



Georgia O'KEEFFE

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER




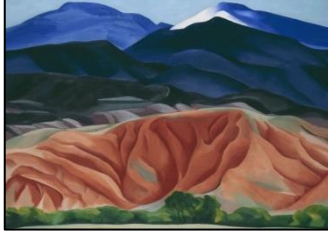
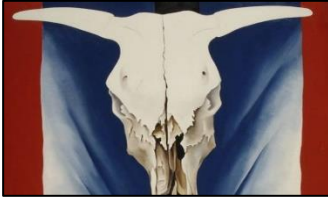
Biography

- Georgia O'Keeffe was an American artist. She was a leader of a movement called modernism.
- She painted nature in a way that showed her feelings. She enjoyed painting flowers and desert landscapes.
- She is most famous for paintings such as *Jimson Weed*, *Black Mesa Landscape* and *Cow's Skull: Red, White and Blue*.
- She was the first female painter to gain respect in New York's art world in the 1920s.
- She created simple paintings of landscapes and nature. She used bold lines and bright colours to create different images.



-O'Keeffe lived between 1887 and 1986. She was born in Wisconsin, USA, and spent much of her life in New York and New Mexico, both USA.



Significant Works

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| Jimson Weed (1936) |  | -O'Keeffe drew many images of flowers, and this was probably her most famous. -The painting shows four large jimson weed petals. The simplified colours, along with the use of light, makes the flowers seem fresh. -Jimson Weed is actually a flower with dangerous seeds. It is not normal shown in this happy, playful way. |
| Black Mesa Landscape (1930) |  | - <i>Black Mesa Landscape, New Mexico, Out Back of Marie's II</i> shows the New Mexico desert that O'Keeffe loved. -She first visited New Mexico in 1916 and fell in love with the desert landscape and its mountains. She used colour for effect, giving the mountains a powerful message. |
| Cow's Skull: Red, White and Blue (1889) |  | -The painting shows a cow skull in front of a cloth. Down the centre is a vertical black stripe. On either side are vertical stripes of white, blue and red. Artists at the time were interested in making art that was 'American', and this is a famous example. |

Key Vocabulary

- O'Keeffe
- USA
- New York
- New Mexico
- Modernism
- Landscape
- Desert
- Precisionism
- Jimson Weed
- Black Mesa Landscape
- Cow's Skull: Red, White and Blue
- Abstract

Styles and Techniques

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| Modernism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -<u>Modernism</u> is an art movement that took place in the late 1800s and early 1900s. -Modernism was a new way of painting things. -Before modernism, painters tried to make their paintings look exactly the same as the subject. -Modernist painters didn't try to make their painting look like a copy of the real world. Instead, they used their own style, colours and shading for effect. -O'Keeffe created simple paintings, that played with light and colour, to show what her emotions were about a place or thing. |  |
| Precisionism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -<u>Precisionism</u> was a style that focused on how America had changed in the modern world. Precisionists often drew buildings and new landscapes in America, using lines and shapes carefully. O'Keeffe is known as one of the foremost precisionist painters. |  |

How do I create art like O'Keeffe?

Step 1: Using pencil, draw the outline of the mountains and hills. Some go at the front, whilst some are further behind in the background.

Step 2: Select which colour oil pastels you will use for each 'layer' of the mountains.


Step 3: Draw bold lines down the mountains in jagged lines (this creates the look of the ridges). Press firmly on the paper.

Step 4: Around the ridge lines, colour pressing hard to show shading. In the areas around this, colour with a firmer grip, to show slightly lighter shading around the ridges.

Step 5: Now, more lightly colour in the remaining white spaces, to complete your O'Keeffe style landscape!

Things you'll need: Drawing paper, oil pastels, pencil.

A child's O'Keeffe-style landscape drawing.



Georgia O'Keeffe Timeline

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| 15th November 1887 Georgia Totto O'Keeffe is born in Wisconsin. | 1902 O'Keeffe enjoys art education as a child. | 1905 Graduates from High School and studies at Chicago Art Institute. | 1908 Wins first art award for an oil painting of a dead rabbit. | 1924 Marries art promoter Alfred Stieglitz in New York. She begins painting New York cityscapes. | 1928 Visits New Mexico for the first time. Visits every summer afterwards. | 1930 Produces <i>Black Mesa Landscape</i> ... | 1936 Completes <i>Jimson Weed</i> . | 1946 Stieglitz dies, and O'Keeffe moves to New Mexico. | 1971 Her eyesight fails, she can no longer paint. | 1st January 1986 She dies at the age of 98. |
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