

TAKE ONE PICTURE

Project submission for *Surprised!*
2024 exhibition

Katherine Semar Junior School
Year 5







*A nurturing
school of
exceptional quality*

quest **I**on
challe **N**ge
inve **S**tigate
ex **P**erience
commun **I**cate
c **R**reate
und **E**rstand

- Situated in Saffron Walden, Essex
- We deliver a curriculum full of enjoyment and challenge, relevant to today's world and that of the future.
- We provide a rich, inclusive and creative learning environment for all.

YEAR 5



Project name

What is hiding
in the
rainforest?

HOW WAS THE PICTURE INTRODUCED TO THE CHILDREN?

Children were introduced to the artist Henri Rousseau and then handed a copy of *Surprised!* We had a class discussion around the composition of the painting, any hidden messages behind it as well as discussing the questions here.



A statue comes to life in a magical gallery and falls into the painting 'Surprised!' by Henri Rousseau.

We watched the video on The BBC Teach website where somebody dives into the painting and explores the details and ideas behind it. This promoted a lot of discussion.



What is happening in the picture?

What is the tiger doing?

What is the weather like? How do you know?

What colours has Henri Rousseau used to show the jungle/tiger?

Is the picture realistic? Does a tiger/jungle really look like that?

HOW WAS THE PICTURE INTRODUCED TO THE CHILDREN?

Here are some quotes from sketch books when children were first introduced to the artwork Surprised!

This picture makes me feel confused because I don't know what the tiger is looking at!

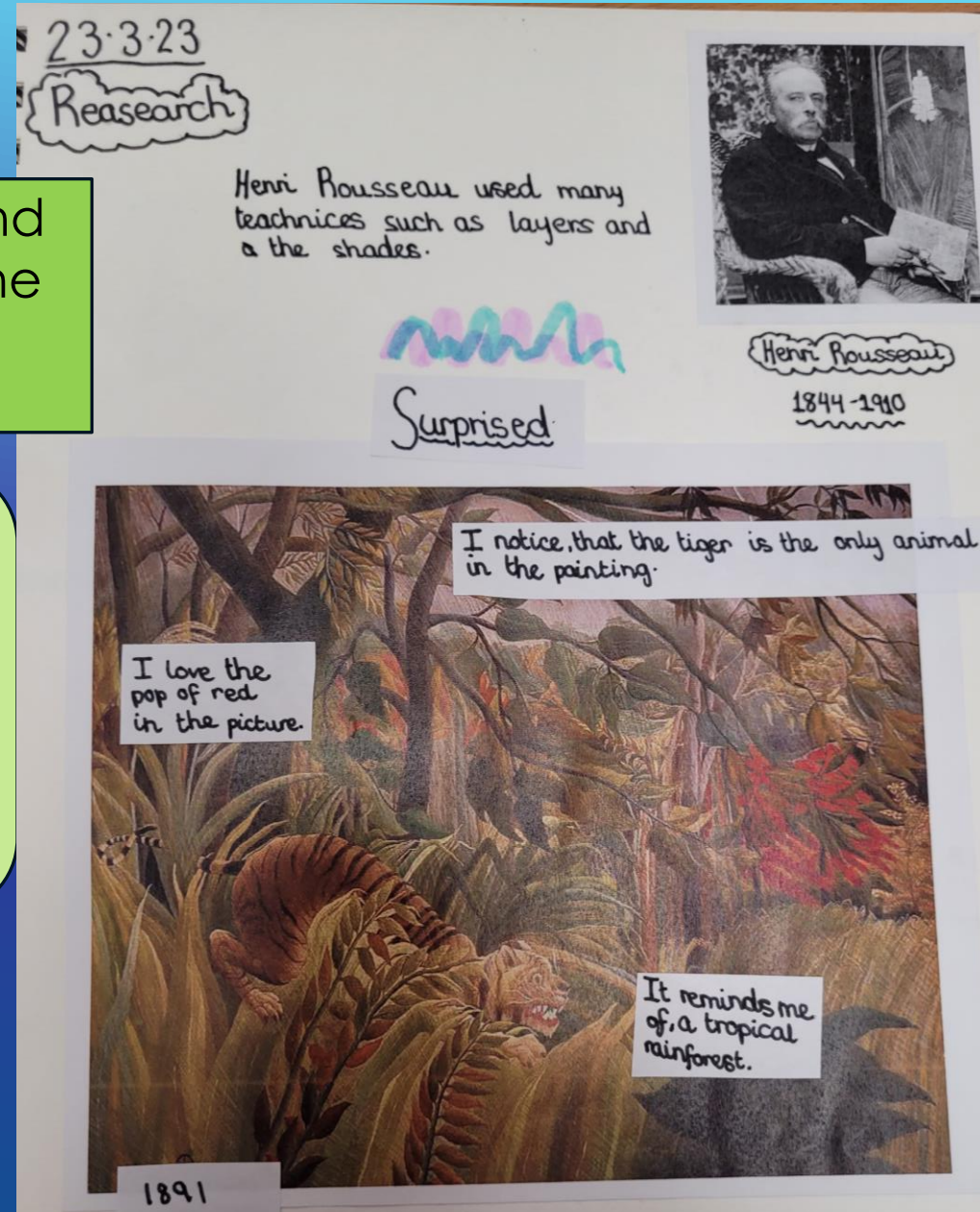
I notice that the tiger's hind legs are floating above the ground.

I notice how wide the tiger's eyes are! I also notice that Rousseau has used layers. I wonder if the tiger is scared? I love this piece!



