# Spring 2 – Week 1 – Amazing Artists

This book includes brief biographical recounts of a number of game changers in the history of art, from the impressionist master Claude Monet to the graffiti art of Banksy. Each chapter follows a similar structure: defining why the subject is a game changer and then recounting their early life and achievements. Quotes from the subject tell the story in their own words, and can be used to show differences between biography and autobiography.



### A note from the author

I have always loved visiting art galleries. Art

tells me stories about different periods in time, how an artist views the world or how the artist feels. I hope this book inspires you to think about artworks – why you like them, or why you don't. Maybe this book will motivate you to visit an art gallery to discover the stories within.

#### Key words

Discuss these key words with children to test understanding before reading or as you read. Remind children that tricky and technical vocabulary is included in the glossary. art movements (p2), critics (p3), unheard of (p8), textures (p9), distinctive (p10), watercolours (p12), abstract (p16), architecture (p17), geometric shapes (p21), experimental (p23), persistence, murals (both p29), still life, influential (both p34), autographs (p36), media (p37), trademark (p38), assembly line (p39), controversial (p40), unique (p41), stencils (p50)

# **Before reading**

Ask if any of the children have been to an art gallery. If they have, they may have seen paintings and other artwork painted hundreds of years ago. Ask: Why do you think people still look at paintings that were created so long ago? There are, of course, lots of possible reasons, but some art and artists are special, either because they were particularly skilled or because they invented a new style of art or a new way of looking at things. Sometimes the art is closely connected to the life of the artist, as is the case with many of the artists featured in this book.

# Weekly activities:

- Monday Think of five questions you would like to ask your favourite artist from the book. Do some research can you find out the answers to any of your questions?
- Tuesday Create your own range of colours for happiness, calmness, sadness and anger. Explain your choice. Emotion wheel template can be used for this

Emotion wheel example:



- Wednesday vocabulary Andy Warhol's Life
- Thursday comprehension name that artist

