

Artist

Full Name	Maurits Cornelius Escher
Born Died	17 <sup>th</sup> June 1898 Leeuwarden, Netherlands 27 <sup>th</sup> March 1972 Laren, Netherlands
Education & Experience	He studied at the School of Architecture and Decorative Arts in Haarlem. There he became interested in drawing and design. After leaving school he travelled around Europe and lived in several different countries. During his travels Escher visited the Alhambra fortress in southern Spain. He noticed that many of the decorative tiles there were used to make repeating patterns. He later included many such patterns in his own works. In his images, however, the shapes in the pattern sometimes gradually change into new shapes.
Art Movement	<b>Modern Art</b> The Dutch artist M.C. Escher was known for creating unusual views of everyday objects and settings. His illustrations showed spaces and scenes that would be impossible in real life. They also featured unexpected changes of one object into another.

Interesting facts

Escher's works attract the general public as well as mathematicians and psychologists. His repeating patterns illustrate a mathematical idea called tessellation. During his life, Escher made 448 lithographs, woodcuts and wood engravings. He did over 2000 drawings and sketches. He also illustrated books, designed tapestries, postage stamps and murals. Escher was interested in different ways of making art, he used tile-like repeated patterns in many of his paintings. Early in his career he drew inspirations of nature: he studied art, landscapes and insects. Some of Escher's most famous drawings include: **Drawing hands**, **Relativity** and **Flying Fish**. Most of his works were related to maths. M C Escher was left-handed.

Technical skills

- Manipulate and experiment with the elements art: line, tone, texture, form, space, colour and shape.
- Develop ideas using different or mixed media, using a sketch book.
- Create shades and tints using black and white.
- Adapt, extend and justify their work.
- Work relatively independently.

Key Vocabulary

Modern Art	Art of a style marked by a significant departure from traditional styles and values, in particular that created between the late 19th and the late 20th centuries
Lithograph	Lithography is a method of printing originally based on the immiscibility of oil and water. The printing is from a stone or a metal plate with a smooth surface.
Immiscibility	Incapable of being mixed or blended.



Self – Portrait



Drawing Hands