

ART: Painting Knowledge Organiser – Portraits

Upper KS2: Year 6

Opportunities for teaching Diversity, Equality & Cultural Capital:

Visit the York Art Gallery, the Mercer Art Gallery (31 Swan Road, Harrogate) or the Smith Art Gallery (Halifax Road, Brighouse) to see exhibitions of paintings & portraits.



Key Knowledge about Portrait Artists

Van Gogh was born in Holland in 1853 and died in 1886. He is known for both his landscape paintings and self-portraits, many of which he painted using oil paint on canvas. He created over 2000 artworks in his lifetime but sold very few while he was alive. He became famous in the 1900s.





Leonardo Da Vinci was born in Italy in 1452 and died in 1519. He was a scientist, inventor, and artist during the Italian Renaissance period. Many of his paintings relate to the Bible but he also painted portraits – the most famous being the Mona Lisa. He perfected a realism technique, called sfumato, to make his models look as real as possible.

Quick Quiz.

Can you name 2 portrait artists and describe their work?

Can you explain how to create and blend tones to paint a portrait?

Can you remember the name of Da Vinci's most famous religious painting?

What you will have learnt by the end of this unit.

- To develop control and experiment with different painting techniques imaginatively.
- To explain how my understanding of the cultural and time context of specific art work affects my views and influences my own practice.

What you have already learnt in Yr5.

- To explore a range of techniques to create desired effects.
- To understand the cultural elements of a piece of work and how this can inform my own work.

Recall and Remember:

Van Gogh was a post-impressionist artist meaning he used colour, lines and shapes to show emotion in his paintings.

Van Gogh used heavy, dramatic brushstrokes which can be clearly seen in his work.

Leonardo Da Vinci's most famous painting the Mona Lisa is only 53 by 77 cm. It is in the Louvre Museum, Paris.



Key Painting Skills I will learn/use:

When you paint, remember to...

- ♣ Draw sketches and try out ideas with shape and shades of colour before you begin working on your final piece.
- Consider the theme of your painting and choose colours that reflect this: action = bright, peaceful = pale, scary = dark etc.
- ♣ Decide on the composition of your picture. What is the main focus in the foreground? What is in the background?
- ♣ Think about perspective, the further away things are the smaller and less clear they will be. Do you need any to add any shadows?

Key Vocabulary	
Observe	Look closely and notice things of significant detail.
Investigate	Enquire into, try out new methods and ideas, discuss in detail.
Concept	An idea that leads to specific form of drawing or painting
Technique	Use a particular method or skill.
Perspective	Using size to represent the way objects appear to get smaller and closer together the farther away they are from the viewer.
Refine	Make changes to improve the final piece.
Critique	Express an analysis of the merits and faults of work of art.
Exhibit	Show a piece of work so it can be appreciated by an audience.
Portraiture	The art of creating portraits in paint or using photography.
Self-portrait	A representation of an artist created by the artist themselves.
Post-impressionism	The use of colour, lines and shapes to show emotion in art.
Realism	Trying to represent the subject matter in a natural way
Sfumato	Blending paint using lots of tones of the same colours





My Skills and Knowledge that I may use from other subjects

- Recognise and describe important similarities and differences/changes and continuity – History
- > Describe the changes as humans develop from birth to old age Science

What new Skills will you have you learnt by the end of UKS2?

How to organise line, tone, shape and colour to represent figure and forms in movement.

How to use shading to create mood, feeling or emotion.

How to experiment with techniques used by other artists to replicate a style.

How to research the work of an artist and explain what they were trying to achieve in a given situation.

How to explain why I have used different tools to create my art.

How to explain why I have chosen specific techniques to create my art.

How to explain some of the features of art from historical periods

How to suggest improvements to my own work and that of others and use feedback to amend my own work.