

# Year 3 – Autumn Art Knowledge Organiser

Topic: Hokusai

Links to other year groups: [Y8 Cultural study of Japanese prints and design](#)

*ENQUIRY QUESTION: Create a Hokusai inspired Great Wave picture*

## Key Vocabulary & Skills:

**Landscape** – A picture of an area outside, usually in the countryside

**Form** – The way the art is created.

**Content** – The content is the subject of a piece of work.

**Mood** – Mood means looking at how the artist has created a certain atmosphere or feeling.

**Atmosphere** – The mood or feeling created by the art

**Contrasting** – Colours which are very different from each other put next to each other to make them seem even more obvious.

**Harmonious** – Colours that ‘go’ together well.

**Primary colours** – Colours which all other colours can be made by mixing red, blue, yellow

**Secondary colours** – colours which are made by mixing two primary colours.

**Tone**

**Shape**

**Texture**

**Composition**

**Perspective**

**Pattern**

**Abstract**

## Timeline of artists/movement

Japanese art movements:

Jomon Period (c. 10,500–c. 300 BCE), Yayoi Period (c. 300 BCE–c. 300 CE), Kofun Period (c. 250–538 CE), Asuka Period (538–710), Nara Period (710–794), Heian Period (794–1185), Kamakura Period (1185–1333), Muromachi Period (1336–1573), Azuchi–Momoyama Period (1573–1603), **Edo Period (1603–1868)**, Meiji Period (1868–1912)

## Key facts/info:

Katsushika Hokusai was born in 1760 in Tokyo.

His dad made mirrors and his job as a little boy was to polish the mirrors.

At age 6 he started to draw and paint. He loved painting from nature and he painted with brush and ink.

Hokusai trained under a very famous artist to become an ukiyo-e artist or artist of the floating world. His big love in life was painting Mount Fuji. He did 36 different pictures of Mount Fuji over his lifetime.

He was 90 when he died in 1849.

## Important works of art:



## Key Artists/Movements:

Japanese artist **Hokusai** created his great series of 36 woodcuts that show Mount Fuji from a range of different viewpoints the volcano was for him something like a sacred landmark, a constant presence that stood as the symbol of Japan’s identity.

### Ukiyo-e

This movement lasted from 1602 to 1868 and is known for its woodblock prints that emphasize line and bright colors. The prints are made by using a separate block of wood for each color, and then overlaying the colors with a black line.

### Hokusai’s work

Hokusai’s work broke away from the traditional ukiyo-e subject matter of actors and courtesans, instead focusing on the daily lives of Japanese people. His work influenced Western artists like Claude Monet and Edgar Degas.

**The Great Wave off Kanagawa** This print is part of Hokusai’s Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji series, which depicts the mountain from different perspectives. The print is visually dynamic, with saturated blues and high contrast. It’s one of the most recognizable and reproduced artworks of all time.