



Year 5 Art Week beginning 22nd June

L.O.: I can study the art of Georgia O'Keeffe

I can observe closely and create a piece of artwork in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe.

**DON'T DO AT HOME IF YOU ARE
COMING IN TO SCHOOL!**

Georgia O'Keeffe

Artist 1887 - 1986



twinkl

Early Life

Georgia Totto O'Keeffe was born on 15th November 1887 in Wisconsin, USA.

She was one of seven children, and her mother encouraged Georgia's interest in art.

The landscape in Wisconsin was very important to Georgia, which became evident in her later work.

She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and had her first gallery show in 1916.



Petunias 1924

Georgia began experimenting with painting close up views of flowers. She used oil paints in vibrant, bold colours.



Red Canna 1924

Painting the flowers at such a close range makes the viewer see the object in a completely different way.



Oriental Poppies



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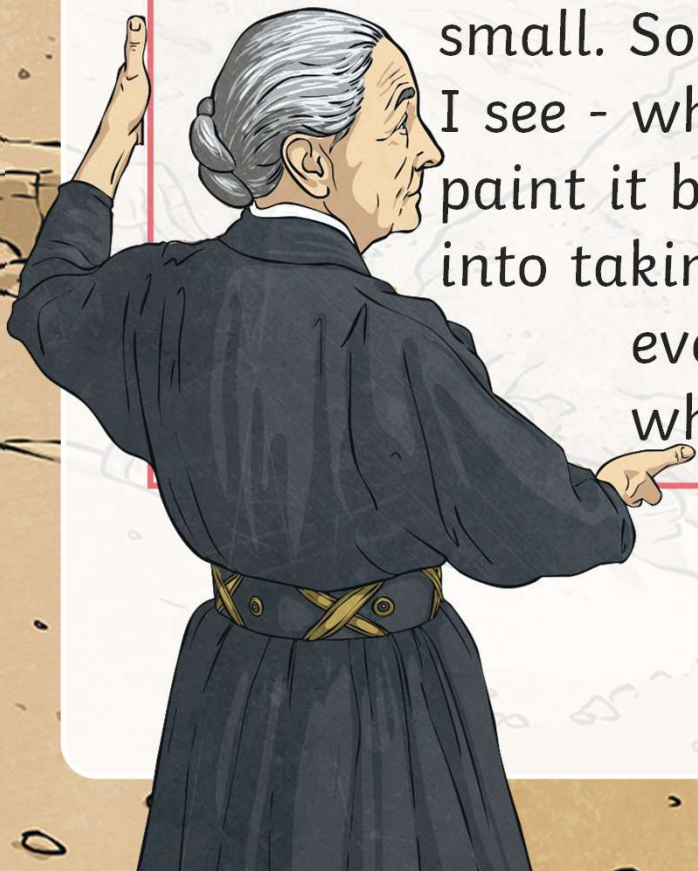
Light Iris 1924

The vibrancy of colour used, and the simplified images of leaves and petals, resulted in dramatic and innovative paintings, exploring the idea of abstraction.



O'Keeffe's Intention

"If I could paint the flower exactly as I see it no one would see what I see because I would paint it small like the flower is small. So I said to myself - I'll paint what I see - what the flower is to me but I'll paint it big and they will be surprised into taking time to look at it – I will make even busy New Yorkers take time to what I see of flowers."



In 1929, O'Keeffe visited New Mexico and was amazed at the landscape; the incredible rock formations, effect of the light and the symbols of Navajo culture.



Later Life and Legacy

Georgia O'Keeffe began to lose her eyesight and in 1972, she painted her last unassisted painting. She wrote a book and in 1977, at 90 years old, said;

"I can see what I want to paint. The thing that makes you want to create is still there."

Georgia O'Keeffe is recognised as being a pioneer of American modernism. She was highly praised for her art, which was **unusual for a woman in a male dominated art world**. She died on 6th March, 1986 aged 98 years old.

She painted thousands of painting, and The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum opened in Santa Fe in 1997.



Task:

1. Look at some more of Georgia's up-close flower paintings at this link: <https://www.georgiaokeeffe.net/paintings.jsp> Notice how she really zooms in, uses soft and flowing lines, includes small details and uses well-blended colours to create depth.

2. Choose a flower to create your own 'up-close' painting of a flower. Ideally, you have some flowers at home in a vase or in the garden that you could use. If not, google an image of a flower.

3. Looking closely at the flower, lightly sketch the outline and then add details. Remember, we want a close-up, not the whole thing so select an area carefully.

4. Once you are happy with the shape, begin to colour. The best media to use are watercolour paints or colouring pencils. Don't use felt tips; you won't get the lovely shading effect. If you don't have paints or pencils, you could shade using a normal pencil.

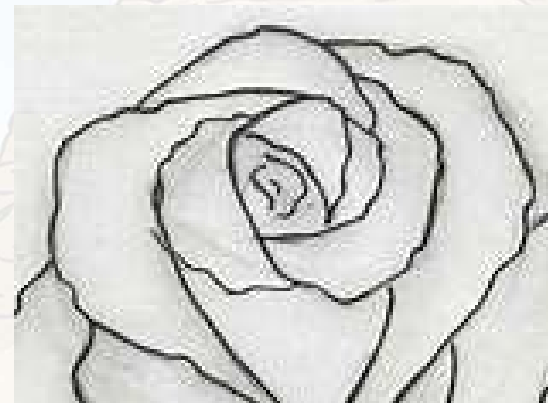
Look at the next page for some visuals.



ZOOM IN!! Don't draw the whole flower.



Step 1:
Looking closely,
draw the flower.



Step 2:
Paint the flower,
thinking about light, dark and
blending colours.



Or if you don't
have colours,
shade with a
soft pencil.

