painted a landscape before?

With a piece of paper and pencil, find a place outside for you to draw. Draw anything you see! What does your landscape look like? What is included in it? Remember how Mr. Bannister used just small dabs to create his leaves and flowers? Try the same thing! Look closely at the world around you and draw even the smallest things you notice! Can you see a tree? What colors make up your tree? Using crayons, draw individual leaves for your tree with as many different colors as you would like!

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