

Knowledge Organiser - Year 3 Art: 4. 3D Ceramics

Key Vocabulary

clay	A natural material dug out from the ground. It is a type of fine-grained natural soil material that contains clay minerals that develop plasticity when wet.
clay tools	A wooden or metal object used to smooth, shape or add texture to wet or leather hard clay.
clay board	A piece of wood or other material that you use as a base to do clay work on.
3D modelling	3D means three-dimensional. In art it is creating a piece of art work that has length, width and depth. It is not a flat piece of art but it has volume, like a 3D shape.
Renaissance era	The Renaissance was a period in European history marking the transition from the Middle Ages to modernity, covering the 15th and 16th centuries. It occurred after the Crisis of the Late Middle Ages and was associated with

Right: *The School of Athens* by Raphael, showing an imaginary scene from Ancient Greece. Raphael used the faces of people from his own time. Leonardo da Vinci was his model for Plato, the philosopher with the white beard



Additional 3D Modelling Skills

Observing	What shape is it? What are its proportions? What parts are comparatively bigger / smaller than other parts? What details can you see? Can you spot any others? What textures can you see? How are they made? What tones and shades has the artist used? What is the effect of these? Why have they been chosen?
Sketching	Artists do quick drawings to capture, explore and develop a variety of ideas. They usually collect these in their sketch books.

Key Question: How can I apply my knowledge of working with clay to create a vessel in the style of the Italian Renaissance?



The Italian Renaissance

Did you know?
"Renaissance" is a French word meaning "rebirth". The period is called by this name because at that time, people started taking an interest in the learning of ancient times, in particular, the teachings of Ancient Greece and Rome. The Renaissance was seen as a "rebirth" of that learning. The Renaissance is often said to be the start of the "modern age". During the Renaissance, there were many famous artists, writers and philosophers. Many people studied mathematics and different sciences. A person who is clever at a great number of things is sometimes called a "Renaissance man". Leonardo da Vinci, who was a painter, a scientist, a musician and a philosopher, is the most famous *Renaissance Man*. Famous Renaissance artists include Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael and Donatello.



Clay Techniques

Pinching techniques	Pinch clay out between thumb and fingers but keep the clay thick enough—not too thin so that it breaks. You can also pinch and twist clay off to use for other pieces. Ensure the pot has an even thickness all over and that it is not too thin.
Coil techniques	Create rolls of clay and wind them into a coil. Moisten and add the next coil on the top. Merge the clay together using fingers or a clay tool.
Slab techniques	Use a flat, thick clay surface as a base to add texture by using clay tools or add on shaped pieces of clay (using joining techniques) to create your design.
Joining Techniques: 1. scratch, 2. moisten, 3. merge, 4. seal.	To make sure that the pieces you want to join stay together: 1. Score (scratch) into both surfaces you are joining to using a clay tool or old toothbrush. 2. Moisten the base you are joining to by applying a little water (or slip: a liquid mixture of clay and water). 3. Merge by adding on the piece you are joining and pressing down gently. 4. Seal the edges down.
Smooth out cracks	Smooth out cracks in the clay using your fingers or a clay tool. This stops it from cracking and breaking when it dries.
Use tools for clay	Score into the clay using tools to decorate the surface or create patterns.
Decorate using sgraffito	Add this form of decoration by scratching through a surface to reveal a lower layer of a contrasting colour.