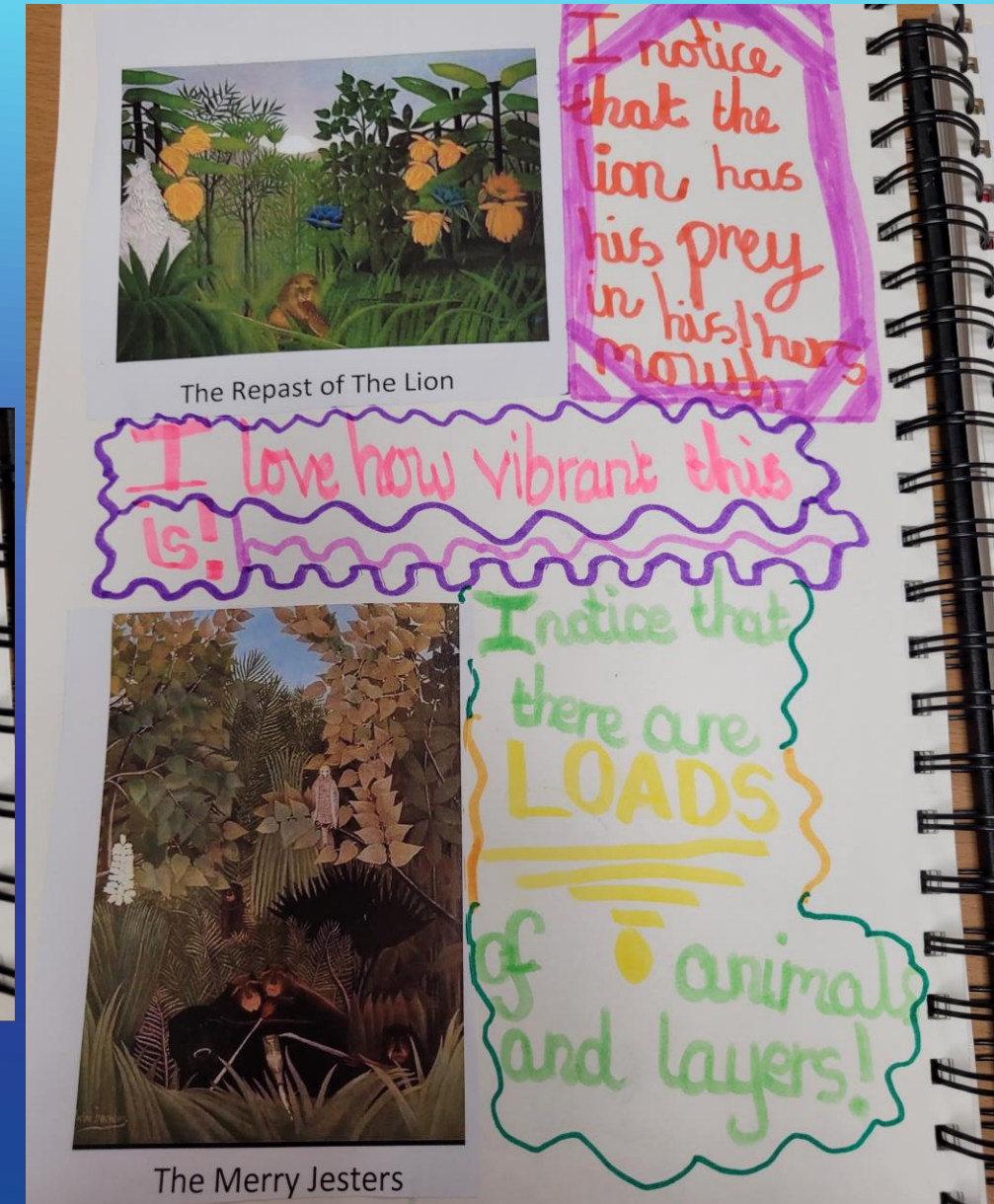
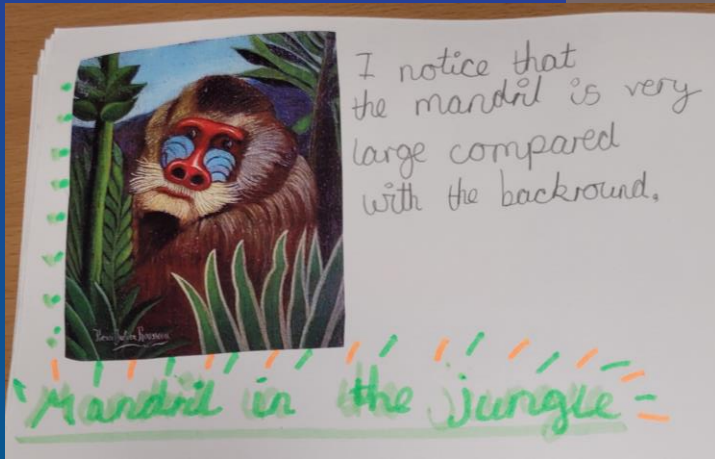
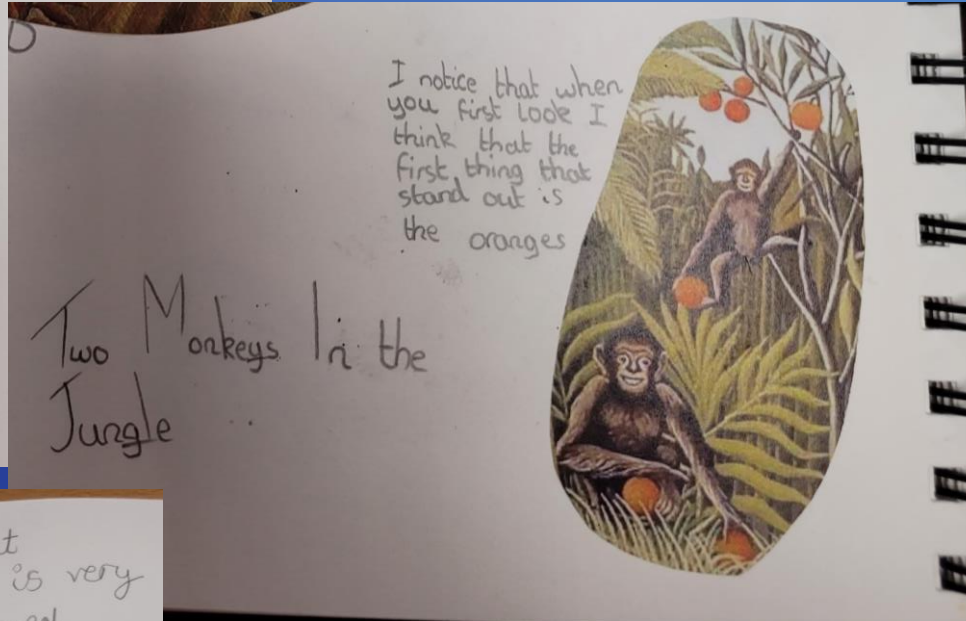
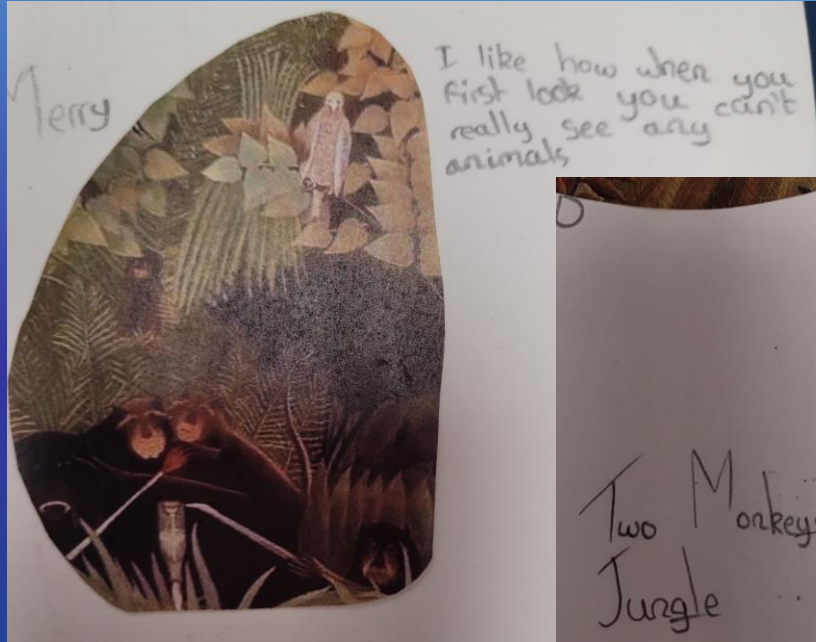
OTHER ARTISTS SAID HE WAS CHEATING!

