

Learning Mat



Our focus is...

Mark Rothko



Research

Please use the information below to support your child's learning at home 😊

Who: Mark Rothko

When: 1903 - 1970

Where: America

What: An abstract expressionist painter

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-mark-rothko>



Explore style

Mark Rothko painted bold blocks of glowing, rich colours in large abstract compositions (colour field painting). His focus was on creating a performance, a visual experience, from his emotions using the pure essence of colour and structure on a large scale. He believed art was natural and everyone could create: "Children have fine ideas and they express them vividly"

Create

Choose your colours according to how you are feeling: happy, sad, excited, grumpy...

Paint stripes across your paper.

Make different shades of a colour by adding white or black to a basic colour.

Work in the style of Mark Rothko by painting over the existing layer until you are happy with your masterpiece.

Enjoy using the paints and equipment. Remember there is no right or wrong way to do this.

<https://www.sdcdm.org/blog/2020/05/art-activity-video-mark-rothko>



Investigate techniques

Position of canvas: on the wall.

Paint thickness: thickly painted, but smooth in texture, or thin washes. Oil and acrylic paints or, frequently, his own paint mixes which may include, egg yolk, resins and oils.

Colours: often yellow, orange, red or green and blue.

Movements: vigorous broken strokes, broad sweeps, spreading, scuffing and feathering to create rectangles and lines with edges merged and blurred.

Equipment: larger brushes, including decorator's brushes.

