**Artist research**

1. Read the text. **Circle any words you don’t understand** so you can check them later.
2. Underline or **highlight the important parts** of the information. The important bits are when and where she was born and died, about her flower paintings and how she paints them, and also the techniques that she uses such as use of colour or shapes.
3. Present a **single page** in your book on Georgia O’Keeffe. Link the presentation to her work. Write up the key information in your own words and give your **opinion**. Include pictures of her art work.

Georgia O’Keeffe

Among the great American artists of the 20th-century, Georgia O’Keeffe stands as one of the most compelling. For nearly a century, O’Keeffe’s representations of the beauty of the American landscape were a brave counterpoint to the chaotic images embraced by the art world. Her cityscapes and still life’s filled the canvas with wild energy that gained her a following among the critics as well as the public.

Georgia O’Keeffe was born in America in 1887 and died in 1985.

O’Keeffe began drawing flowers when her teacher set her a task to draw one. She turned it in different directions, drawing it over and over again. Then she tried drawing just a part of it, to see what that would look like. Every time she drew it, she made the shape of the flower look more simple. Someone looking at her drawing might not have recognized the flower at all. That didn't matter to Georgia O'Keeffe. To her, just to copy the flower was dull. In her drawings, a flower became a world to be explored.

During the 1920s, her large canvasses of lush overpowering flowers filled the still lives with dynamic energy and abstraction.

When painting in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe you would need to vary colours and abstract shapes of still life images, such as landscape, flowers and objects in nature. She combined cubism and realism, which resulted in paintings that showed objects realistically but put emphasis on their geometrical form and shape. She uses bright colors contrasted against softer colours, such as mellow yellow against fire red or mint green against brilliant ocean blue.

O’Keeffe lets the flow of natural shapes show clearly in the artwork. The colours travel across the canvas, and there are rarely straight across, or up or down lines. The lines and contours of the subjects are crisp and clear, so there is no mistake what the difference is between the subject and the background colour of the canvas, even if they are close to the same colour.

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