

Knowledge Organiser for Year 5/6 Art

Abstract Art – Henri Matisse

At CPS, you have studied other abstract artists. This includes Jackson Pollock in EYFS and Pablo Picasso in Year 3.

In KS3 you will know about great artists and designers and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms. In addition, you will produce creative work, exploring their ideas.

What is Abstract Art?

Abstract Art is art that does not attempt to represent an accurate depiction of a visual reality but instead use shapes, colours, forms and gestural marks to achieve its effect.

Key Facts about The Abstract Art Movement

- The word abstract means to separate or withdraw something from something else.
- The term can be applied to art that is based on an object, figure or landscape, where forms have been simplified.
- Since the early 1900s, abstract art has formed a central part of modern art.
- The Abstract Art movement is called Abstract Expressionism because, although the art has no subject, it is still trying to convey some kind of emotion/expression.
- The Abstract Expressionism movement began in the 1940s in New York City after World War II.
- However, the first real Abstract Art was painted in the early 1900s by Kandinsky.

Biographical information

Full name	Henri Emile Benoit Matisse
Born	31 st December 1869
Occupation	French Artist and Print Maker
Died	3 rd November 1954
Nationality	French
Art movement	Abstract

Key facts about Matisse

He was good friends with artist Pablo Picasso. They later became rivals.

He ran a small art school called Academie Matisse in Paris between 1908 and 1911.

Some of his paintings have sold for over \$20 million.

He was a realist painter until the age of 72 years when he became very ill and was confined to a wheelchair. He then focused on creating collage by cutting and tearing paper.



The Open Window, 1905



The Dancer, 1949