IMAGINATION



What direction did the project take?

We examined other pieces of art by Henri Rousseau discussing the layers, themes and Rousseau's methods.



HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

We had previously experimented with collage and now tied it in with Surprised! We watched this make and create video on the National Gallery website before continuing with the project.



At Katherine Semar we recently introduced a new teaching sequence which is followed for every art unit.

We followed this sequence for our Rainforest Collage unit inspired by Surprised! Images of the childrens' sketch books can be seen at each stage over the next few slides.

Warm up

Research

Experiment

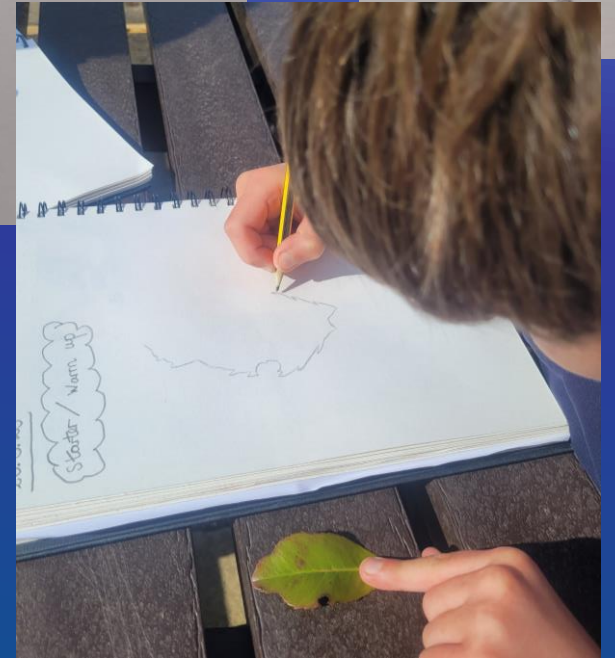
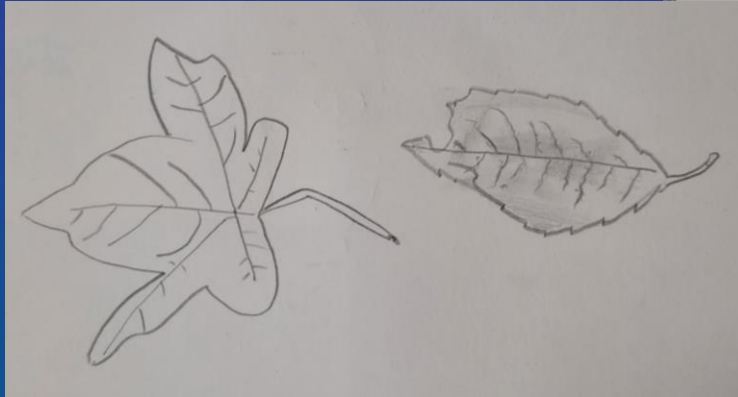
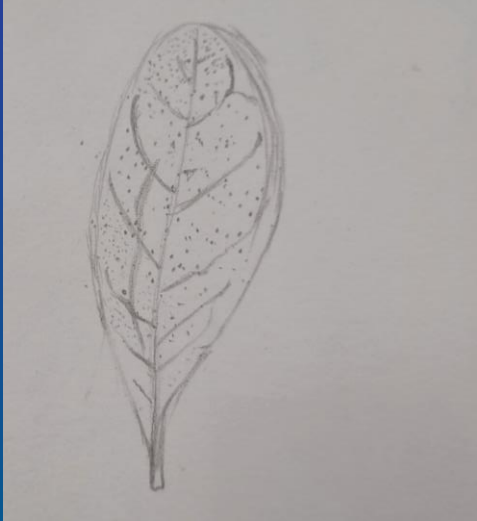
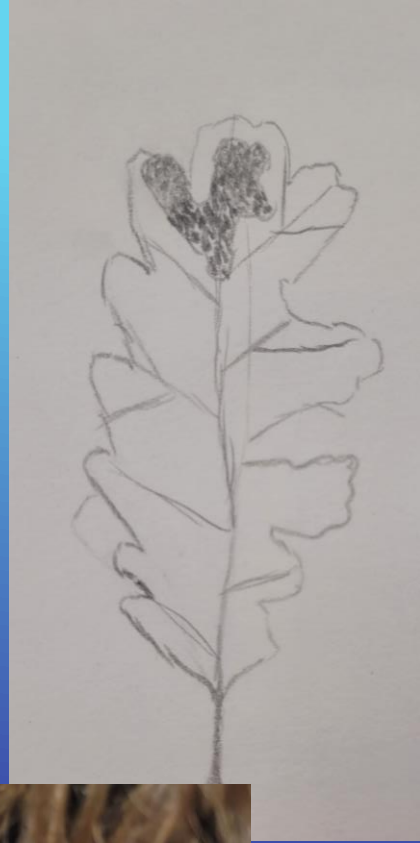
Design

