

**Name tags**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Below are some examples of letters written in 'tag' and other decorative styles.  
 ▲ Choose the style you would like to write your initials in and practise this in the space provided.

ABCDEFGHIJKLM  
 NOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
 Sack Chander Lucy  
 Gemma Peter Rajit

autonomously? Opportunities are also available to make assessments regarding art in their accuracy and attention to detail, and also in their identification of ways of improving their work.

### Display ideas

Create a street scene, painting brick walls and doors, as a sackdrop against which to display the children's work.

### Reference to photocopiable sheet

Photocopiable page 134 provides some examples of 'tag' style and other decorative lettering for the children to base their designs on. The children choose their favourite style in which to practise drawing their initials.

## IMPRESSIONIST STYLE

*To provide further practise in using the paint spray tool to imitate a specific style of art.*

†† Individual or pairs.

⌚ 30 minutes at the computer; 10 minutes discussion.

### Previous skills/knowledge needed

Some experience with the paint spray tool in graphics software (see 'Design a tag' activity on page 43). Some awareness of what Impressionist paintings look like.

### Key background information

The later French Impressionists (called Neo-Impressionists) succeeded in enhancing the realism in their paintings

through a technique called pointillism. This involved covering areas of their paintings with tiny dots or brushstrokes using a wide range of shades of a particular colour. This technique gives the colours a subtlety, creating an overall 'impression' of colour and supposedly a more vibrant effect, which broader brushstrokes lack.

The children can use IT graphics software to imitate this technique to a certain degree, producing areas of colour built up in this way, or even simple pictures. The paint spray tool will allow them to cover areas with small dots of colour and, if several layers are sprayed on top of each other, an Impressionist-style effect can be created. You can use this activity as part of a whole class exercise on Impressionist style, with the non IT users trying out genuine Impressionist techniques with paint and very small brushes.

### Vocabulary

Paint spray tool, dot density, shade, tone, overlay.

### Preparation

Make one copy of photocopiable page 135 for each child. Gather together some pictures or posters of works by Impressionist artists, such as Monet and Seurat, as a stimulus for the children's work. Collect several colour



photographs taken from newspapers which the children can look at with magnifying glasses to see how hundreds of tiny dots build up the overall image and colours.

### Resources needed

A computer, graphics software with a paint spray tool, a colour printer, paper, some pictures or posters of work by Impressionist artists, several magnifying glasses (optional), newspaper pictures (optional), crayons, felt-tipped pens, copies of photocopiable page 135.

# Communicating information

## What to do

Show the children some pictures of works by Impressionist artists, pointing out how the artists built up images and colours by layering hundreds of tiny dots of paint on top of one another. If appropriate, introduce the name of this technique (pointillism). The children can use a magnifying glass to see the small dots of colour more clearly and look at how these combine to form a colour and/or image when viewed from a distance. Looking at newspaper pictures through the magnifying glass will reinforce this idea.



Next, give each child a copy of photocopiable page 135 which provides practice in producing a range of colours by applying small coloured dots or strokes of paint to gradually build up a chosen image. The children will find this difficult at first as they will be keen to colour large areas of paper with broad crayon or brush strokes.

When the children have mastered the technique, provide a whole class or large group demonstration on the computer. Show them how to use the paint spray tool to create Impressionist-style pictures, starting with a very simple scene of sky, land, trees and some water. Do not aim for detail. If you find that a particular colour or shade is wrong, you can easily correct it by adding another layer. Use a variety of colours and point out the overall effect the different colours have on the image.

Now tell the children that they will have the chance to try this technique for themselves on the computer by using the paint spray tool. Depending on their ability, the children can attempt simple paintings, perhaps centred around a particular Impressionist painting, or simply a particular range of colours, such as 'autumn colours'. You may wish to use any appropriate current curriculum themes for this activity or suggest themes such as 'Summer picnic', 'Firework

night', or 'Storm at sea'. Make sure that the children keep their pictures simple so that they are effective. When they are happy with their final pictures or colours, allow them to print these out.

## Suggestion(s) for extension

Children who are confident may like to try some more detailed painting. This could be done either by using a very small spray can tool setting or by using a small paintbrush and dotting the colour in the conventional style.

## Suggestion(s) for support

Less confident children may like to start by experimenting with a spray pattern of their own design. Once they feel more confident with the tool, they can go on to attempt 'painting' a scene.

## Assessment opportunities

This activity will enable you to assess the children's use of IT, especially their confidence in the use of graphics tools, to convey ideas in the form of colours and images. There are also opportunities to make assessments in art, both in their accuracy and attention to detail, and also in their identification of ways to improve their work.

## Display ideas

Mount copies of Impressionist paintings by well-known artists alongside the children's work.

## Reference to photocopiable sheet

Photocopiable page 135 gives the children practice in colour mixing and imitating the Impressionist technique of pointillism.

