Claude Monet was born in Paris, France on 14th November 1840. His father was a grocer and wanted Claude to be a grocer too but Claude liked to draw.

At first Monet wanted to call his painting “Marina” but his friend, Edmond Renoir asked him to give it another title because he wanted to advertise it in his art exhibition. Claude Monet said “Then is a Impression, Sunrise”. When art experts saw his “Impression, Sunrise” they were shocked and said it was no good. They even joked about it. They didn’t know how famous it would become!

When he got to Paris he wanted to be a painter so he went to art school where he began painting landscapes like the one in the picture. His teacher encouraged him to paint outside in the open air.

He was also interested in nature. His sketch books were full of drawings of trees and the countryside.

At school he sold cartoons of his teachers and others he met. At school he sold cartoons of his teachers and others he met. When he was a boy he liked to draw cartoons of his teachers. When he was a boy he liked to draw cartoons of his teachers. When he was a boy he liked to draw cartoons of his teachers. When he was a boy he liked to draw cartoons of his teachers.

He painted a lot of pictures around the harbour of Le Havre. Can you see the way he painted the sky?

Claude Monet loved to paint water and reflections. Reflections are what you see when you look into the water and see yourself and the things around you reflected in the water.

When Monet was older he moved to a beautiful place in France called Giverney and worked hard to create a perfect garden, stream and pond near his house. Monet loved his garden. This is an old photograph of him standing in his garden.

Monet didn’t paint things exactly as they are. Instead, he experimented with his oil paints and painted his impression of the things he saw.

Monet said “Then is a Impression, Sunrise”. It looks blurry close up!

Monet loved flowers. He went to a lot of trouble to get the very best bulbs to plant in his garden. Monet also loved to paint pictures of his garden especially in the spring when it was full of colour. When it rained he would go outside and work painting amongst his flowers.

At school he sold cartoons of his teachers and others he met.

What do you think of this painting? What do you think of this painting? What do you think of this painting? What do you think of this painting?

Look carefully at the photographs. Monet’s house and garden are still there and people can still go to see them.

What flowers can you see? Do you know their names?

Sunflowers grew next to the path that led down to Monet’s garden and this is a photograph of the sunflowers that still grow there.
This is a painting of flowers in a vase. It's a still life painting by Claude Monet. Do you know what the flowers are? The flowers are sunflowers from Monet’s garden.

How would you describe Monet’s painting? What can you see?

Did you notice the huge bunch of flowers that Monet had arranged in a small thin vase? The vase seems to be so light that the sunflowers could topple over, but they don’t.

During the winter of 1880 to 1881, Claude Monet painted seven bouquets of different flowers which included these beautiful sunflowers. He said, “I'm busy gardening so it will give me flowers to paint on rainy days.”

If you look very carefully you can just see that the tablecloth was painted blue and white pattern with waves of colour that look like they are rising and falling. It makes the surface look uneven. Even the edges have strokes of colour that curl upwards like flames would curl.

Claude Monet thought very carefully about how he would arrange his still life.

If you look very carefully at the outline shape of the bunch of flowers, it’s like a diamond shape. It's the same diamond shape as the dark pattern in the tablecloth.

Monet also painted pictures of other flowers in his garden like this painting of his chrysanthemums.

This painting is called Bouquet of gladioli, lilies and daisies and it was painted by Claude Monet. Clematis by Monet

Vase of Tulips 1885

Can you see where he signed his name?