

Formal elements of Art



Cycle B

Vocabulary	
Abstract	Art work made from colour, shape and pattern rather than objects which you recognise.
Composition	Where the shapes or objects are placed in a picture.
Shape	The form of an object.
Primary colours	Colours which cannot be created by mixing other colours.
Secondary colours	Colours which are made by mixing two primary colours.
Optical illusions	An image that tricks your eyes and brain to see something different from the actual image.
Contemporary	The art of today, made in the second half of the 20th century or in the 21st century.


Previous Learning: building on pupils' knowledge of primary and secondary colours and experience to abstract art.

Next step: using horizontal lines in landscape pictures.

Key facts

Horizontal lines go from left to right.	
Vertical lines go up and down.	
Cross hatched lines are overlapping parallel lines.	
The primary colours are: Red, yellow and blue	
The secondary colours are: Orange, green and purple.	
Working collaboratively means, to work in a group on the same piece of work.	

Artists' work looked at:




David Hockney

Contemporary Art

Homage to David Hockney No.1, 2008, Holly Freaan
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Vija Celmins

Contemporary Art



Artwork ©Vija Celmins / Matthew Marks Gallery, Vija Celmins, Untitled (Ocean), 1968, Photo © Gift of Lannan Foundation / Bridgeman Images



Bridget Riley

Optical illusion Art


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Jasper Johns

Abstract Art



Artwork © Jasper Johns/VAGA at ARS, NY and DACS, London 2020
Jasper Johns, Numbers in Color, 1958-59,
Photo © David Lees Photography Archive / Bridgeman Images



Beatriz Milhazes

Contemporary and Abstract art

Rosa Nocturna, 2006-2007, Beatriz Milhazes
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