

Year 2 – The Great Fire of London

Overview

The children will create a colour wheel using primary and secondary colours, considering hot and cold colours. They will spend time learning about tones and tints. Children will look at pictures that represent the great Fire of London. They will consider if they are accurate representations. They will use their skill of mixing tones and tints to create a painting representing the Great Fire. They will paint a background sky and then be guided by teacher to draw a skyline. They will use thick and thin brushes to paint detail buildings.

Learning Objectives

Children will learn how to respond to ideas and starting points, exploring ideas and collecting visual information. They will make a colour wheel, mixing primary colours to make secondary and explore the addition of white and black to create tints and tones (adding white and black) and shades . Using the skills of mixing paint, they will paint a firey sky. They will be guided to draw a London skyline and use thick and thin brushes to add details .They will take inspiration from artists, using some of the ideas studied to create a final piece of work.

Visual language

primary colours, secondary colours, mixing, tints, tones, shades, thick, thin, mix, blend, paint

Lessons

Week 1 Create a colour wheel on a paper plate.

Talk about colour! What are the primary colours, why are they called primary? What happens when you mix two primary colours together? Does it make a difference how much of each primary colour you use? Demonstrate how to create a colour swatch. Allow children to 'play' and annotate their work eg. Red 2 blobs, yellow 1 blobs. What colours can they make? Give each child a paper plate (pre-drawn into six 'pie slices') and guide them through making a colour wheel. Extension Activity How many hues can they make from the primary colours?

Week 2 Recap Colour wheel. How can we make paler colours? Darker colours? Add White for a tint and Black for a Shade. (a helpful reminder 'Tint - bright and light add white'. 'Tone it down, add black and white' 'It's dark in the shade. Add Black') Paint tint and shade colour swatches on strips of paper. Choose a colour. Paint a stripe across the middle. Gradually mix small amounts of black, painting a new stripe each time on one side of original stripe. Repeat at the other side of stripe using white getting gradually lighter. Children can make secondary colour swatches. Extension Draw 5 outline shapes on A4. Each paper. Paint each shape with a different tint or tone starting with a primary or secondary colour.

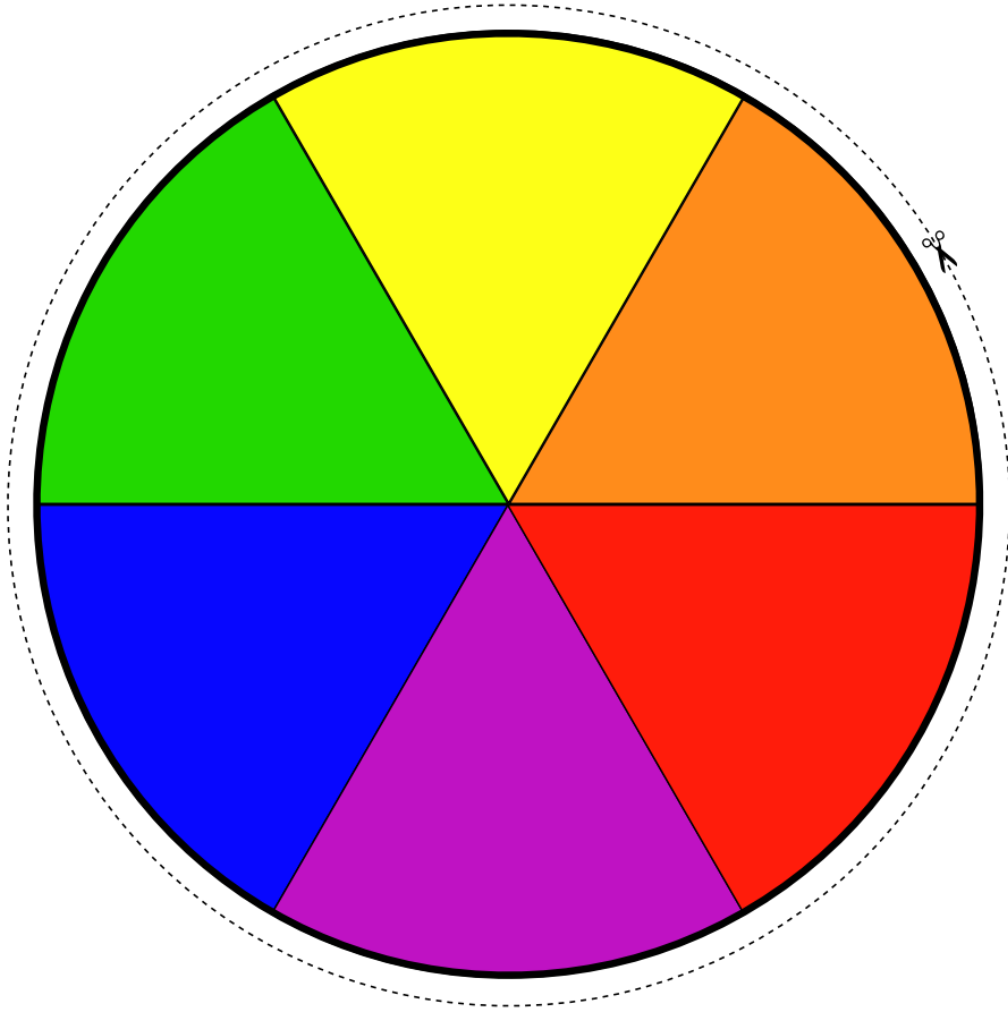
Week 3 - Beginning our painting – Look at some images of the Great fire. Talk about the colours you see. How do you think the artists were able to paint these pictures? Demonstrate painting a fiery sky using tints, tones and shades. Encourage children to mix their paints before starting to paint, thinking about how much they will need. Keep a clean brush at all times. The paints can be blended as the children paint.

