



ART Knowledge Organiser – Clay & Ceramics

Lower KS2: Year 4



Opportunities for teaching Diversity, Equality & Cultural Capital:
Visit the Yorkshire Gallery at the Piece Hall in Halifax to see exhibitions of ceramic art. Visit the Wash house Pottery, Whitby to see pottery being made.

Key Knowledge about Clay & Ceramic Artists

Joan Miro was born in Barcelona, Spain in 1893. He died in 1983 at the age of 90. He was a painter, sculptor and ceramicist.



He was known for his use of simple shapes, bright colours, and the symbolic meaning of his artworks. His art is often described as being child-like, dream-like, and playful.



He began making art in his childhood and continued throughout his life, using new styles, materials and ideas into his old age.

Lorien Stern was born in 1990. She is a ceramic sculptor based in the USA.



Stern creates playful, colourful ceramics sculptures. She takes things she considers scary or sad and transforms them with colour and pattern until they become things of joy and happiness.



What you will have learnt by the end of this unit.

- ❖ To explain how different styles reflect culture and time and use this as a starting point
- ❖ To select from a wide range of tools and materials to ensure a high-quality finish
- ❖ To use a range of techniques to create 3D clay models/sculptures
- ❖ To use my understanding of colour and texture to create a specific effect.
- ❖ To adjust my initial ideas to show I am considering how to apply techniques.
- ❖ To explore a range of digital media to express ideas

What you have already learnt in Yr3.

- To explore artworks from a range of cultures and times and experiment with similar styles
- To use a wider range of tools to perform practical tasks with increasing accuracy
- To explore a range of materials and techniques to create clay sculptures
- To use a range of digital media within art

Recall and Remember:



Clay is a natural material made up of tiny particles of rock. When mixed with water, it feels like soft, gluey mud and can be pinched,

rolled, cut, or built up in layers to form many different shapes. Clay holds its shape and hardens as it dries.



Pottery is the art of making containers, sculptures and other objects of clay. The clay is shaped and then fired, or baked at a high temperature, to harden it. The items created in this way are also called ceramics.

Quick Quiz.

- Can you name 3 different objects that are made out of clay?
- Can you name an artist that uses clay and describe his or her work?
- Can you explain 3 techniques that are used to mould clay into different shapes?



Key 3D Art Skills I will learn/use:	Key Photography Skills I will learn/use:
<p>When creating your clay sculpture, remember to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the properties of the clay you are going to use for your sculpture before you begin working on your final piece. Think about the shape you want to create and how to add texture or details to your work. Draw sketches and try out ideas with colours before you begin to paint your final piece. 	<p>When placing your sculpture, remember to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide on the position and size of everything you can see through the viewfinder when creating your picture – this is called composition. Keep the main focus on your sculpture but remember it does not have to be at the centre of the photograph. Think about how you want your audience to respond to the whole scene.

You can't
use up creativity
The more
you use
the more
you have.
~ Maya Angelou



Key Vocabulary	
Clay	A stiff, sticky fine-grained earth that can be moulded when wet
Ceramic	Pots and other articles made from clay hardened by heat.
Malleable	Easily pressed into shape without breaking or cracking
Technique	Use a particular method or skill.
Sculpt	To make a form by carving, chiselling, modelling or casting.
Texture	The feel or appearance of a surface.
Fired	To heat clay and glazes up to a high temperature.
Abstract / Surrealist	Not representing external reality, but achieving its effect using shapes, colours, and textures.
Contemporary	Art produced by artists who are alive right now.
Background	The colours or scenery behind something;
Interpret	Showing your own understanding of something
Develop	Show improvement and change.
Evaluate	Express an opinion of the merits and faults of work of art.
Present	Show a piece of work so it can be appreciated by an audience.

My skills and Knowledge that I may use from other subjects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know that materials change state when heated/cooled – Science. How to design functional, appealing products aimed at individuals or groups – DT.

What you will have you learnt by the end of LKS2
To explain some of the features of art from different cultures or historical periods.
To compare the work of different artists and sculptors.
To experiment with techniques used by different artists.
To explore how artists have used clay to create shape and texture.
To explore how artists have used paint to create, pattern and shape.
To create a piece of art in response to the work of another artist.
To integrate my sculptures and others within digital photographs to create artistic scenes.
To suggest improvement to my own work and that of others.