Make

Evaluation

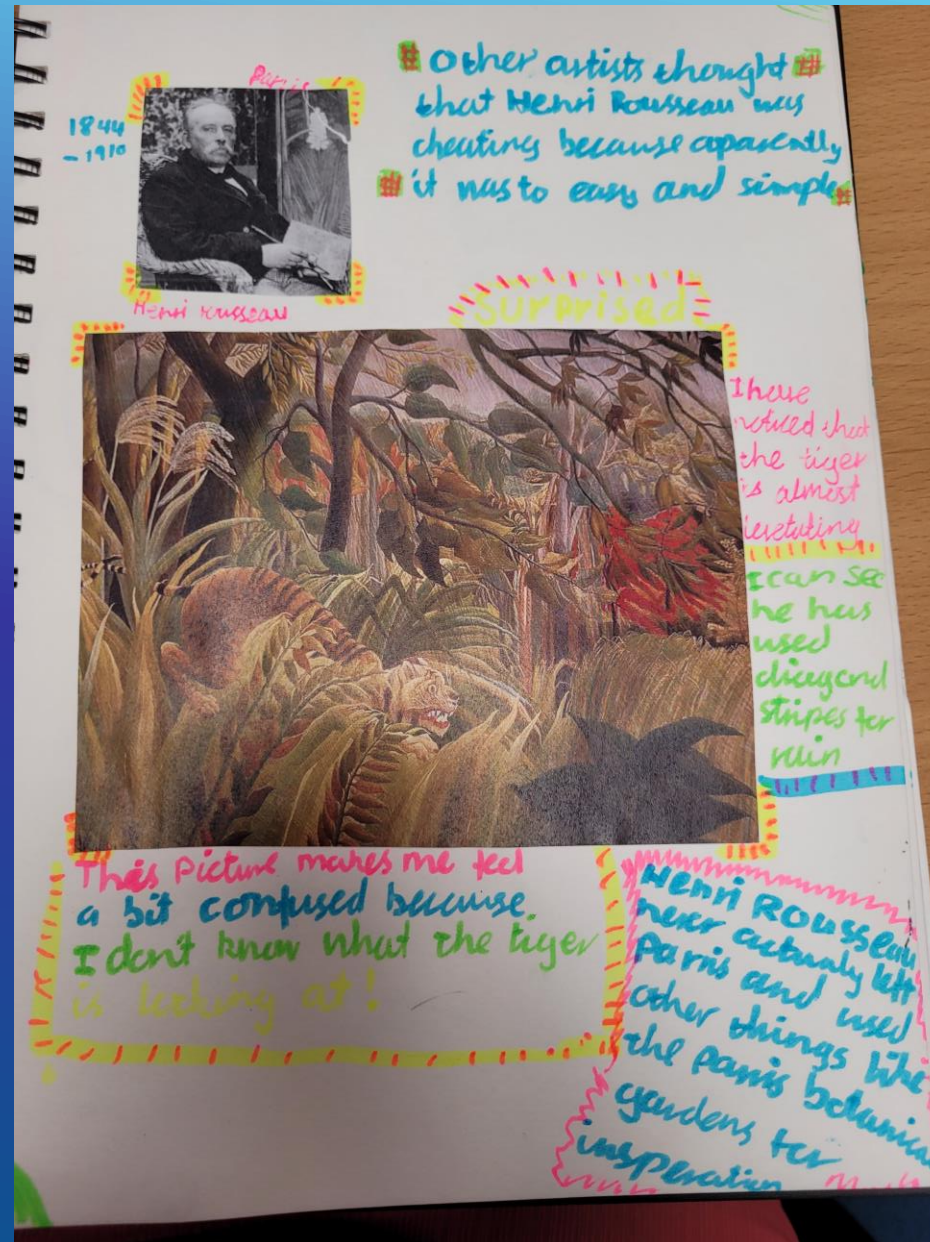
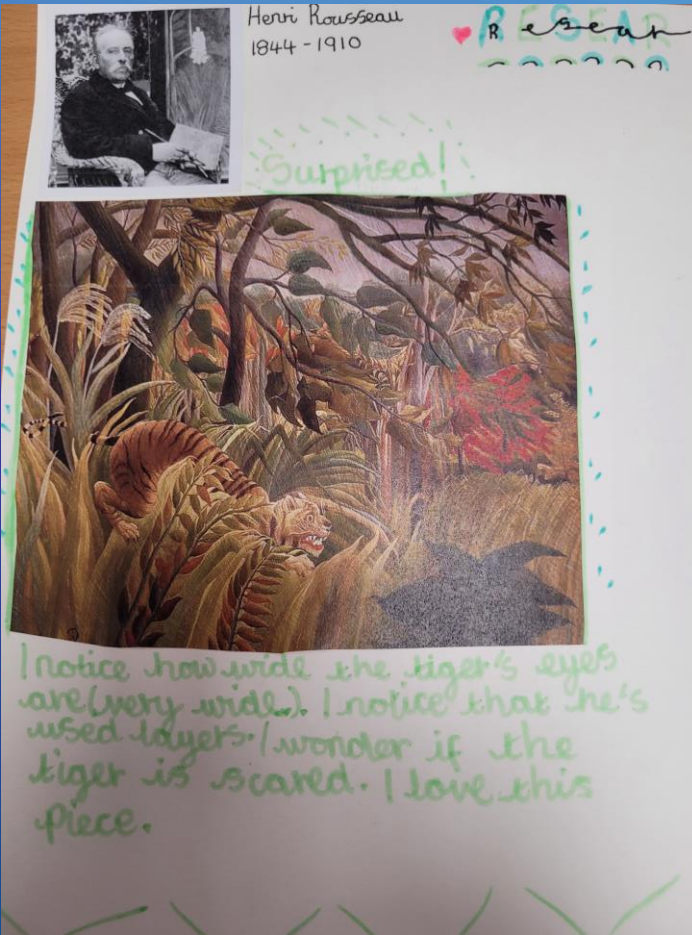
HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

