Additional Vocabulary







The importance of vocabulary

Pupils with the most extensive vocabulary have:

- better reasoning, inference and pragmatic skills¹
- academic success and employment²
- better mental health in adulthood.³

According to Isabel L. Beck, and others, in their book *Bringing Words to Life*⁴, pupils should be taught, systematically, a range of academic words so that they can articulate complex ideas.

In *The Essentials Curriculum*, each milestone introduces a range of art and design vocabulary. The next few pages provide a pupil-friendly glossary of these terms.

1 Law, J., Charlton, J., Dockrell, J., Gascoigne, M., McKean, C., Theakston, A (2017) Early Language Development, Education Endowment Foundation 2, 3 Law, J., Charlton, J., Asmussen, K. (2017) Language as a Child Wellbeing Indicator, Early Intervention Foundation/Newcastle University 4 Beck, Isabel L., McKeown, Margaret G., Kucan, Linda (2002, 2008) Bringing Words To Life, Guildford Press





Milestone 1 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
alter	To change
arrange	To place or move things into a position, usually to make them look attractive or tidy
artisan	Someone whose job requires skill with their hands
artist	Someone who draws or paints pictures or creates sculptures as a job or a hobby
brush	An object with a large number of bristles or hairs fixed to it. You use brushes for painting, for cleaning things, and for tidying your hair
carving	Cutting a substance such as wood or stone to make an object, shape or design
classic	Of high quality and well known; also describes work by Ancient Greeks and Romans
collage	A picture that has been made by sticking pieces of coloured paper and cloth onto paper
create	To invent or design (a new product or process)
cut	To use a knife or a similar tool to divide something into pieces, or to mark it or damage it
designer	A person whose job is to design things by making drawings of them

Vocabulary	Definition
develop	To cause to become advanced. A skill may be developed to a high standard by practise
digital media	Using technology to communicate with large numbers of people, such as websites, software and smartphones
dot	A very small round mark, for example, one that is used as a full stop or as a decimal point
effect	Something that produces a particular impression
experiment	The trying out of a new idea or method to see what it is like and what effects it has
explore	To think about an idea or suggestion or comment on it carefully and in detail
glue	A sticky substance used for joining things together, often for repairing broken things
join	To fix or fasten two things together
line	A long thin mark that is drawn or painted on a surface
materials	The equipment needed for an activity
method	A particular way of doing something





Milestone 1 vocabulary (continued)

Vocabulary	Definition
modern	To do with present or recent times, new and using the latest ideas or equipment
moulding	Changing a soft substance such as clay into a particular shape or into an object
object	Anything that has a fixed shape, that you can touch or see, and that is not alive
paint	A coloured liquid that you put onto a surface with a brush to make it look attractive or that you use to produce a picture
pattern	How lines or shapes are arranged, especially a design in which the same shape is repeated in the same way
plaiting	Twisting hair, rope or materials over and under each other to make one thick length
primary colours	Basic colours that can be mixed together to produce other colours. They are usually considered to be red, yellow and blue
print	A piece of clothing or material with a pattern printed on it, or the pattern itself
sculpture	A work of art that is produced by carving or shaping stone, wood, clay or other materials
secondary colours	Colours formed by mixing two primary colours
shading	Dark areas or patches in a picture or on an object
shadow	Darkness in a place caused by something blocking the light. It is seen as a dark shape on a surface or in a picture

Vocabulary	Definition
sort	To separate things into different groups or places so that you can do different things with them
stitching	A row of stitches that have been sewn in a piece of cloth or the process of using a needle and thread to join two pieces of cloth together
technique	Skill and ability in an artistic, sporting or other practical activity that you develop through training and practise
textile	Any type of fabric or cloth, especially ones that have been woven
texture	The way something feels when you touch it, for example how smooth or rough it is
thickness	The distance through an object or between the opposite sides
tint	A colour that is softened or lightened by a small amount of another colour, usually white
tones	Lighter, darker or brighter shades of the same colour
tool	Any instrument or piece of equipment that you hold in your hands and use to do a particular kind of work, e.g. spades, hammers and knives
visual	Something such as a picture, diagram or piece of film that is used to show or explain something
weaving	Making a fabric by crossing threads over and under each other





