KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

How do artists use light and dark to make paintings look realistic?

MY LEARNING JOURNEY

1. How do artists mix tints and shades?
2. How can tone create a three-dimensional effect?
3. How can artists create tone using paint?
4. What makes an effective still life composition?
5. How can artists use tone to create a realistic still life painting?

Previously, I learnt to...

- Use natural pigments to create colour.
- Mix colours and experiment with texture.
- Scale up drawings accurately.
- Use charcoal to create different effects.
- Create artwork inspired by prehistoric artists.

In this unit, I am learning to...

- ❑ Use tone, tint and shade accurately.
- ❑ Mix white and black into colours to create tints and shades.
- ❑ Identify highlights, midtones and shadows.
- ❑ Use light and dark tones to show light, shadows and 3D form.
- ❑ Use paint techniques for tonal variation.
- ❑ Arrange a balanced still life.
- ❑ Paint a still life with realistic light and dark areas.

Looking ahead: In Year 5, I will learn to...

- Use colour and line to communicate emotion.
- Create movement within artwork.
- Create compositions with focal points and balance.
- Design and create printed artwork.

VOCABULARY

Word	Meaning
Tone	How light or dark something is.
Tint	A colour made by adding white.
Shade	A colour made by adding black.
Highlight	The lightest area on an object.
Midtone	The middle tone between light and dark.
Shadow	The darkest area where light does not reach.
Form	How an object appears three-dimensional.
Still Life	A drawing or painting of carefully arranged objects.
Composition	How objects are arranged in an artwork.

1

Form

Form is how an object appears three-dimensional. Artists use highlights, midtones and shadows to create form and show depth.

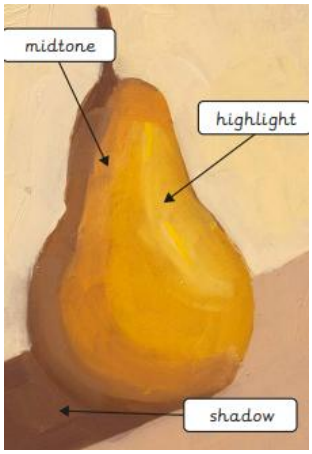
2

Highlights, Midtones and Shadows

When light shines on an object:

* the highlight is the lightest area
* the midtone is between light and dark
* the shadow is the darkest area

These help objects appear three-dimensional.



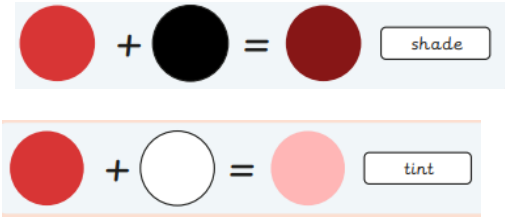
3

Tints and Shades

Artists change colours by adding:

* white to create a tint
* black to create a shade

Using tints and shades creates a wider range of tones.



4

Tone

Tone is how light or dark something is.

Artists use tone to:

* show light and shadow
* create form
* make objects look realistic.



5

Composition

Composition is how objects are arranged within an artwork.

Artists think about:

* balance
* spacing
* contrast
* placement.



6

Still Life

A still life is a group of carefully arranged objects that do not move.

Artists use fruit, flowers, bottles and everyday objects to practise observation and painting skills.