

Exploring the World of Claude Monet with Zara

Learning objective: To understand the techniques of Impressionism and how Claude Monet used light, colour, and brushstrokes to capture a moment in time.

Use your knowledge of Impressionist art and the vocabulary provided to answer the questions below. Think about how Zara would look at these paintings to find patterns and colours.

Word bank: Impressionism · brushstrokes · light · vibrant · landscape · pigment · reflection

1. Claude Monet is famous for being a founder of the Impressionist movement. Explain in your own words what 'Impressionism' means in terms of how an artist captures a scene. (2 marks)

2. Monet often painted the same subject at different times of the day. Why do you think he did this? Mention the importance of light in your answer. (2 marks)

3. Look closely at a Monet painting in your mind. Describe his 'brushstrokes'. Are they long and smooth, or short and choppy? How does this affect the texture of the painting? (2 marks)

4. If you were buying art supplies like Monet, and you wanted to create a vibrant pond scene, which colours would you choose to represent the light reflecting on the water? (2 marks)

5. Monet spent a lot of time painting his own garden in Giverny. Why might an artist choose to paint a scene they can visit every day instead of travelling to new places? (2 marks)

Draw: Zara the zebra wants to capture the movement of light on water. Using the style of Monet, draw a garden pond. Focus on using short, quick marks of colour rather than solid lines to show the lily pads and the reflection of the sky.



Extension challenge: Research Monet's 'Water Lilies' series. Choose one painting and write a short poem from the perspective of a frog living in that pond, describing the colours and light you see above you.