Warm up



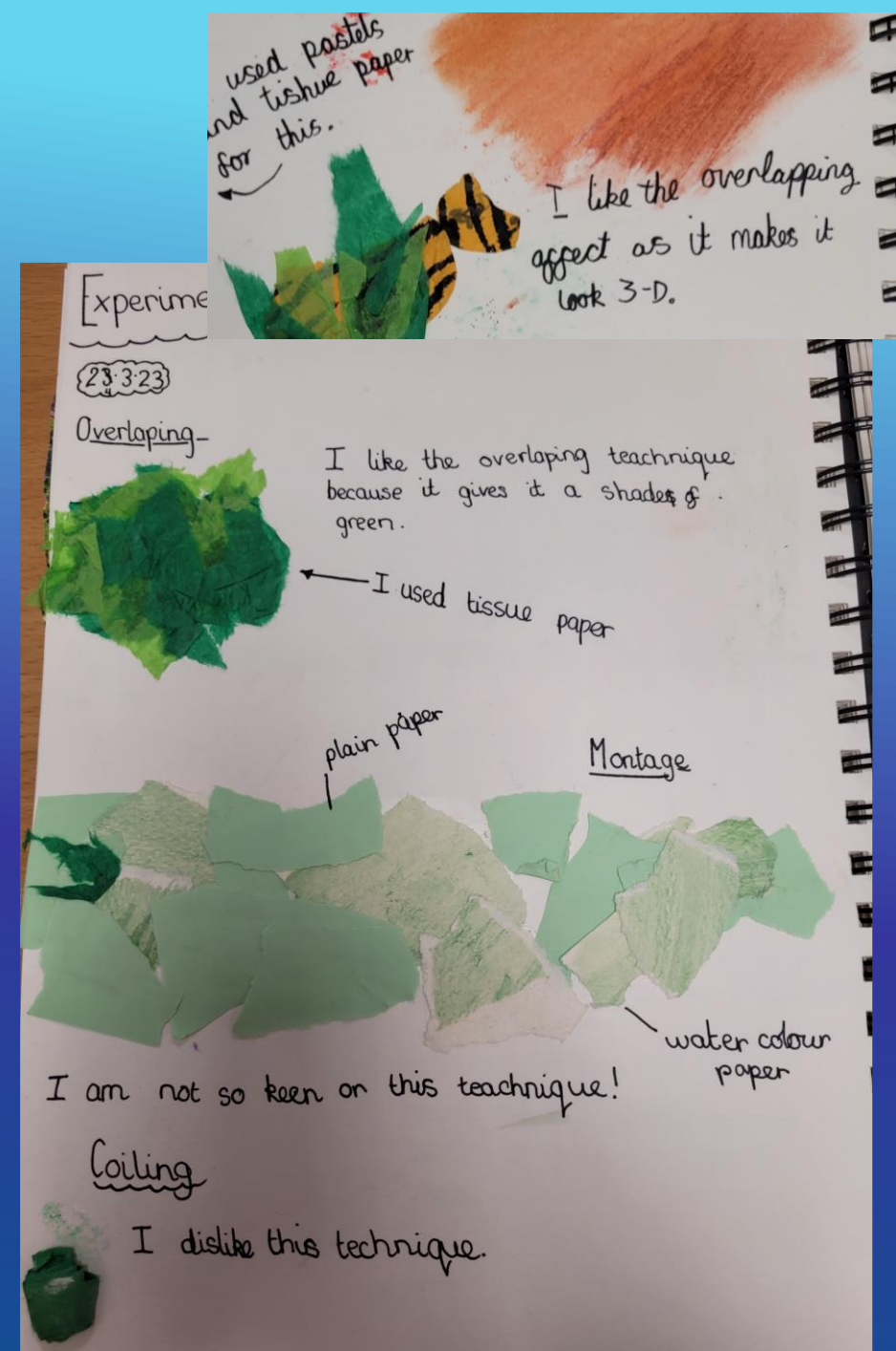
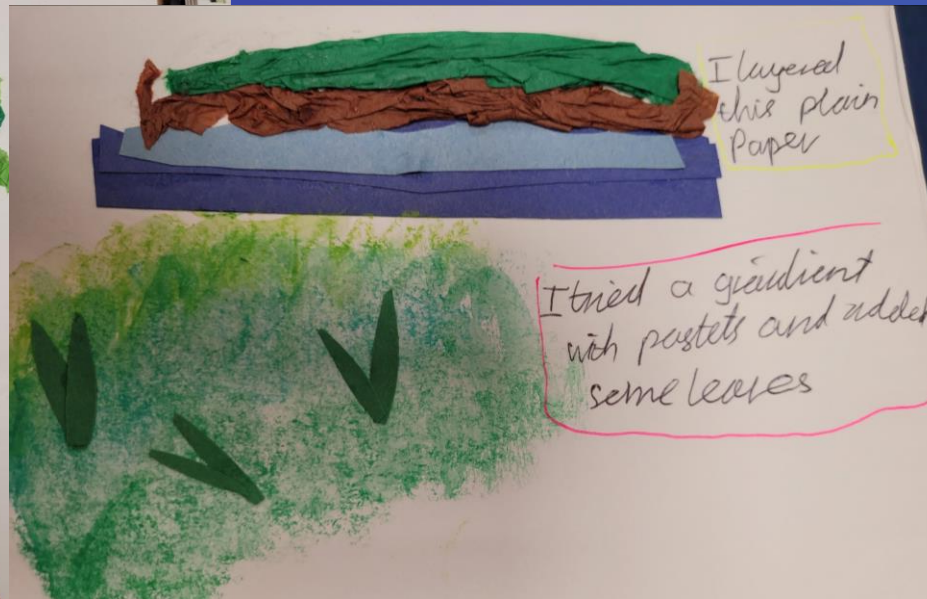
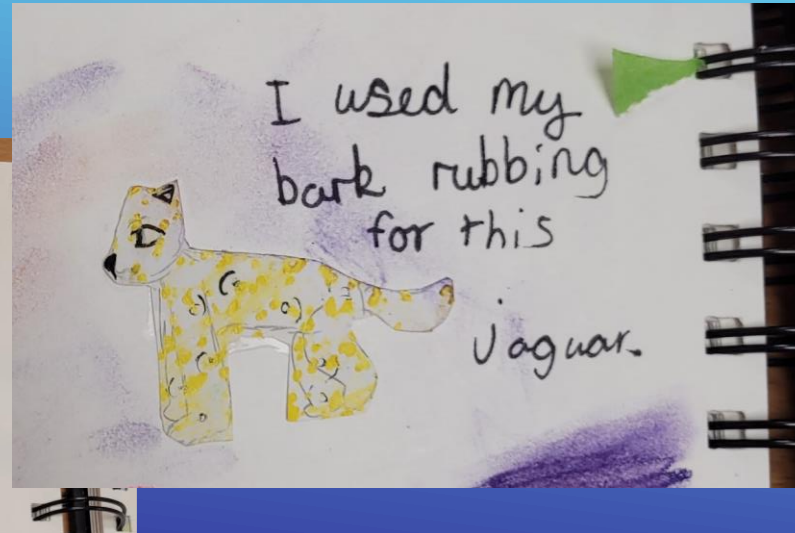
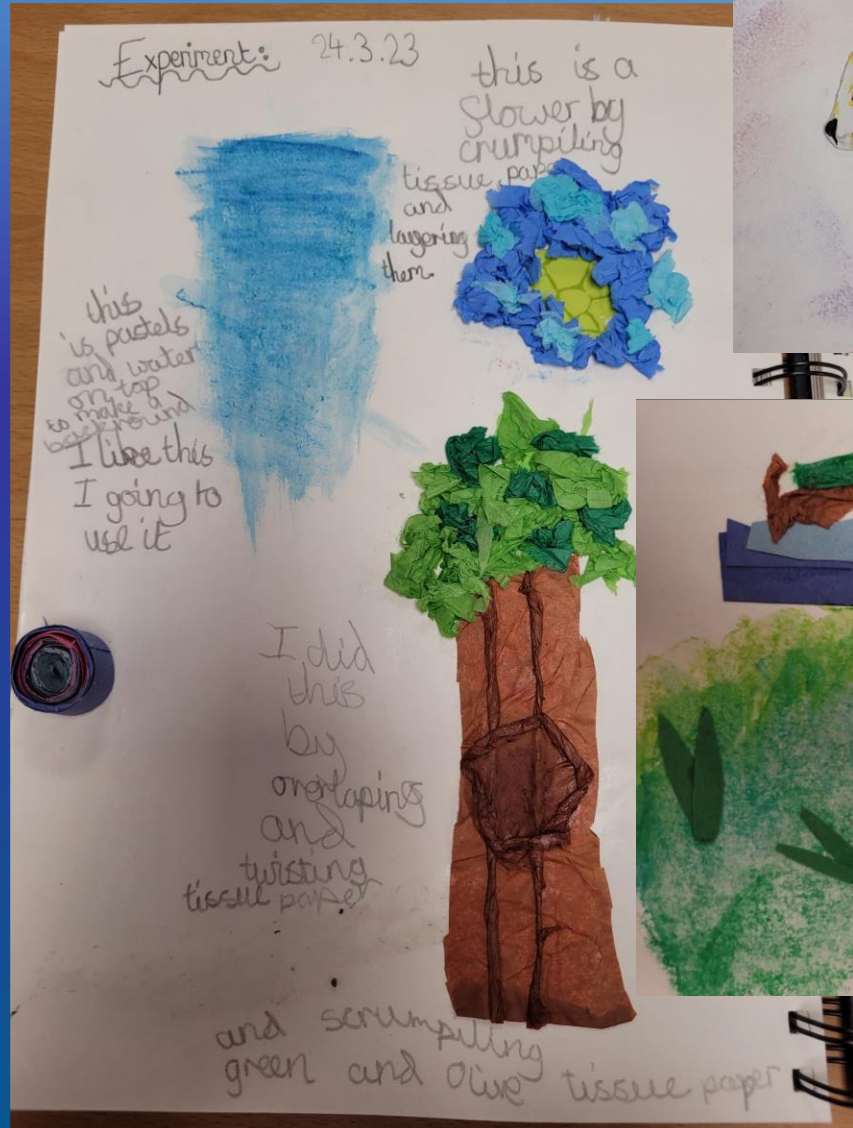
HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

