THE LIFE OF VINCENT VAN GOGH
The art of landscapes
What do we **K**now, What do we **W**ant to know, What have we **L**earned

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Who was Vincent Van Gogh?

“Starry Night Over the Rhone”
• Vincent VanGogh was a Dutch artist who lived in France during the 1880’s.

• He liked to draw and paint landscapes.

• A landscape is a picture of land.

• He used line and texture.
Was Vincent Van Gogh only a painter?

“Portrait of the Artist, 1889”
Jobs Vincent tried on his quest to be an artist

- art dealer,
- a teacher,
- a bookseller,
- a preacher,
- artist.
What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?
Vincent Van Gogh

Read more at
http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/v/vincent_van_gogh_2.html#x3zKOrYDkhsRwbjf.99
Vincent couldn’t make a living as an artist. His work didn’t sell.

Vincent’s brother, Theo was his best friend.

Theo paid the bills for Vincent so he could paint.
The Potato Eaters was an early painting. Wheatfield and Cypress was painted after he met the Impressionists.

- **How are the paintings different?**
- **What is similar about them?**
Vincent liked the Impressionist work but felt it was missing passion.
Vincent Van Gogh

What country was he from?

What country did he move to, to paint?

When was he alive?

Who paid for Vincent to live and paint?

What did he like to draw and paint?

What painters influenced his style?
Vincent Van Gogh painting using texture and lines.

Olive Grove

He painted trees in an olive grove.

Many of his paintings are of trees.
VAN GOGH’S PAINTINGS WITH TREES
Have lots of texture....

Road to Tarascon
Farmhouse in a Wheat Field
Garden of Saint-Paul Hospital
Trees are rooted in the earth with branches that reach up to the sky.

Trees have fascinated humans throughout history.

They have symbolized the beginning of life, (tree of life) and the continuation of family (family tree)

Many artists have focused on trees.

This is from a college student’s website who is studying landscape and its interaction with architecture.

The artist of the photo is unknown.

What draws your attention when you look at the next artworks?
Ansel Adams was an American photographer and environmentalist. Trees are often the subject of his black and white photography.
FOCAL POINT: The main part of any composition is called the focal point.

It is what draws your attention.
Louis Tiffany designed many famous stained glass windows. He often created windows with landscapes. 

(Stained glass creates bright colors because of the light passing through the glass.)
Lines and texture are used to create trees in artworks.
We are going to learn how to draw trees for our project.

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http://evl.vcsd.k12.ny.us/SafeVideos/Video.aspx?id=LlfQo9vaC7E

Painting by Dylan Gillespie, VCHS Class of 2012
What is a focal point?

What kind of art did Louis Tiffany make?

What two art elements are used in trees?
Vincent moved to Southern France to start an artist’s colony.

He lived in this yellow house where he hoped others would join him.
Van Gogh had epileptic seizures, he had hallucinations and he was depressed.

The people of Arles did not understand Vincent.

They were mean to him and made fun of him.
I wish they would only take me as I am.

Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent saw sunflowers as hopeful.

Van Gogh created 12 paintings of sunflowers to decorate the house in Arles.
Paul Gauguin moved in with Vincent for only two months.

Vincent’s unstable behavior unnerved Gauguin.

One story about Vincent’s ear says he was in a fight with Gauguin when he cut it off.
After cutting off his ear, he went to a mental hospital.

Though he never stopped painting, doctors cared for him for the rest of his life.
What painter became his roommate?

What did flowers did Vincent find hope in?

What kind of art, did Louis Tiffany make?

What two art elements are used in trees?

Where did he live after he cut his ear?

4th row
Vincent loved nature and continued to paint landscapes.

One of his most famous landscapes is *Starry Night*.

Vincent was fascinated with stars.

He said he believed they are where our dreams live.
He painted *Starry Night* from memory rather than direct observation while at the hospital in St. Remy.

*I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process.*

**Vincent Van Gogh**
Van Gogh painted quickly, dashing thick globs of paint onto his canvas.

His paintings are full of lines and texture.

Van Gogh didn’t have to paint every little detail for the viewer to understand what he was trying to create.
This letter from Vincent to his brother Theo contains a watercolor sketch of a landscape.

Theo continued to pay his brother’s bills and send him art supplies while he was in the mental hospital.
What gives his paintings texture?

What is his most famous work of art?
WHAT MAKES A LANDSCAPE?
A landscape usually has three areas of space within it.
Those three areas: background, middleground, foreground
What is in the background here?
What is in the middleground?
What is in the foreground?
Our Project:

You will create a landscape with a tree as the main focus.

We will use the technique of repoussé to create lines and texture.
Your tree will be filled with texture that is based on your imagination rather than on observation.

Your landscape will have background, middleground and foreground.

Your landscape should be imaginary also.
Repoussé (or Repajado in Spanish cultures) is an ancient form of relief sculpture in which a design is pressed into a sheet of metal to create a 3-dimensional surface.

The technique has been used since the Ancient Greeks.

We will be using metal foil sheets and leaving the tree metallic, not colored.
Thumbnail sketches are what artists use to work out the idea for a work of art.

They are small sketches, like a doodle.

It gives the opportunity to explore and develop ideas.
Identify the grounds in the composition
You will add texture to the tree and detail to the three grounds before we transfer to foil.
Texture is how something feels....or looks like it will feel.

You can make texture with lines
Line has direction.

Lines can be horizontal.

Lines can be vertical.

Lines can be diagonal.
How was this texture created?
We grade art with rubrics.

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What became of Vincent Van Gogh?

Although he is regarded as an artistic genius today, Vincent Van Gogh was not successful in his lifetime.

His mother gave many of his works away or used them to repair holes in a chicken coop!
Vincent felt he was a burden to Theo, who had just started a family.

History has always said that he shot himself when he was painting this work, *Crows over the Wheatfield*.

He died two days later.
There was always dispute whether he could have inflicted the gunshots wounds himself.

Recently, some historians have given evidence that he may have been shot by mistake by some young boys shooting at crows.
Vincent’s brother, Theo, died six months later.

Theo’s wife, Johanna cataloged all Vincent’s letters and works.

It is because of her loving care that we have so many of the 900 paintings he completed and know so much about him.
For my part I know nothing with any certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream.

Read more at
http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/v/vincent_van_gogh.html#eFy3ipMt0ZdRrhHx.99
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Doctor Who is a TV Series from the BBC.

It is about a time traveler and his assistant and their adventures.

Recently, an episode was dedicated to Vincent Van Gogh.

In the end, Vincent was able to see how people react to his work in the year 2010.

How do you think he felt?

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