Week 4 – Teacher guided lesson drawing a skyline of London onto their fiery skies. Children can use pencil, charcoal or black oil pastel.

Week 5 – Using the pictures of the wooden model burning, demonstrate/guide children how to use thin and thick paint marks to create details of burnt out buildings. Encourage children to keep looking at the picture.

Colour Wheel

Six colour



Painting Tips for TINTS

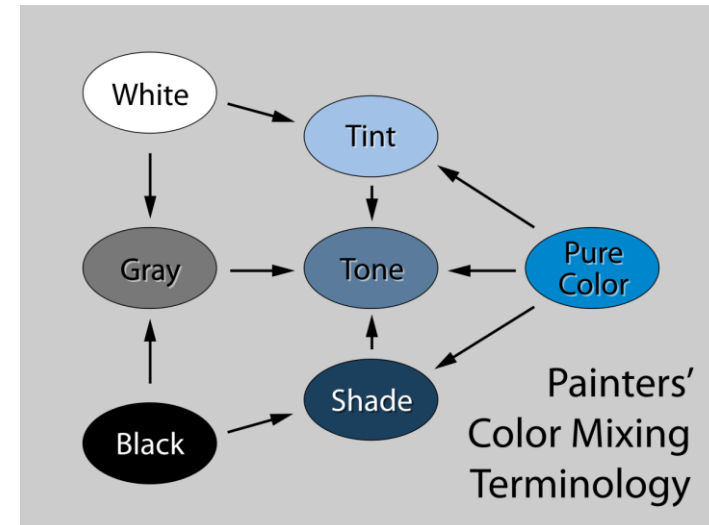
- * To mix pale Tints, always begin with your White paint. From there, very gradually mix in the tiniest specks of your colour until you achieve the Tint you want.
- * When you mix White with any colour, be careful and mix extremely gradually. For example, Bright Red can very quickly turn into an ugly Pink you don't like.

Painting Tips for TONES

- * Pre-mix Light, Medium and Dark Neutral Greys from White plus Black. Store them in small food containers to have them on hand all the time.

Painting Tips for SHADES

- * When you mix a Shade, begin with the colour itself. Then add your Black a tiny speck at a time. A little goes a long way!





Left Wood cut Image of the great fire – Artist unknown



Right Unknown artist, after Jan Griffier the Elder



There are many paintings and drawings of the Great Fire, often painted in the style of another painter. These images are by Ron Embleton (1930-1988) a British artist famous mostly for his historical illustrations and comic strips.



In 2016 a giant wooden model was made of London as it would have looked 1066. It was set fire to commemorate 350 Years since the Great Fire. The model was designed by artist David Best.



Further reading

You can watch the whole video of the 350th Anniversary here

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/19KLTps7SJLrfl0Pqq2QJmN/blaze-of-glory-commemorating-great-fire-on-the-thames>

There is also a link to a short video by Terry Dearing (Horrible Histories) dispelling the myths around the Great Fire.

<http://www.fireoflondon.org.uk/collection-type/artworks/> also has pictures of real artefacts found in the ashes of the fire.

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/visit-the-city/walks/Documents/great-fire-walk.pdf>

Resources

Thick and thin paint brushes <https://www.tts-group.co.uk/long-round-hog-hair-paint-brushes-assorted-30pk/1000215.html#> you will need 3 packs for a class of 30

Paper plates

Acrylic or poster paints. <https://www.tts-group.co.uk/tts-ready-mix-assorted-pack-600ml-20pk/1000136.html>

Cartridge paper - £29.94 (170gsm A3 500pk) <https://www.tts-group.co.uk/cartridge-paper-170gsm-a3-500pk/DCHD170A3.html>

Oil crayons - £7.19 (assorted 50pk)

<https://www.tts-group.co.uk/pentel-oil-pastels-assorted-50pk/AR02740.html>