Research



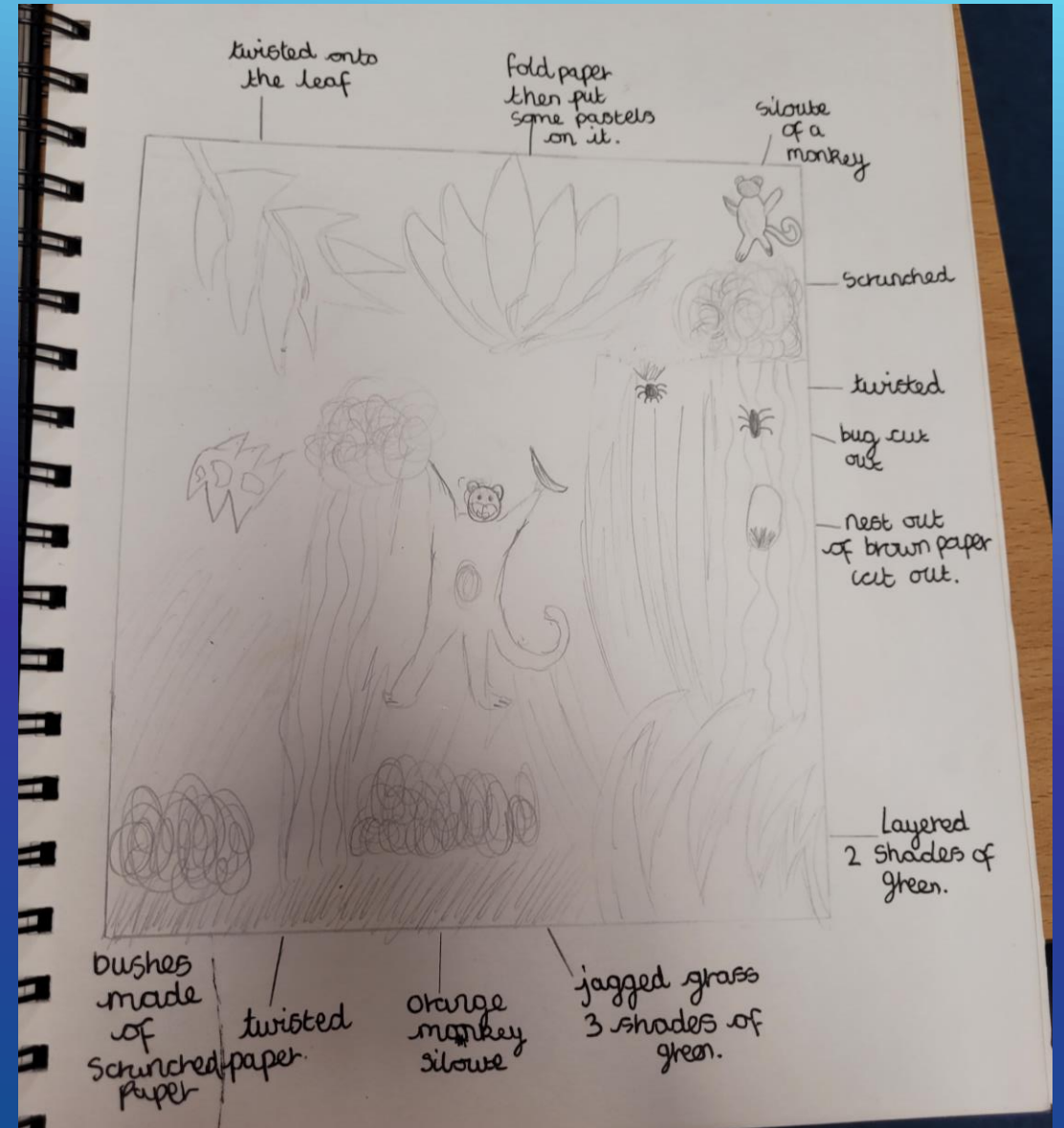
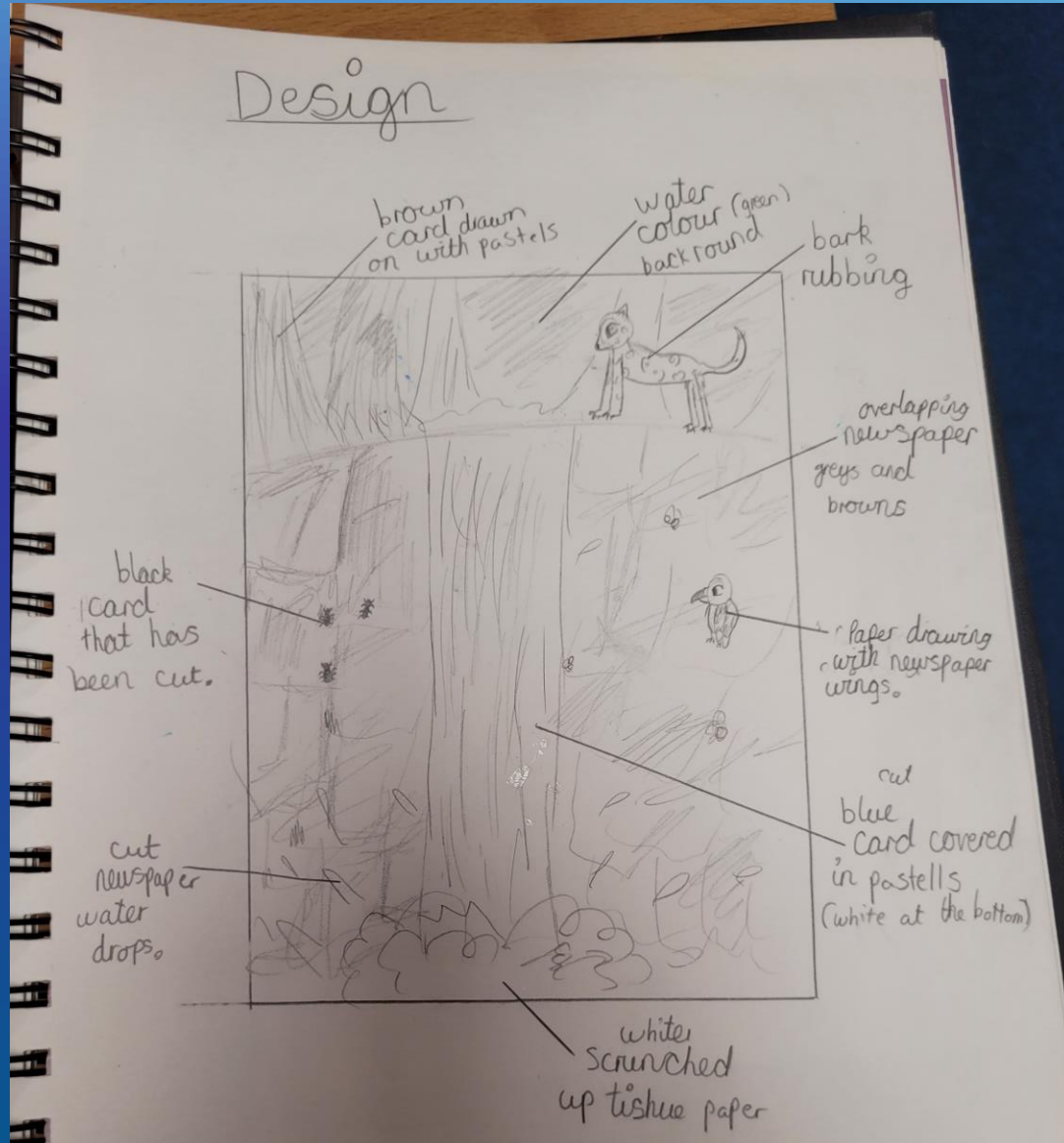
HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

