

Grange Park Primary School Year 3 Spring 1 Art and Design

Natural Disasters: Compositions inspired by the work of Stephanie Peters

Key Facts

Stephanie Peters is a contemporary American mixed media artist.

Peters spent much of her childhood in Maryland, living on a horse farm and running around open fields, raising animals.

She finds inspiration in the natural world. Working from life or using her own photographs as reference sometimes gets her in the most unusual places that make for great stories beyond the canvas, especially when she's moved by the destructive forces of nature like volcanoes and storms.

Her acclaimed natural disaster paintings were a response to the increasing severity of these events over the past ten years.

Her natural disaster paintings are vibrant abstracts, using highly textured acrylics and oil paints, with charcoal. These works often contain disjointed elements like cuts and stitching on the canvas.

Key Skills

Observational drawing	Draw from real life - first hand observation. Look carefully and paint exactly what is seen. Experiment with a wide range of mark making tools.
Paint techniques	Experiment with and use a variety of techniques including, using secondary colours to create tertiary colours and mixing tints and tones to match own observations.
Composition	Think carefully about how elements are placed or arranged to create a final image.
Discuss an artist's work	Begin to think critically about the work of an artist. Be able to talk about choices made in art, likes and dislikes, and how these relate to the work of Stephanie Peters.

Key Vocabulary

Imitate	To capture the style of an artist's work.
tertiary colours	A colour produced by mixing two secondary colours.
movement	Techniques used to create the illusion of movement in a piece of art - this could be achieved using lines, edges, shape and colour.
abstract	Art that does not attempt to represent an accurate depiction of a visual reality.
observation	Drawing or painting from real life.
disjointed	An element of the artwork that feels uncomfortable or odd.
direction	The use of horizontal and vertical lines to create the impression of movement.
inspiration	To be excited by something (eg. a landscape, a picture or a story) and use that to get ideas to create your own work of art.



What else was going on in the World?

2004	Indian Ocean tsunami
2005	Hurricane Katrina
2010	Haiti Earthquake
2020	Australian Wildfires

