Claude Monet **is possibly one of the most famous French artists in the world. Known not just for his fantastic landscape paintings, but because of his unique interpretation of landscapes and the natural world around him.**

Claude Monet, 1840 – 1926 Lavacourt under Snow about 1878-81

Monet is a unique landscape artist because he did not just try to paint landscapes as he could see them, he was not really interested in painting something that looked **realistic**. Monet painted his **impression** of a landscape or scene he could see outside; trying to capture movement, light, texture… even wind! Because of this, he became the leader of a group of artists known as Impressionists.

Claude Monet, 1840 – 1926 La Pointe de la Hève, Sainte-Adresse 1864

Monet's painted landscapes are huge! Often incorporating beautiful, delicate colour schemes with a focus on light, movement and texture. He would work outside when painting, using **loose, quick, messy brush strokes** and building his paintings up layer by layer. Using short brush strokes over and over again allowed him to paint a sense of movement, capturing the atmosphere of his subject.

Can you see the messy brush strokes in these squares?

Claude Monet, 1840 – 1926 The Thames below Westminster about 1871

What do you think about these landscape paintings by Monet? Why?
What themes within 'Landscape Art' do you think Monet was interested in? Texture? Light? Movement? Mark-Making? Or something else?
Choose a piece of work and write 5 descriptive words for it.
Write out at least 3 facts about Monet.