

Art vocabulary for the National Curriculum

This document sets out FS, KS1 and KS2 Art vocabulary under the EYFS Development Matters and National Curriculum. The tables can be used to check pupils' understanding of new vocabulary introduced from FS-Y6.

The lists are intended as a guide as to what pupils should know, and are not exhaustive. Of course, key terms may be introduced earlier as a challenge for our learners, although it is also important to ensure that learning is 'new' and carries an 'element of surprise'.

Year	Progression in Art Vocabulary from Foundation Stage to Year 6.
FS	<p>22-36 months: Colour, marks.</p> <p>30-50 months: Lines, space, texture, smooth, shiny, rough, prickly, flat, patterned, jagged, bumpy, soft and hard.</p> <p>40-60+ months: wet, dry, flaky, fixed, mix, cut, sweep.</p>
1	<p>Drawing: Thick, Thin, Soft, Broad, Narrow, Fine, Pattern, Line, Shape, Detail, Mirror image, Nature, Made environment.</p> <p>Painting: Primary (colour), Light, Dark, Thick, Thin, Tone, Warm, Cold, Shade e.g. different shades of red, green, blue, yellow, Bright.</p> <p>Printing: Print, Rubbing, Smudge, Image, Reverse, Shapes, Surface, Pressure, Decoration, Cloth.</p> <p>Collage & Textiles: Fabric, Colour, Pattern, Shape, Texture, Glue, Stick, Scissors, Sew, Needle, Felt, Hessian, Scraps, Wool, Yarn, Thread, Fur, Tweed, Silk, Satin, Net, Weave.</p> <p>Sculpture: Model, Cut, Stick, Fold, Bend, Attach, Assemble, Statue, Stone, Shell, Wood, metal.</p>
2	<p>Drawing: Thick, Thin, Soft, Broad, Narrow, Fine, Pattern, Line, Shape, Detail, Nature, Made environment, Comparison, Still life.</p> <p>Painting: Secondary (colour), Light, Dark, Thick, Thin, Tone, Warm, Cold, Shade e.g. different shades of red, green, blue, yellow, Bright, Pointillism, Colour wash.</p> <p>Printing: Print, Rubbing, Smudge, Image, Reverse, Shapes, Surface, Pressure, Decoration, Cloth, Repeat, Rotate, Mon-print, Two-tone print.</p> <p>Collage & Textiles: Fabric, Colour, Pattern, Shape, Texture, Glue, Stick, Scissors, Sew, Needle, Felt, Hessian, Scraps, Wool, Yarn, Mixed media, Collage, Appliqué, Layers, Combine, Opinion, Thread, Fur, Tweed, Silk, Satin, Net, Weave.</p> <p>Sculpture: Sculpture, Structure, Assemble, Construct, Model, Fold, Bend, Attach, Statue, Stone, Metal, Curve, Form, Clay, Impress, Texture.</p>
3	<p>Drawing: Frame, Cartoon, Comic strip, Map, Position, Boundary, Label, Line, Symbol, Practical, Impractical, Change, Improve.</p> <p>Painting: Abstract, Natural, Bold, Delicate, Detailed, Colour descriptors e.g. scarlet, crimson, emerald, eau de nil, turquoise, Watery, Intense, Strong, Opaque, Translucent, Wash, Tint, Shade, Background, Foreground, Middleground.</p>

	<p>Printing: Imprint, Impression, Mould, Monoprint, Background, Marbling, Surface, Absorb, Stencil, Pounce, Negative image, Positive image.</p> <p>Collage & Textiles: Tie and dye, Natural, Synthetic, Vat, Bunching, Dip, Soak, Resist, Threading, Stitching, Embroidery, Cross stitch, Running stitch, Stem stitch, Shrunken, Wool tops, Carding, Tease, Matting.</p> <p>Sculpture: Viewpoint, Detail, Decoration, Natural, Form, Two-dimensional, Three-dimensional, Tiles, Brick, Slate, Wood, Stone, Metal, Texture, Bronze, Iron.</p>
4	<p>Drawing: Plan, Distance, Direction, Position, Form, Texture, Tone, Weight, Pressure, Portrait, Past, Present, Appearance, Character, Personality.</p> <p>Painting: Scenery, Rural, Urban, Townscape, Seascape, Representational, Imaginary, Impressionist, Abstract, Idealised, Natural, Swirling, Stippled, Transparent, Opaque, Foreground, Background, Middle ground, Horizon.</p> <p>Printing: Pounce, Linear, Register, Manipulate, Block, Repeat, Continuous, Cylinder.</p> <p>Collage & Textiles: Daub, Stamp, Emblem, Motif, Ornamentation, Geometric, Stylised, Abstract.</p> <p>Sculpture: Form, Shape, Texture, Composition, Profile, Stylised, Proportion, Decoration, Ornate, Symbolic, Perspective.</p>
5	<p>Drawing: Viewpoint, Distance, Direction, Angle, Perspective, Bird's eye view, Alter, Modify, Interior, Exterior, Natural form, Vista, Panorama, Image, Subject, Portrait, Caricature, Expression, Personality.</p> <p>Painting: Traditional, Representational, Imaginary, Modern, Abstract, Impressionist, Stippled, Splattered, Dabbed, Scraped, Dotted, Stroked, Textured, Flat, Layered, Opaque, Translucent, Intense.</p> <p>Printing: Monotype, Printing plate, Inking up, Water-based, Oil-based, Overlap, Intaglio, Relief, Etching, Engraving, Indentation, Collograph, Pressure.</p> <p>Collage & Textiles: Cloth, Fray, Taffeta, Organdie, Poplin, Tweed, Embellished, Manipulated, Embroidered, Warp, Weft, Replicate, Soft sculpture.</p> <p>Sculpture: Realistic, Proportion, Surface texture, Balance, Scale, Relationship, Transform, Movement, Rhythm, Composition, Structure, Construct, Flexible, Pliable, Hollow, Solid, Surface, Plane, Angle, Slip, Attachment, Relief.</p>
6	<p>Drawing: Action, Balance, Direction, Dynamic, Imbalance, Movement, Poised, Transition, Viewpoint, Weight.</p> <p>Painting: Still life, Traditional, Modern, Abstract, Imaginary, Natural, Made, Inanimate, Composition, Arrangement, Complimentary, Tonal, Shading.</p> <p>Printing: Aesthetic, Pattern, Motif, Victorian, Islamic, Rotation, Reflection, Symmetrical, Repetition.</p> <p>Collage & Textiles:</p>

Manipulation, Smocking, Ruching, Batik, Embellish, Accentuate, Enhance, Detract, Practicality, Aesthetic.

Sculpture:

Line, Shape, Pose, Position, Gesture, Repetition, Sequence, Dynamic, Flowing, Motion, Rhythm, Proportion, Balance.