Milestone 2 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
accurate	Free from mistakes or errors; precise
adapt	To change something to make it more suitable for a purpose or situation
annotate	To add notes to written work or a diagram, often to explain it
back stitch	A strong sewing stitch made by starting the next stitch at the middle or beginning of the one before
blocks	Large solid pieces of material such as wood or stone, often used to cut or chop on
coiling	Winding into a series of loops or into the shape of a ring
collect	To bring together a number of things from several places or from several people
cross hatching	Shading or hatching with two or more sets of parallel lines that cross one another
cross stitch	An embroidery stitch made by two stitches forming a cross
distinctive	With a special quality or feature that makes the thing easily recognisable and different from other things of the same type
dye	A substance made from plants or chemicals that is mixed into a liquid and used to change the colour of something such as cloth or hair

Vocabulary	Definition
elaborate	Very complex due to having lots of different parts or a detailed artistic design
feeling	An impression or mood; atmosphere
hardness	How strong or firm something is
hatching	Fine, parallel or crossed lines drawn or engraved to show shading
influenced	Persuaded or affected by somebody or something
layers	Pieces of materials or substances that cover a surface or that are between two other things
mix	To stir or shake two substances together, or combine them in some other way, so that they become a single substance
montage	A piece of art that consists of several different items or materials that are put together, often in an unusual combination
mood	The way you feel at a particular time or the impression you get from something like a painting
mosaic	A design or decoration that consists of small pieces of coloured materials such as glass or stones
movement	Changing position or going from one place to another





Milestone 2 vocabulary (continued)

Vocabulary	Definition
notable	Important, interesting or famous
original	Not a copy of something; a new idea or thing
overlapping	Extending or covering two things so they lie partly over each other
palette	A flat piece of wood or plastic on which an artist mixes paints or a range of colours used by an artist
patterned	Arranged as or decorated with lines and shapes that are often repeated at regular intervals
plain	Entirely of one colour and without any pattern, design or writing
precise	Exact and accurate in all its details
quilt	To stitch together two pieces of fabric with a thick padding or lining between them
recognisable	Easily identified or recognised
recordings	Things that have been recorded, such as discs, films or written notes
refine	To improve by making small changes

Vocabulary	Definition
replicate	To make or be a copy of; reproduce
resources	The materials, money and other things that a group or person has and can use to do things properly
rough	Uneven and not smooth
sketch	A drawing that is done quickly without a lot of details. Artists often use sketches as a preparation for a more detailed painting or drawing
smooth	Without roughness, lumps or holes
striking	Very noticeable or impressive; unusual, outstanding, remarkable
style	The way in which something is done
tessellation	The laying or arranging of shapes so that they fit together exactly
washes	Background layers of thinly applied colour
watercolour	Coloured paints, used for painting pictures, which you apply with a wet brush or dissolve in water first





Milestone 3 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
abstract	Using shapes and patterns rather than showing people or things
acrylic	A paint or colour containing an artificial material called acrylic fibre or acrylic resin
animation	The process or technique of making things like figures and objects appear to move or be alive
ceramic	Clay that has been heated to a very high temperature so that it becomes hard
convey	To communicate information or feelings so that they are known or understood by others
enhance	To improve the quality or attractiveness of something
expression	Communication of ideas and feelings through music, painting, etc
extend	To make something longer or bigger; to stretch or broaden the meaning of something
fluent	Flowing or moving smoothly or easily; able to do something smoothly and expressively
frameworks	Structures that form a support or frame for something

Vocabulary	Definition
grasp	To understand something that may be difficult to understand or need thought
interpretation	An opinion about what something means or shows; a particular view of an artistic work
lifelike	Appearing very like the person or thing that it is supposed to represent
mimic	To take on the appearance of or closely resemble something
perspective	The right impression of the size and position of objects
proportion	The correct relationship in size or number between different things or parts
provoke	To encourage the reaction of feelings in a person
qualities	Distinguishing characteristics, properties, or attributes – of a good or high standard
stability	The state of being stable, steady or fixed
tactile	Pleasant or interesting to touch

