



Art

**Vincent Van Gogh**  
**1853-1890**  
**Post Impressionist/  
Pointillism**

Year 2 Unit 1

**Key Vocabulary:**

**Core Knowledge**

Post Impressionism	Post-Impressionism is an art movement that developed in the 1890s. It is characterized by a subjective approach to painting, as artists opted to evoke emotion rather than realism in their work.
Pointillism	The practice of applying small strokes or dots of colour to a surface so that from a distance they visually blend.

**Technical Vocabulary**

Primary and Secondary colours	A set of colours (red, yellow, and blue) from which all other colours can be created by mixing. A colour resulting from the mixing of two primary colours.
Sketch	A rough first drawing which helps you to plan your work.
Still Life	A painting or drawing of an arrangement of objects, eg. fruit and flowers and objects contrasting with these in texture, such as bowls and glassware
Tone	The lightness or darkness of something.

**Key Works of Art**

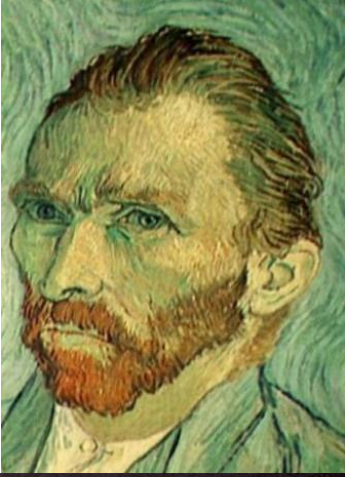


**A Starry Night (1889)**



**Sunflowers (1888)**

## Biography



**Vincent Van Gogh**  
**1853-1890**

- Van Gogh was born in Groot-Zundert, Holland on March 30, 1853.
- Vincent was highly emotional, lacked self-confidence and struggled with his identity and with direction.
- Between 1860 and 1880, when he finally decided to become an artist, Van Gogh had already experienced quite an unhappy life.
- In 1886, he went to Paris to join his brother Théo. In Paris, van Gogh studied with Cormon and met Pissarro, [Monet](#), and [Gauguin](#). He tried to imitate their techniques and he began to lighten his very dark palette and to paint in the short brush strokes of the Impressionists' style.
- Unable to successfully copy the style, he developed his own more bold and unconventional style.
- In 1888, Van Gogh decided to Arles where he hoped his friends would join him and help found a school of art -The Yellow House.
- Near the end of 1888, an incident led Gauguin to leave Arles. Van Gogh went after him with an open razor and was stopped by Gauguin but ended up cutting a part of his own ear lobe off.
- Van Gogh then began to have fits of madness and lucidity and was sent to the asylum.
- In May of 1890, after a couple of years at the asylum, he seemed much better and went to live in Auvers-sur-Oise. Two months later, he died from what is believed to have been a self-inflicted gunshot wound "for the good of all."
- Vincent Van Gogh is said to have uttered the final words, "The sadness will last forever".

