Mastering the Impressionist Style: Claude Monet

Learning objective: I can identify the key techniques and characteristics of Claude Monet's Impressionist art.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to explain why Monet's paintings look blurry up close but clear from a distance.

Read the term on the front of the flashcard. Think about what you know about Claude Monet's work before revealing the answer. For example, if the card says 'Primary Colour', the back would explain: 'A colour that cannot be made by mixing others, such as red, yellow, or blue.'

What is the name of the art movement that Claude Monet helped to start?	Impressionism.
What was Monet's main focus when painting a scene?	Capturing the changing effects of light and atmosphere.
How would you describe Monet's typical brushstrokes?	Short, quick, and visible, rather than smooth and blended.
Which subject did Monet famously paint in his garden at Giverny?	Water lilies.
Did Monet prefer to paint in a studio or outdoors?	Outdoors, 'en plein air', to see the light properly.
What is 'en plein air' painting?	A French term meaning painting outdoors in the open air.
How did Monet use colour to create depth?	By using bright, unmixed colours side-by-side to let the viewer's eye blend them.
Why did Monet paint the same subject at different times of the day?	To show how light changes the colours and mood of a scene.
What kind of details did Impressionists often leave out?	Fine, sharp outlines and tiny realistic details.
True or False: Monet always mixed his paints thoroughly to hide his brushstrokes.	False; he kept them visible to show movement and energy.