

So why is art key to being used in the classroom or as part of a visit to somewhere like here at the Queen's Gallery? In terms of your teaching and the curriculum, think about the skills that can be applied to looking at art. And looking is the key word. It's a skill we all have. It's a skill we need and we need to develop for our future lives and different careers that might be ahead of the children that you're teaching.

But at the same time, think about what we do today with mobile phones as we skim through, are we losing that skill? So this gives us an opportunity to focus on that skill.

So look at a painting like this one. This landscape features in the Dutch landscape selection on the LGfL website. You can see this amazing Windmill just here.

Look closely at the Windmill and you'll see it's very different to ones that we're probably used to. If you look carefully, the whole Windmill would need to spin around and you'd have to take the ladder off for that to happen. So there's a difference there between something that the children might know already and something that's in here. If you look at the way that the painting has been created, you can see the slightly darker side to the bottom and nice and light across the top. And the idea is it's drawing your eye towards something and towards the lighter feature over here on the landscape and these white sheets.

By looking carefully, you can pick out the detail. Why are there white sheets out on a field? There's something to research and look into and that's to do with the bleaching of the sheets that they were producing and using the sunlight. So as we look at the painting as a whole and what can this tell us? Okay, we've got the amazing clouds up in the sky.

What sort of clue is that telling us as to what's happening right now? And this is where you can start to draw your own interpretations with the children looking and decide for yourselves. There is no right or wrong answer with this sort of thing. Is the cloud just thought storming ready for a big storm or has a storm already come through and the clouds are starting to disappear? It's completely up to you and it's completely up to the children that you're teaching.