Talk Like an Artist

Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2	Key Stage 3
Pupils should be taught about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.	Pupils should be taught to create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas.	Pupils should be taught to develop their creativity and ideas, and increase proficiency in their execution. They should develop a critical understanding of artists, architects and designers, expressing reasoned judgements that can inform their own work.

National Curriculum expectations

Oracy Stem Sentence Progression

Reception	Ilike	
Challenge	I dislike because	
Year 1	I like	
	I dislike because	
Challenge	What else could improve this?	
Year 2	I like	
	I dislike because	
	What else could improve this?	
Challenge	In my opinion	
Year 3	I like	
	I dislike because	
	What else could improve this?	
Challenge	In my opinion	
Year 4	In my opinion	
	I know that because I have observed	
Challenge	I believe there is a pattern of	
Year 5	I believe there is a pattern of	
	I know that because I have observed	
	I think this has developed by	
Challenge	How does this technique make you feel?	
Year 6	In my opinion	
	I know that because I have observed	
	I believe there is a pattern of	
	I think this has developed by	
	How does this technique make you feel?	
Challenge	Evidence suggests that the artist	

"Seeing comes before words."

John Berger, Ways of Seeing, 1972

Option 1 - I see

- 1. Display a picture related to your artist or movement.
- 2. Allow time for children to observe.
- 3. Take photo away and ask what the children can remember.
- 4. Display the picture again and allow time to discuss in depth.

Option 2 - Jigsaw

- 1. Reveal parts of a picture to draw out language and interest.
- 2. Ask questions:
 - a. When is this set?
 - b. Where is it set?
 - c. What medium?
 - d. How was this picture made?
- 3. Once a new part is revealed ask if anyone has changed their minds.
- 4. Reveal the full picture for open discussion.



Men of the Docks, George Bellows (1912)



Jan Jansz. Treck, Vanitas Still Life (1648)







Option 3 - Compare and Contrast

What is the same? What is different?





Option 4 - Questioning



l see ...



I think ...



I wonder ...



Hans Holbein the Younger, The Ambassadors (1533)

Option 5 - Narratives

- 1. Choose a dramatic picture that tells a story.
- 2. Use 'I see I think I wonder' discussion technique.
- 3. Draw and log any vocabulary that comes up.
- 4. Add speech and thought bubbles to the picture, and ask pupils what the people may be thinking or saying.





Luca Giordano, Perseus turning Phineas and his Followers to Stone (circa 1560)