Mastering Still Life: An Art Discovery

Learning objective: I can identify, define, and apply the key concepts and techniques used in creating still life artworks.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to find examples of these terms in pictures at home to help them connect art theory to the real world.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of still life techniques. Look at the term on the front, think of the answer, then flip to reveal the definition. For example: Front: 'Composition' | Answer: 'The way objects are arranged in an artwork to create balance and interest.'

Still Life A work of art depicting mostly inanimate subject matter, typically everyday objects like fruit, flowers, or household items.	**Composition** The way objects are arranged within the frame to create balance, rhythm, and visual interest.
Highlight The area on an object that reflects the most light, making it look three-dimensional and shiny.	**Negative Space** The empty area or background surrounding the main objects in an artwork.
Perspective A technique used to create the appearance of depth and distance on a flat, two-dimensional surface.	**Texture** The perceived quality of a surface, such as the roughness of a stone or the smoothness of a glass vase.
Focal Point The part of the artwork that draws the viewer's eye first, often the most detailed or brightly coloured object.	**Primary Light Source** The main direction from which light hits the objects, determining where shadows will fall.
Shadow (Cast Shadow) The dark area created on a surface when an object blocks light from reaching it.	**Tone** The lightness or darkness of a colour, used to show volume and depth in a drawing.