Year 4: Printmaking and Textiles



Core content:

Look at the traditional designs of Kente cloth.

Create a range of surfaces by combining colour, texture and pattern.

Make links to the use of colour for symbolism.

Technical vocabulary:

Kente cloth — made from thin strips, about four centimetres thick, woven together on narrow looms, typically by men.



Geometric designs — designs that consist of regular shapes or lines.



Symbolise — if one thing symbolises another, it is used or regarded as a symbol of it.



Weft — the threads that are twisted under and over the threads that are held on a loom.



Warp — the lengthwise threads that are held in tension on a frame or loom.



Tie dye — a method of making patterns on cloth by tying knots in it or tying string around it and then adding dye, so that some parts receive more dye than others.



Connections:

Gilbert (Bobbo) Ahiagble (1944 — 2012) West African master weaver



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Born

1944 – 2012

Ghana

Legacy

His influence has extended across the world, bringing attention to the Ewe (Ay-vav) culture and the creativity of the people of this area of West Africa.

Kente Cloth



Well known for

The traditional designs and patterns have names as well as tell stories.
The colours have symbolic significance. The Kente cloth is called the 'talking cloth' and through it, children learn about their culture and history.

Kente Cloth

Legend has it that a spider taught two men how to weave designs from a single thread.
They presented it to the first ruler of the Asante Empire, who named it Kente (meaning, basket).

Career

A master weaver who designed and created Kente cloth using traditional weaving techniques

Displayed in the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art