

# LO: To explore how we represent our surroundings

I can:

Describe the importance of why and how we document our surroundings

Use photography to represent my surroundings



1. **Why** do artists document (photo/paint/draw etc.) their surroundings?

1. **What** can it tell us about their identity?



Vincent Van Gogh, 'My Bedroom', 1887



Martin Parr, 'Home Sweet Home', 1974

## How artists show their surroundings can also tell us more about them



What do you notice about the brush marks in these paintings by Van Gogh?

Look at the brush marks carefully. How could you describe the lines?



People say that the **turbulent**, curling, moving lines in Van Gogh's paintings symbolise his distressed mental state. The way he chose to paint his surroundings, indicates something about the artist's state of mind.



*'Solo Scenes'* by Dieter Roth is an artwork made in the last 2 years of the artist's life.

To make it, he set up small cameras in his studio and home, and filmed all his activities. He said the artwork 'brought together the small parts of his life'.

What do you think of this idea? Would you do it?

# Your task:

Make a collection of your own 'Solo scenes' through 'pinhole' photography



# Pin-hole photography.

For this you will need:

- A toilet roll (the inside)
- A camera phone



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**TASK 1** - Take the inside of your toilet roll (the cardboard insides) and examine the world around you!

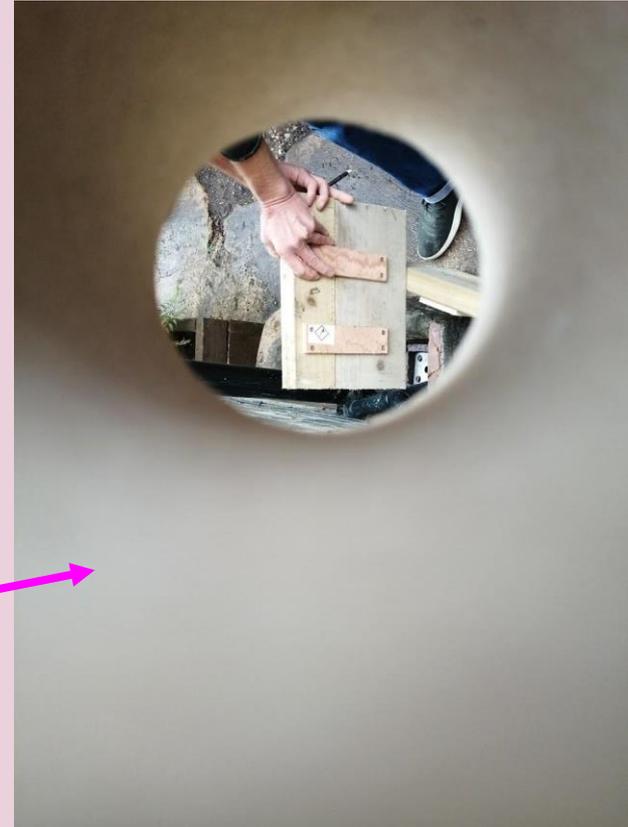


What can you see?

What close ups are interesting?

Moving around your house, what details do you notice?

Put your camera phone in front of the toilet roll, you could be able to see everything through a circle like below.



## CLOSE UPS + TEXTURE:

Take 3 - 5 photographs of close ups you find interesting.

Take photos of things which are rough, slimy, smooth...  
Look at food, lights, bricks etc. Experiment and LOOK  
around you!



## MOMENTS AROUND YOUR HOUSE

What other things can you isolate?  
Think about objects, views, spaces,  
people.

Take 5 - 7 photographs.



# EXTENSION

Experiment with lining the inside of your toilet roll with tin foil. What reflections does this create?

How can you create abstract images? Take 5 photos and select your most interesting ones.

