

Before the visit

Look at paintings by Turner such as *The Fighting Temeraire* and *The New Moon*. They are fine examples of how he depicts light and water. Talk to the children about the painting. How do the paintings make them feel? Do they think Turner painted them slowly or quickly? Are the pictures better for not having detail in them?



During the visit

Use sketch books and paints, pencils or crayons to produce quick sketches of the sky and clouds concentrating on the blending of colours and the sense of atmosphere rather than detail.

After the visit

Have a go at producing your own 'Turneresque' images on large sheets of paper making reference to Turner's paintings and the sketches produced on-site in the open air.

How to blend sky colours:

1. Using plenty of yellow, brush on thick strokes horizontally across the page
2. Add a small amount of red paint to your brush and stroke horizontally across the page, blending the two colours as you paint (this will make shades of orange)
3. Create lighter areas using the same method with white paint
4. Brush across a tiny amount of blue or black to highlight darker areas (the red/yellow/orange paint will turn brown)

Try not to over-blend. The best effects will come from streaks of colour that are not entirely mixed.

Resources

You will need:

1. Yellow, red, blue, black and white tempera paint
2. Thick and thin brushes
3. Paper

