# Art and Design Knowledge Organiser - Year 6

Topic: Monet

Key Vocabulary	
caricature	A picture, description, or imitation of a person in which certain striking characteristics are exaggerated in order to create a comic or grotesque effect.
Impressionism	Developed in France by Claude Monet and other Paris-based artists from the early 1860s. It is based on the practice of painting outdoors and spontaneously 'on the spot' rather than in a studio from sketches. Main impressionist subjects were landscapes and scenes of everyday life, created with thick layers of paint and fast brushstrokes.
stippling	The art or process of drawing, painting, or engraving using numerous small dots or specks.
Pointillism	A technique of neo-impressionist painting using tiny dots of various pure colours, which become blended in the viewer's eye. It was developed by Seurat with the aim of producing a greater degree of luminosity and brilliance of colour.
contrast	The state of being strikingly different from something else. In artwork, it often refers to the use of opposite colours from the colour wheel or use of light and dark.
convey	To make an idea, impression, or feeling known or understandable. To communicate a message.
Impressionist	At an exhibition of art in 1874, one critic used the term "impressionist" to imply that the art was just an impression of something and not completed. It was meant as an insult but is now used to refer to people who follow practices of Impressionism.



#### Knowledge:

Develop knowledge of Monet and his artwork, creating original pieces of printed artwork that use a range of printing skills that show fine detail and reflect the purpose of the work.

#### To master printing techniques:

- Build up layers of colours.
- Create an accurate pattern, showing fine detail.
- Use a range of visual elements to reflect the purpose of the work.

#### To take inspiration from the greats:

- Give details (including own sketches) about the style of some notable artists, artisans and designers.
- Show how the work of those studied was influential in both society and to other artists.
- Create original pieces that show a range of influences and styles.



# **Key Facts**

### Oscar-Claude Monet (1840- 1926)

- A French painter and founder of Impressionist painting. This style of painting is named after Monet's painting 'Impression, Sunrise' (1872), pictured on the left.
- Although known for his paintings, his early works were charcoal caricatures of local people and images he found in magazines.
- Monet took drawing lessons and learnt to use oil paints. A fellow artist, Eugène Boudin, taught Monet outdoor techniques for painting.



- Monet married and had children. They lived in poverty and took refuge in England from war. He studied the works of John Constable and JMW Turner here, whose landscapes inspired his use of colour.
- After returning to France, his wife became very ill in 1876 and died 3 years later. Although he was very sad at this time, he produced some of his best paintings.
- Monet was passionate about painting the French countryside and would often paint the same scene many times to capture the changing light and the different seasons.
- Monet remarried and moved to a house with a large garden, orchards and a barn. The sale of his paintings allowed him to buy more land, including a water meadow. With the help of gardeners, he created lily ponds, which he would later paint in some of his best-known works.
- Monet died at the age of 86 and had a simple funeral with just 50 guests. His home and gardens were opened to visitors in 1980 and are visited by tourists from all over the world.

## Grainstacks (1890/91)

In an extensive series of twenty-five paintings, Claude Monet painted a group of pictures of the stacks of wheat (referred to as grainstacks or haystacks) in the fields near his home in Giverny, France. He then exhibited them in 1891 and was greatly praised for his works. Originally, they were seen as subjects through which he could explore different light and











colour during the day and in different weather conditions. But it has recently been proposed that Monet was equally interested in the meaning and significance of the grainstacks themselves as they are traditional symbols of the land's fertility, the local farmers' material wealth, and the region's prosperity.