

Vincent van Gogh



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Who is he?



What is he famous for?

Vincent van Gogh

Vincent van Gogh was born on 30th March 1853.

He is one the Netherlands' most famous artists.

His artistic style changed over time, becoming lighter and brighter. This is known as impressionism.

He decided to become an artist at the age of 27.



More about Van Gogh

Before he became an artist, **he worked in London and Paris at an international art company.**

He knew this wasn't his desired job, **he then became a teacher in England and a preacher in Belgium.**

In 1880, he decided to **become an artist.**



1880 - Van Gogh's Work

As he began his career as an artist, he painted a large amount of self-portraits.

A **self portrait** is a piece of art which is drawn, painted, photographed or sculpted of themselves, by themselves.



More of Van Gogh's Work

During this time, Van Gogh moved onto creating different pieces of art. He experimented with colours to show different emotions, for example he used yellows to show happiness.



The Potato Eaters, 1885



Sunflowers, 1889



Almond Blossom, 1890



Irises, 1890

Starry Night - 1889

Tell your partner three things about this painting...

- What artistic techniques can you see?
- What do you notice about the colours?
- What medium (art materials) has he used?



Starry Night - 1889

One of Van Gogh's most famous pieces is **Starry Night**, which he painted in 1889.

The impressionism artistic technique uses dabs of paint and colour.

You can still see the **brush strokes** in a **swirling, circular shape** in the sky.

The sun and stars add colour to the dark night sky.



His technique

Van Gogh liked to create his pieces of art using a range of materials (medium).

He was known for his **thick layers of oil paint**. This technique is called **impasto**.

This is an Italian word for paste or mixture. The brush strokes can still be seen, as it has been laid on so thickly.



Activities



Practise your oil painting techniques, using bold colours, different patterns and thick layers of colours.



Using the given template, can you add on thick layers of paint in the style of Van Gogh?
Try creating swirling patterns and bold sections of colour.



Design your own scenic picture,
add thick layers of colour using bold lines and brush strokes.