

Colour

Year 1

This unit introduces the children to the element of colour. This concept is then frequently revisited throughout the whole of the curriculum. The lessons use seminal works of *Mondrian*, *Bruegel the Elder*, *Van Gogh*, *Vermeer* and *Monet* to explore concepts and vocabulary which relate to colour: primary and secondary colours; warm and cool colours; tints and shades. This allows the children to start to investigate the art of painting. The activities in the unit are designed to allow them to practise good mixing technique and brush control. Teacher demonstration is crucial to afford the children every chance to succeed with these activities.

Questioning in the lesson planning encourages children to assess critically how artists can use colour and paint in different ways to produce different effects, including evoking different emotional responses. Towards the end of the unit children explore using different tones and brushstrokes to paint water, experimenting with using paint with mixed media. The children are introduced to evaluating their own work, both verbally and in writing.