Experiment



HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

Design



HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

Make



HOW DID THE PROJECT DEVELOP?

Evaluate

be better.

2. What are the good things about your Henri Rousseau-inspired collage?

I really liked the grass since I focused on layering and at the end it looked 3D.

3. How is your collage inspired by Henri Rousseau's artwork?

It was inspired by Henri Rousseau because it was rainforest themed and I started from the background.

Evaluate

1. Explain what you think about your Henri Rousseau-inspired collage.

I used the rainforest theme and added a few animals like Henri Rousseau.

2. What are the good things about your Henri Rousseau-inspired collage?

I think that the visual quality ~~is~~ ^{was} improved when I added the newspaper for the rocks.

3. How is your collage inspired by Henri Rousseau's artwork?

I think the waterfall made it look beautiful and I like the tactile quality of the foam.

4. How did you find the process of constructing your Henri Rousseau-inspired collage? Explain your thoughts.

I found it quite calming as everything went smoothly and followed the layout of the plan.

5. What problems did you have when you made your Henri Rousseau-inspired collage?

I had a problem with layering the rocks as the shapes had to be perfect.

6. Explain what collage techniques you have used. Why did you choose those? How effective were they?

I used the scrunching technique and the overlapping it was very effective.

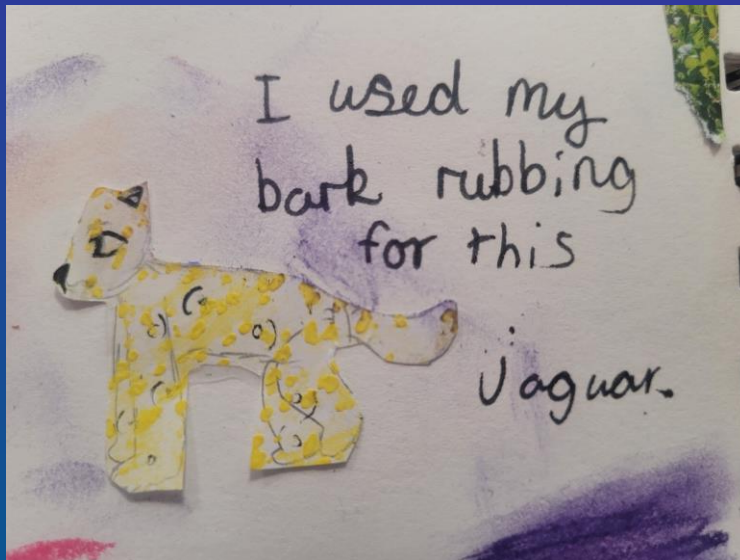
7. If you were to do this again, how could you improve your Henri Rousseau-inspired collage? Why?

If I were to do this again I would use cardboard or tissue paper for the trees as they look very flat.

HOW DID YOUR PROJECT INCLUDE THE TAKE ONE PICTURE CRITERIA?

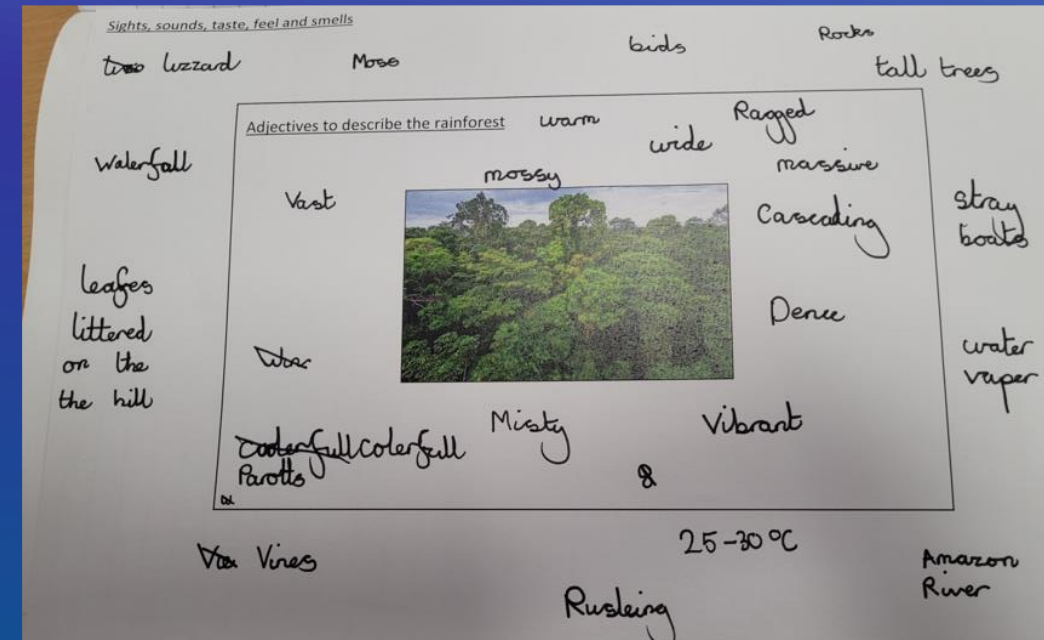
Child-led and investigative

- ▶ Children were shown how to make their own patterned papers and then choose whether to tear them to use as a montage, keep them whole and cut out a leaf or in this case make it into an animal.



