Vincent van Gogh: A Master of Colour and Light

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to find a picture of a Van Gogh painting online and point out where the paint looks thickest.

Explore this poster to discover how Vincent van Gogh used thick paint and bold colours to change the world of art. Try to identify his techniques in your own sketchbook!

- **Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch artist. Can you name the primary colours he often used to make his paintings stand out?**
- **Look closely at his work. How does the 'impasto' technique—applying thick paint—change the way a painting looks compared to a smooth watercolour?**
- **Van Gogh painted 'The Starry Night' while living in France. Describe two shapes or patterns you see in his night sky.**
- **Zara the zebra loves patterns! Why might an artist choose to use 'complementary colours' like blue and orange next to each other?**
- **Think about the emotions in Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers'. How does his use of bright yellow change the mood of the room where it is displayed?**

Did you know? Did you know? During his life, Van Gogh painted over 2,000 artworks, including around 900 paintings, but he only sold one painting while he was alive! Today, his works are among the most famous and valuable in the world.

Key vocabulary: Impressionism · Post-Impressionism · Canvas · Palette · Texture