**Claude Monet**

**A person with a beard wearing a hat

AI-generated content may be incorrect.👨‍🎨 Who Was Claude Monet?**

**Oscar-Claude Monet** was a famous French artist who **painted beautiful scenes of nature** like gardens, water lilies, and the sea.

He helped start a new style of painting called **Impressionism**, where artists used **light and colour** to show how something *felt* instead of painting it exactly as it looked.

**🧒 Childhood**

* He was born on **November 14, 1840**, in **Paris, France**.
* His **father, Adolphe Monet**, ran a family grocery and ship-supply business in Le Havre.
* His **mother, Louise-Justine Aubrée Monet**, was a **singer** who supported Claude’s artistic interests.
* After his mother died when he was 16, Claude moved in with his aunt, who also encouraged his art.
* As a child, he loved to **draw funny pictures (caricatures)** of people.
* He grew up near the sea in **Le Havre**, where he watched ships and water every day.

**🎓 Education**

* Monet went to **secondary school (Collège Secondaire des Arts)** in **Le Havre**, where he took art classes.
* He received his first drawing lessons from **Jacques-François Ochard**, a former student of Jacques-Louis David.
* He studied at the **Académie Suisse** in Paris and later joined the **École des Beaux-Arts** briefly, though he disliked their strict, traditional methods.
* He was mentored by **Eugène Boudin**, who taught him to paint outdoors (“en plein air”), which became a key part of Impressionism.
* At 15, he was already selling his caricatures for pocket money.
* He joined the army but left because he got sick, then went back to studying art seriously.

**💼 Career**

* **Impressionism was born** from his painting *Impression, Sunrise* (1872). The name was originally used as a joke by a critic!
* He painted the **same subject many times**—like haystacks or the Rouen Cathedral—to show how it looked in different lights and seasons.
* He loved painting **outdoors (en plein air)** with quick brushstrokes and bright colors.
* He formed an art group with friends like Renoir and Pissarro to display their work outside official galleries.
* Monet faced **money troubles early in his career**, but by the 1880s, his art became popular and he began to make a good living.
* In his later years, Monet designed and planted a **huge flower garden and lily pond** in Giverny. These became the subjects of some of his most famous works.

**🗣️ Quotes from Monet**

* “I must have flowers, always, and always.”
* “Colour is my day-long obsession, joy and torment.”
* “I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers.”
* “Everyone discusses my art and pretends to understand, as if it were necessary to understand, when it is simply necessary to love.”

A painting of boats on the water

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**🖼️ Artwork**

**Impression, Sunrise** (1872)

A painting of water lilies

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**Water Lilies** a series of 250 different paintings(1897–1926)

A green bridge over water

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A person in a dress holding an umbrella and a child in a field

AI-generated content may be incorrect. **The Japanese Bridge**

**Woman with a Parasol** (1875)