

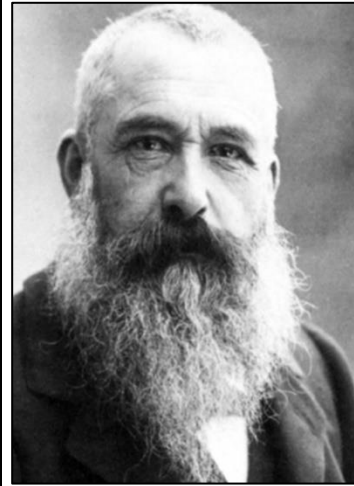


# Claude MONET KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



## Biography

- Claude Monet was a French painter.
- Monet is one of the most famous artists of all time. He is considered a founder of Impressionism, and is well-known for his landscape paintings.
- He is most famous for paintings such as *Impression: Sunrise*, *Water Lilies* and *Haystacks*, and also for developing the Cubism movement.
- The title of the painting *Impression, Sunrise* is thought to have triggered the term 'Impressionism.'
- Monet enjoyed capturing the French countryside, often painting the same scene many times to show changes in light and seasons.



-Monet lived between 1840 and 1926. He was born in Paris, but spent much of his long life in the northern French village of Giverny.

## Significant Works

**Impression, Sunrise (1872)**



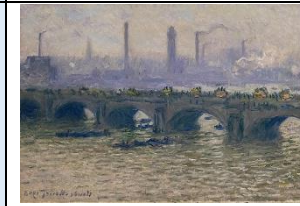
-*Impression, Sunrise* is often credited with inspiring the impressionist movement.  
-It shows the port of Le Harve – Monet's hometown at the time. The two small boats in the foreground and the red sun are the main subjects.  
-Features of industry are shown in the background, billowing chimneys and a hazy sky.

**Bridge Over a Pond of Lilies (1899)**



-*Water Lilies* is one of Monet's most well-known paintings. It is a part of a series on water lilies.  
-It is one of his larger paintings, measuring 101 x 200cm, and is an oil-on-canvas.  
-At the time of producing this, Monet was already 70 years old, and mainly painted the natural beauty in his own garden and pond in Giverny.  
-The paintings demonstrate Monet's interest in natural beauty, and how it changes in light.

**Watloo Bridge Overcast (1903)**



-This painting is part of a series Monet painted from a hotel room in London.  
-The series is a famous example of how Monet repeated the same subject to show different light and atmosphere across seasons, times & weather. Whilst the subject matter appears mundane, it was carefully chosen to highlight these variances.

## Styles and Techniques

### Impressionism

- Monet is perhaps the most famous impressionist artist. Some even view him as the creator of the movement.
- Impressionists peaked in the mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, and aimed to create a 'moment in time' – particularly focusing on how light and movement were presented.
- Impressionists often focused on unusual angles of everyday subjects, working quickly (before the 'moment' changed too drastically).
- Before, this, artists often chose to paint grand scenes (like battles or stories) and so this was seen as unusual.
- Impressionist paintings also aim to show movement.
- Impressionists like Monet often painted the same subject (often landscapes) at several different times of the day, seasons of the year, and in different weather.
- Alongside Monet, a number of other Paris-based artists were leaders in the impressionist movement.



### Colour Palette

- In order to so vividly depict light and seasons, Monet developed a renowned use of colour.
- Unlike the landscape artists that went before, Monet had a preference for using light colours as the base for his paintings, as opposed to dark primers.
- He painted on canvasses that were white or grey. Close studies show that colours were used either straight from the tube or mixed on the canvass.



## How do I paint like Monet?

**Step 2:** On your drawing paper, use your watercolour paints to create the lighter background features (e.g. sky).

**Step 3:** Darken your watercolour mix and add the shading, where necessary. Think about how this changes the moment.

**Step 4:** Use your oil pastels (or crayons) to add in the features in the foreground (e.g. bridges, trees, boats, etc.) Consider how the colour of these subjects is impacted by light/atmosphere.

**Step 1:** Use your digital camera/ smartphone to capture the same landscape during different times/ weather.



**Things you'll need:**  
Drawing paper, watercolour paints, oil pastel, pencil, smart phone/digital camera.

**Can you try to paint a bridge and water in the style of Monet?**

**Step 5:** Once your piece is complete, try to paint the same subject in a different moment (using your photos). How can you change the light/ atmosphere?

## Key Vocabulary

Monet

France

Paris

Giverny

Le Harve

Landscape

Atmosphere

Moment

Light

Impressionism

Impression, Sunrise

Water Lilies

Waterloo bridge

Oil-on-canvas

## Monet Timeline

**14<sup>th</sup> November 1840**  
Born Oscar-Claude Monet in Paris, France.

**1845**  
With his family, moves to the Normandy region of France.

**1856**  
Begins taking painting lessons. Begins to paint the outdoors.

**1870**  
Marries Camille Doncieux, who becomes his muse.

**1871-72**  
Moves to the Netherlands, and then back to France. Paints *Impression, Sunrise*.

**1879-92**  
In 1879 Camille dies. In 1892, Monet marries Alice Hoschede.

**1883**  
Moves to Giverny, which becomes the subject of his painting.

**1897**  
Begins his *Water Lilies* series.

**1908-11**  
Travels to Venice with Alice. In 1911, Alice dies.

**1816-19**  
Creates his larger *Water Lilies* works.

**5<sup>th</sup> December 1926**  
Monet dies of lung cancer, aged 86.