

World Wars – Year 6

Overview: Children will learn about how war artists have been used to document and record the events of war. They will look at the different messages these artists try to convey. Children will then learn about the work of John Piper and how he documented the effects of war in Coventry in 1940. They will create a guided line drawing of Coventry Cathedral and then use John Piper's work to produce a mixed media response. Following on from this the children will focus on PEACE by studying The Poppy and producing a painted, mixed media picture. Finally the children will go on to study a war artist of their own choice.

Visual language: War artist, sketchbook, studies, observation, document, line, perspective, architecture, acrylic paint, tissue paper, collage, brush, wash, oil crayons, wax resist, John Piper, Xavier Pick, Arabella Dorman, Jules George.

Skills evident throughout:

- *Develop and imaginatively extend ideas from starting points.*
- *Use the qualities of materials to enhance ideas.*
- *Spot the potential in unexpected results as work progresses.*
- *Comment on artworks with a fluent grasp of visual language.*

War artists

War artists are artists who are commissioned by the government to record the events of war. They were commissioned during WW1, WW2 and other military actions after this. They have created an important and lasting record of the atrocities faced at home and on the front line. Their work always tries to convey a message.



'Afghan Scene' by Graeme Lothian



'Over the Top' by John Nash



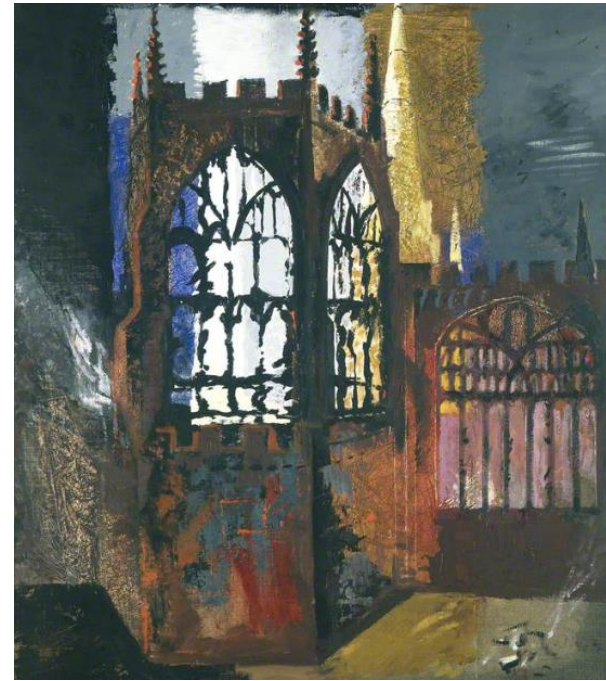
'Leaving Camp' by Arabella Dorman



'Head by Firelight' by Mervyn Peake

John Piper (1903 – 1992) was an English painter, printmaker and designer of stained-glass windows. He was an official **war artist** in **World War II** and his war-time depictions of bomb damaged churches and landmarks are very famous, especially those of Coventry Cathedral.

Coventry was targeted by the Luftwaffe in 1940 and was subject to some of the worst destruction to affect any British city during the war, including the bombing of its medieval Cathedral. Piper drove to Coventry the morning after the air raid to record the damage. The fires were still burning at Coventry Cathedral when he arrived with his sketchbook.



He was later commissioned to design the Baptistry Window in Coventry's New Cathedral

Lesson 1: Creating a line drawing of the Old Cathedral



Children will be taken step by step through the process of drawing the Old Cathedral onto A4 paper. They will do this lightly in pencil and should not be encouraged to use rubbers or rulers. Trace over in fine liner when they are finished.

Skills:

To use a variety of drawing techniques to add interesting effects

To use techniques to depict perspective and shadows

To use a style of drawing suitable for the work

Lesson 2: Creating a painted depiction of Coventry Cathedral in the style of John Piper



Children to cover the top 2/3 of their A3 paper with torn up pieces of red, yellow, purple, orange tissue paper using PVA glue. Wait till this dries then, referencing their previous study of Coventry Cathedral, paint a silhouette over the top using black acrylic paint.

Skills:

Mixing textures and combining visual and tactile qualities.

Sketching lightly before painting.

Creating a colour palette observed in the natural and built world.

Use the quality of acrylic paint to create a visually interesting piece.

Combining colours to enhance the mood of a piece.

Develop a personal style of painting which draws upon ideas from other artists.

Create original pieces that show a range of influences and styles.

Lesson 3: Studying The Poppy

We associate the poppy with Peace and Remembrance, an important concept when studying war and conflict .

