

Sculpture with clay

Knowledge organiser

Year 3

Mexico and Mexican pottery

Half of Mexico has a **temperate climate** (warm summers and cooler winters) and the other half has a **tropical climate** (hot all year).

Artists often use the **places they live as inspiration** for their work. Mexican artists are inspired by their warm climate and nature.

Mexico is known for its **bright colours, patterns and decorative pottery**.



Cacti

Cacti (more than one cactus) mostly come from Mexico, where there are **more kinds than anywhere else in the world**.

Their **shapes and textures** inspire artists when drawing and sculpting.



Key vocabulary

ceramic 	clay 	climate
column 	experiment 	impact
imprint 	influence 	inspire
pinch pot 	pottery 	primary colours
relief 	score 	sculpture
secondary colours 	slip 	sphere
texture 	varnish 	wedging

Colours

There are **three main colours** called **primary colours**.

You can **mix** them to make **secondary colours**.

Mexican ceramics are often painted in **reds, oranges, yellows and blues** to show **warmth and joy**.



Safety

Using clay and painting are fun things to do.

Follow these **safety rules** to make sure it stays fun!

- Always wash your hands before and after.
- Keep clay and tools on your table.
- Use tools safely and only how your teacher shows you.
- Don't put clay or tools in your mouth.
- Ask an adult for help if you're not sure.



Clay skills and techniques



pinch pot – pinch and shape clay with your fingers to make a pot



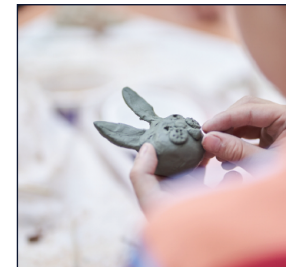
imprint – press patterns or textures into the clay



score and slip – scratch and add watery clay to join pieces



wedging – knead clay to make it smooth and remove air



relief – add raised clay shapes for decoration

