Year 3 & 4

## Painting - Abstract Expressionism

Jackson Pollock was born in America in 1912 and is a key figure in Abstract Expressionism. His 'drip painting' style, where he dripped, poured and splattered paint onto canvas, made him famous. He used this technique to express powerful emotions in his artwork. His bold and bright colours inspired many other artists including Mark Rothko. In 2006, one of his most famous paintings, No. 5, 1948 was sold at auction for \$165.4 million - making it one of the 10 most expensive paintings in history!

The **splattering technique** is used to create patterns by deliberately scattering or throwing droplets of paint onto a surface. Artists use many different tools when using this technique including: paintbrushes, toothbrushes, sticks and straws. It is important to experiment with different tools and brushes so the appropriate ones are selected to fit the purpose. A **good level of control** is very important and so is the amount of paint on the brush or tool.



When using the splattering technique, the brush must be loaded with paint!



**Tertiary colours** are made by mixing a primary colour and a secondary colour.

Complementary colours are opposite each other on the colour wheel.

They contrast with each other and are used to create an impact.





| Key Vocabulary         |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Abstract Expressionism | a post-World War II art movement characterised by        |
|                        | spontaneous and non-representational artwork             |
| drip painting          | a technique in which paint is dripped or poured onto a   |
|                        | canvas, often in a gestural and spontaneous manner       |
| splattering            | a technique where small drops of paint are purposely     |
|                        | scattered or thrown onto a canvas or surface             |
| gesture                | expressive and dynamic movements made while creat-       |
|                        | ing art, such as swirling, splattering or pouring paint  |
| action painting        | a term often used to describe the physical style and     |
|                        | emotional aspects of creating art                        |
| canvas                 | the surface on which an artist paints                    |
| non-representational   | art that does not attempt to depict recognisable objects |
| art                    | or scenes  |
| palette                | the range of colours used by an artist in a particular   |
|                        | work or during a specific period                         |
| composition            | the arrangement of elements in a work of art, in-        |
|                        | cluding lines, shapes, colours, and textures             |