In late 1914, the fields of Northern France and Flanders were ripped open as WW1 raged through Europe. Once the conflict was over the poppy was one of the only plants to grow on the otherwise barren battlefields.

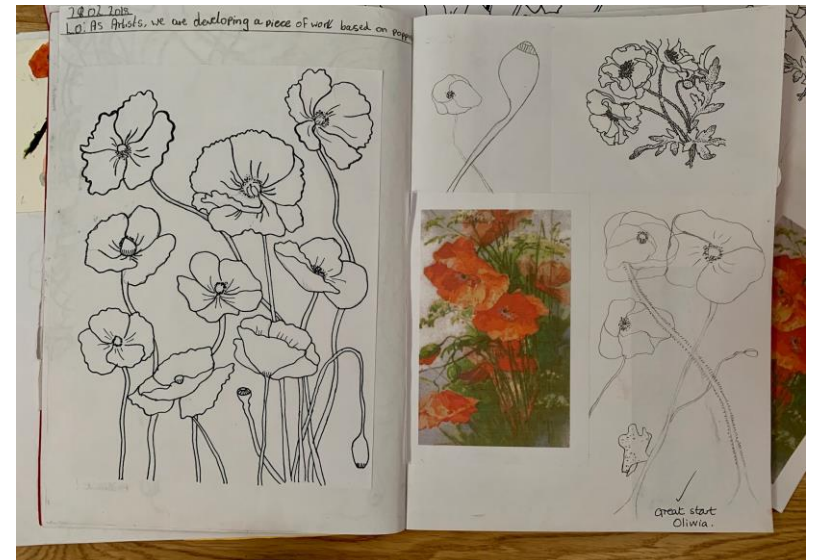


Children to produce a series of studies in their sketchbooks of poppies. Pencil to be used lightly, no rubbers. Photocopied pictures of poppies to be displayed alongside.

Colour added in watercolour (optional) or pastel.

Skills:

Collect information, sketches and resources and present ideas imaginatively in sketchbook



Lesson 4: Creating a painted picture of The Poppy



Skills:

Sketching lightly before painting.

Creating a colour palette observed in the natural world.

Use the quality of watercolour paint to create a visually interesting piece.

Use brush techniques and the qualities of the paint to create pattern and movement.

Combining colours, tones and tints to enhance the mood of a piece.

Develop a personal style of painting which draws upon ideas from other artists.

Create original pieces that show a range of styles.

Children to use the studies in their sketchbook to create a finished piece of work. Poppies to be carefully drawn in red, green and black oil crayons. They should constantly reference the sketches/studies they did earlier. When finished green and turquoise Brusho Inks used to wash over the surface.

Lesson 5: Children to study a modern day war artist (sketchbook work). Chose between Arabella Dorman, Xavier Pick and Jules George. Comment on the artists work using visual language.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_Ikhijw-kw - Xavier Pick

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B14F-9MoTEg> - Arabella Dorman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EIUNnU3vrNY> - Jules George



Arabella Dorman



Xavier Pick



Jules George

Skills:

Give details (including own sketches) about the style of some notable artists.

Collect information, sketches and resources and present ideas imaginatively in sketchbook.

Show how the work of those studied was influential in society.

Resources:

Cartridge paper - £29.94 (170gsm A3 500pk) This will last for ages but hide it away, its beautiful paper but ONLY for art!!

<https://www.tts-group.co.uk/cartridge-paper-170gsm-a3-500pk/DCHD170A3.html>

Oil crayons - £7.19 (assorted 50pk)

These have loads of different uses and are well worth buying.

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

Fine liners - £7.19 (Black 12pk) Buy 3 packs so that each child can have their own. Look after them carefully and they will last for years. Again, only for art!

https://www.tts-group.co.uk/lyra-graduate-fineliners-black-12pk/1016448.html?cgid=Primary-Art_Craft_--_Design-Pens_--_Pencils

Brusho Inks - £35.94 (24pk) These inks are so versatile and will bring a splash of colour to many different art activities. They are very potent so use under adult supervision

<https://www.tts-group.co.uk/brusho-ink-powders-assorted-15g-pots/1000201.html>

System 3 black acrylic (water based) paint - £8.39 (500ml)

Can't beat acrylic paint especially in the upper stages of KS2. It gives a strong, bold colour but can also be diluted with water to create washes. Make sure aprons are worn as its difficult to wash out and also wash paintbrushes straight after use.

<https://www.tts-group.co.uk/daler-rowney-system-3-acrylic-paint-500ml/1004124.html>

PVA

Tissue paper (red, orange, yellow, purple)