**Impressions of colour**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

▲ Using sharp crayons or fine pointed felt-tipped pens, dot the colour or use very short strokes to produce a series of four small pictures, one for each season of the year.

 <b>Winter</b> (eg swirly whites, greys and blues)	 <b>Spring</b> (eg yellows, light green and light browns)
 <b>Summer</b> (eg darker greens, reds and blues)	 <b>Autumn</b> (eg browns, reds and oranges)

▲ By mixing the colours can you create an orange by spraying a burst of red onto a burst of yellow? How would you make the following colours, pink, grey, brown, purple, olive and sepia? Use tiny dots of pencil or felt-tipped pens to try these out.

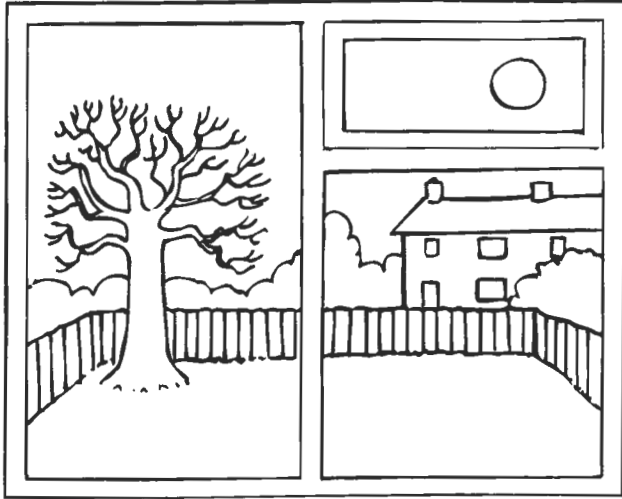
orange	pink	grey	brown	purple	olive	sepia

# Impressions of colour

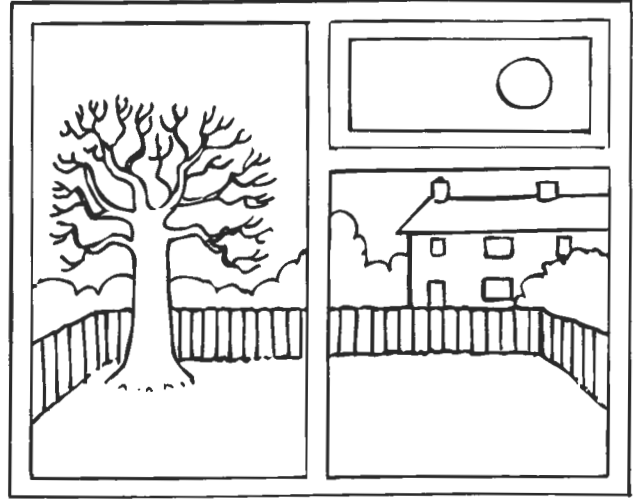
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

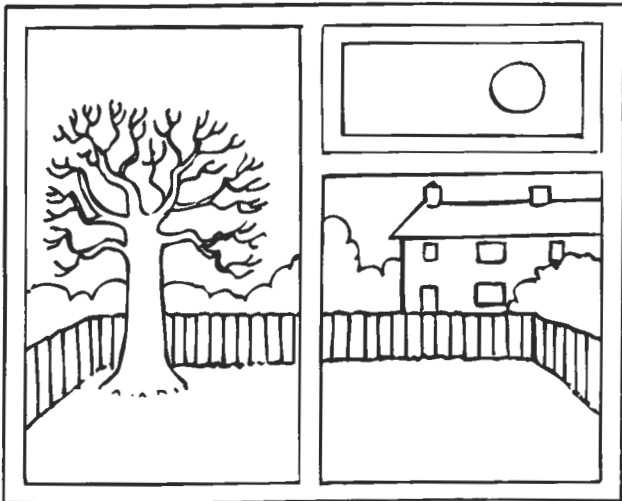
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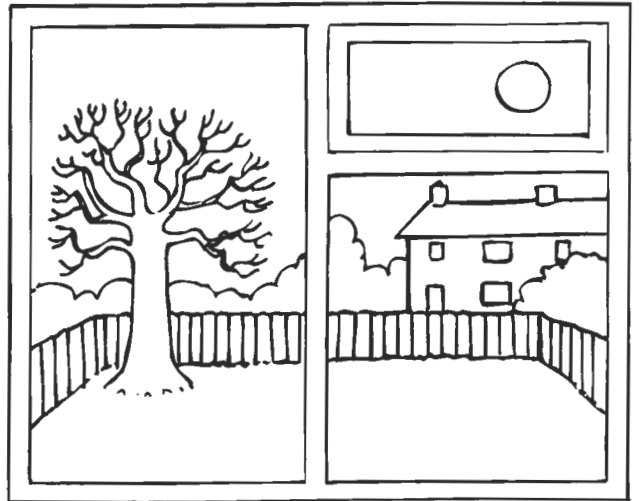
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orange



pink



grey



brown



purple



olive



sepia