Year 4: How do artists use drawing and composition to help us see ordinary objects differently?

Subject Specific Vocabulary

shading	using a pencil or colour to show light and dark, helping objects look solid and real.
composition	the way objects are arranged in a picture to make it look balanced and interesting.
contour	the outline or edge of an object, showing where it begins and ends.
Tone / value	how light or dark something looks. Artists use tone to make objects look 3D.
texture	how something looks or feels, like rough, smooth, or bumpy.

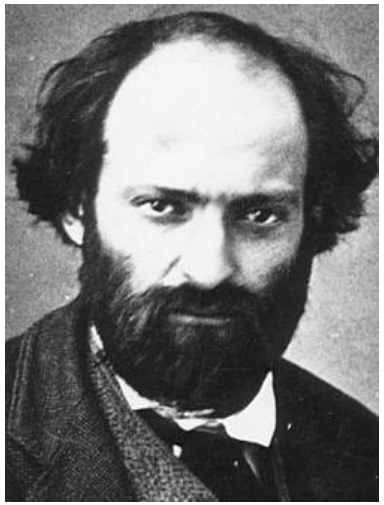
Artist Appreciation & Formal Elements

What kinds of lines do you notice in Cézanne's still life? Are they smooth, rough, or sketchy? How does Cézanne use light and dark to make the fruit or objects look more solid?

Formal Elements of Art



Paul Cézanne (1839 – 1906)





Name: Paul Cézanne is a French painter
Dates: 1839–1906
He is famous for: painting still life with fruit and landscapes with strong shapes and colours. He helped inspire modern art.
Inspired by: nature, the French countryside, and the challenge of seeing things in new ways.

Lesson Objectives

Tonal shading can be used to show light, shadow, and form in a still life drawing.

Still life artists carefully arrange objects to create a balanced composition that draws the viewer's attention.

1. To explore the work of Paul Cézanne and identify key features of still life compositions.
2. To observe and draw simple everyday objects accurately, focusing on basic shapes and proportions.
3. To know how to arrange and draw a group of objects, considering layout, spacing and balance in composition.
4. To know how to use continuous line and contour drawing techniques to define the outline and edges of still life objects.
5. To know how to use pencil to explore light and shadow, and apply shading to create 3D effects in still life drawings.
6. To know how to blend and layer colouring pencils to show tone, depth and texture in still life drawings.
7. To explore soft pastels and apply blending techniques to create a colourful and textured still life image.
8. To know how to use oil pastels to create bold and expressive still life work, experimenting with colour contrast and mark-making.
9. To know how to select objects, media and composition for a personal still life piece, creating a detailed plan and sketch.
10. To begin creating a final still life artwork using chosen media and techniques with accuracy and creativity.
11. To complete the final still life artwork, refining details and applying media skilfully.
12. To evaluate the final still life piece and reflect on progress made in observational drawing and media use.