



Congo the Painter



by Josephine Parks

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 **Harcourt**
SCHOOL PUBLISHERS

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🔊 Look at this art. Do you like the paintings? Do you know who did the paintings?

🔊 People didn't do the paintings. An animal did the paintings!



❏ A hamster did not do the paintings. A hamster can't paint. A hamster can run, but it can't hold a brush!



🔊 A duck did not do the paintings.
A duck can't paint. A duck can quack,
but it can't hold a brush!



❏ A cat did not do the paintings.
A cat can't paint. A cat can jump, but
it can't hold a brush!



What animal did the paintings?
It was this chimpanzee! His name was Congo.

Congo was very good at painting. He liked to put lots of paint on paper. He could carry a paintbrush in his hand.



🔊 Congo with one of his paintings

🔊 Congo lived until 1964. Some people still like to buy Congo's paintings. People pay a lot of money for them. In 2005, a man bought two of Congo's paintings for \$25,000!



▶ Would you like to buy one of Congo's other paintings? Which one would you like to have?

Think Critically

- 1. How can you tell this book is not a story?
- 2. What is the main idea of the book?
- 3. How did Congo paint?
- 4. Why do you think the author first told about different animals?
- 5. What did you find surprising in this book?

Science

Make a Chart Make a chart with the heads *Things Chimpanzees Can Do* and *Things Chimpanzees Can't Do*. Write three things under each head.

-  **School-Home Connection** Tell a family member about *Congo the Painter*. Talk about other interesting things animals can do.