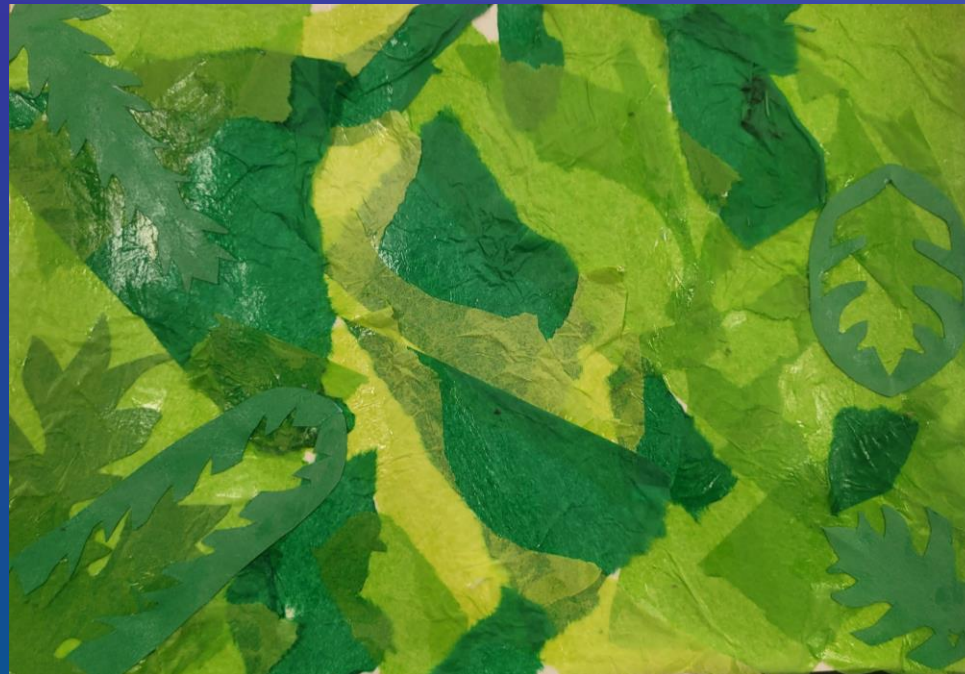
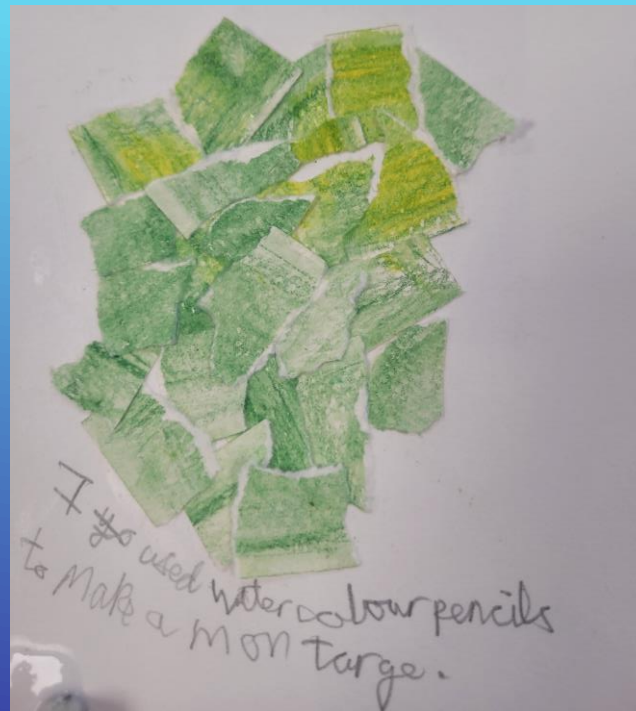
Relevant cross-curricular links

- ▶ In geography children were learning about the rainforest and we launched the unit by watching some videos where children gathered words to describe the rainforest. These word banks were then revisited during our art lessons to help the children imagine they were in the rainforest just like Rousseau imagined he was in a jungle.



A new process

- ▶ Children had previously studied collage in Year 2 where they cut out paper and card to stick down. However, they progressed in this unit in Year 5 as they made their own papers, layered materials to make an effect and learnt new techniques include montage and coiling.



Links to local community

- ▶ We have a local forested area near the school which we use for forest school sessions which we made use of during this art unit.
- ▶ Children collected bark rubbings from trees and rubbings from stones and rocks using paper and wax crayon. These were then used in the collages as tree trunks, animals, patterns on leaves or other uses.
- ▶ Children were also shown how to hammer onto fabric when a leaf is underneath, and this created a pattern which they then used in their collage.



We moved an art lesson outside, onto the school field, where children observed and sketched various leaves. This helped them produce a variety of leaf shapes when making their collage.



ART IN THE FRESH AIR

STUDENT QUOTES ABOUT THE PROJECT

I thoroughly enjoyed 'diving' into the painting with the video and exploring it further. I never knew we could spend that long studying a piece of art and keep asking questions about it!

I loved the experimenting stage where I often surprised myself with what I had made. Going outside and making my own patterned papers and fabrics using trees and rocks was lots of fun and I feel added more of the rainforest to my final piece.

Having complete freedom of which media to use to create our collage was great! I felt the tissue paper worked best for the layering of the background as this overlapping created many different shades of green. Whereas using the wax crayons enabled me to add in so many details.

I am proud of my determination and resilience throughout the whole unit.

Every child produced an A4 collage using the techniques they had learnt as well as taking inspiration from Surprised! and many of Henri Rousseau's other art pieces. Here is a selection of some of the finished art pieces.

A huge amount of layering was performed here to create the different shades of green.

WHAT WAS THE FINAL RESULT?



Different colours on the edges of the grass inspired by Surprised!

WHAT WAS THE FINAL RESULT?



Bark rubbings

Animals hiding in the rainforest just like Surprised!

Sky montage from magazines, card and paper.

Twisted tissue paper to add to the tactile quality of the collage.





Mixed media used throughout. Here watercolour pencils were used for the background which was then torn up to create a montage.

A mixture of magazines, coloured paper and patterned papers created by children themselves were used to create a montage of the sky.

WHAT WAS THE FINAL RESULT?

Most children choose to include a single animal in their collage, inspired by Rousseau.

A few children choose to have multiple animals



WHAT WAS THE FINAL RESULT?



Different leaf shapes inspired by real leaves on our school field and at forest school.

Can you spot the hidden animal?

Lines drawn around the edges of the leaves, inspired by the outline of the grass on Surprised!

WHAT WAS THE FINAL RESULT?



Bark
rubbings cut
out to make
an animal
just like in
Surprised!.



Bark rubbings



Montage and coiling, 2 new techniques learnt in this unit, were used here.



The grass has different colour edges just like that in Surprised! Here that effect has been made by adding colour to the middle of the blades and leaving the outside edges.

Negative space from leaf cuttings were also used to create the foliage in the foreground.

Here the child made their own papers using wax crayons and then tore these and added in layers to create a background.



WHAT WAS THE FINAL RESULT?

Mixture of techniques – coiling, scrunching and twisting - to create all the different textures of a tree.

Mixed media used to create a montage for the background



A single animal within the trees.



Thank you for taking the time
to look at our art unit.

From Year 5 (2022-2023) at
Katherine Semar Junior School.