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David Axel Ericson
(American)

Morning of Life
1907
oil on canvas, 27” x 22 1/4”
Gift of Mrs. E. L. Tuohy

This little boy is the artist’s son when he was three years old. The artist has painted him in a boat on Lake Superior. This artist, David Ericson, lived in Duluth Minnesota and like many artists who live here, he liked painting the lake.

Imagine that it is you in the boat.

Where are you going?

How do you feel?

David Ericson moved to Duluth from Sweden as a boy. When he was 11 years old his leg was amputated because of an infection. He had to spend the next year in bed. During that time he had help from people who brought him art supplies and books. He spent his time drawing and painting and taught himself to be an artist.
Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world. Its colors are always changing. It can be very dark blue or light blue-green, as it is in Ericson’s painting. But it is almost always cold!

Create your own painting of Lake Superior. What color or colors will you use to paint the Lake?