

In Year 4, you studied the artist Wassily Kandinsky. You also found out about graphic scoring in music. See the Knowledge Organiser to find out more.

Kandinsky saw colours as an expression of 'music.' Placed together, the colours represented the music and feelings the music evoked like harmonising chords on a piano or in the orchestra.

He saw/heard colours like this:

Yellow: loud like trumpets

Blue: deep and peaceful like flutes and cellos

Green: strong and still like violins

White: silent and powerful

Black: unmoving with a doomed-like ending

Orange: healthy and radiant like bells and voices

Red: confident and glowing like a tuba

Purple: sad like a horn or a bassoon

Kandinsky also felt that shapes expressed feelings for example:

Triangles: aggression

Squares: calm and strength

Circle: spiritual

Over to you! You will need access to music, paper (any size) and colours – felt tips, paints, colouring pencils, crayons – it doesn't matter

Can I suggest you listen to two contrasting pieces such as Ride of the Valkyries by Richard Wagner or Dance of the Knights by Sergei Prokofiev with Morning Mood by Edvard Grieg or Clair de Lune by Claude Debussy.

Draw shapes and colours on a piece of paper to represent the music you are listening to.

Write a few sentences explaining your use of shapes and colours.

For example – I used a lot of blue because the music was mostly calm. I used some red as the music was very upbeat at times. I used circles to represent the calmness and rectangles to represent the long calm notes.

Did the shapes and colours you drew match Kandinsky's ideas?