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The Cover: Young Mother and Two Children was painted by Mary Cassatt
(1845–1926) in 1908. Cassatt was an American artist, daughter of a wealthy
Philadelphia business man. She left home and went to Paris to study and
worked with the noted impressionist Degas. Most of her paintings are of
mothers and children. An ardent feminist, she furthered her beliefs through
such paintings. It is appropriate that this painting of two children now hangs
in the White House, which is not only the center of the US political scene
but also a family residence. The powerful, if idealized, visual bonds between
this mother and her two children represent motherhood at its best. In this
PREP 2—year 3, when health supervision of infants is a topic for review,
enhancement of maternal and child rearing skills is a major educational
objective for pediatricians. Young Mother and Two Children is reproduced
with the permission of the White House Historical Association. Photograph
is by the National Geographic Society.

The printing and production of Pediatrics in Review is made possible,
in part, by an educational grant from Ross Laboratories.