

NAME: _____

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY – Plain and Fancy



John Singleton Copley (shown on the left) painted the Gore children portrait when he was about 17 years old. How many 17 year olds do you know who can paint like that? Wow!

John and Frances Gore lived in Boston and had many children, 13 in fact. John Gore was a successful merchant. Just like you might get a family picture taken, they had a family portrait painted in 1755 - that's over 260 years ago! The Gore children painted in the picture below are: Frances, Miss Gore, John, and Samuel Gore. The artist has painted several clues in this painting that tell us many things about these children.

DIRECTIONS: Look at the Gore family portrait below and see if you can identify the following information about the family from the painting:

1. Where was the portrait painted? _____
2. Was this a wealthy family? _____
3. What type of clothing are they wearing? Plain or fancy? _____
4. How old do you think the children are? _____
5. What are the genders of the four children? _____



59.3408 Courtesy, Winterthur Museum

gray bar/RGB each=128

FUN FACTS: The members of this family turned out to be really cool people! The boy on the right was a patriot who with his friends, secretly carried off a cannon right in front of the British soldiers! Frances, one of the sisters, married a man who took part in the Boston Tea Party. The youngest brother of the family (not pictured) was named Christopher Gore. He became the Governor of Massachusetts! Pretty cool family!



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winterthur.org/school
800.448.3883 • school@winterthur.org